



File Code: 6270
FOIA: 2024-FS-R2-00981-F
Date:

Karin Zirk
4629 Cass Street #188
San Diego, California 92109
me@karinzirk.com

Dear Karin Zirk:

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated November 2, 2023, and received November 16, 2023, by the U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office. This request was assigned tracking number 2024-FS-R2-00981-F. You requested:

“Information regarding the Rainbow Gathering that took place in the Hahns Peak/Bears Ears Ranger District along Routt County Road 80 of the Routt National Forest in 2022. For reference the gathering took place in and around the Adams Park area of northwest Routt County between mid-June and mid-July 2022.

Specifically, I am requesting the following information:

- *All USFS specialist reports for the above referenced area written between July 2022 and October 2023.*
- *Copies of any communications with tribal and/or indigenous governing boards, agencies, or reservations.*
- *Any specialist reports written about the “California Park” and impacts to wildlife.”*

The FOIA provides that all Federal Government records be made available to the public unless they fall within one of several exemptions. On December 6, 2023, the Rocky Mountain Regional Office sent you 385 pages released in full. With this final release, we are sending 1 document (134 pages). It has been determined certain portions be withheld pursuant to Exemption 6 (5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6)) of the FOIA.

Exemption 6 requires the Government to withhold all information about individuals in “personnel and medical and similar files,” where the disclosure of such information “would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy” 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6). In determining whether this disclosure would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, the Forest Service must balance the public’s right to disclosure against the privacy interest of the individual whose privacy may be affected. The determination of whether the disclosure of private information is required under Exemption 6 is reliant on the nature of the



information requested and its relationship to the core purpose for which Congress enacted the FOIA: to shed light on an agency's performance of its statutory duties.

The FOIA provides that requesters pay the reasonable costs for search, review, and duplication of records. Pursuant to Title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, Subtitle A, Part 1, Subpart A, Appendix A, there is no charge as the amount falls below the minimum required to collect fees.

This concludes the Forest Service's response to your FOIA request.

The FOIA provides you the right to appeal this response. Any appeal must be made in writing, within 90 days from the date of this letter to the Chief, USDA Forest Service. Additionally, due to the concerns surrounding the COVID-19 virus we are only accepting appeals electronically at this time. Please email your appeal to SM.FS.WOFOIA@usda.gov. The term "FOIA APPEAL" should be placed in capital letters on the subject line of the email along with the FOIA case number assigned to your request. To facilitate the processing of your appeal, please attach a copy of this letter to your request as well. If you need any further assistance or would like to discuss any aspect of your request, please do not hesitate to contact the FOIA Public Liaison at (202) 205-6560. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, MD 20740-6001, email ogis@nara.gov; telephone at (202) 741-5770; toll free at (877) 684-6448; or facsimile at (202) 741-5769.

Sincerely,

X

FRANK R. BEUM
Regional Forester

Enclosure: 1 document

cc: Joshua Sidon, Kenny Scherrer, Russell Bacon, Casey Campbell, Misty DeSalvo