

Message

From: Forsgren, Lee [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=A055D7329D5B470FBAA9920CE1B68A7D-FORSGREN, D]
Sent: 6/15/2018 1:59:06 PM
To: john.crowther@alaska.gov
CC: Block, Molly [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=60d0c681a16441a0b4fa16aa2dd4b9c5-Block, Moll]; Drinkard, Andrea [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=808a6b7b65bf447f93dad2f510feaf61-ADRINKAR]
Subject: FW: Communication with Gov. Walker on MOA

John,

It was great to catch up yesterday. My apologies again for you not receiving a copy of the draft MOA when the Delegation did. I saw that Palmer sent it to you after we spoke last night.

Any assistance you could provide in moving the press release process forward would be most appreciated.

Thanks,
Lee

D. Lee Forsgren

Deputy Assistant Administrator
Office Of Water
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Room 3219 WJCE
Washington, DC 20460
Phone: 202-564-5700
Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov

From: Block, Molly
Sent: Friday, June 15, 2018 9:55 AM
To: Forsgren, Lee <Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov>
Subject: Communication with Gov. Walker on MOA

FYI here's the chain I've had with Gov. Walker's office. Haven't heard back from them since the initial ask on Tuesday. I had reached out to Austin Baird on Monday as well.

Molly

From: Block, Molly
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2018 9:34 AM
To: 'Jang, Grace E (GOV)' <grace.jang@alaska.gov>; Cory, Preston (Katherine) <Cory.Preston@epa.gov>
Cc: Baird, Austin (GOV) <austin.baird@alaska.gov>; Moser, Amanda (GOV) <amanda.moser@alaska.gov>
Subject: RE: Quote Request

Team Walker –

Just wanted to check in and see if you were interested in providing a quote for our press release Monday. If possible, it would be great to have something by tomorrow COB. Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks!

Molly

From: Jang, Grace E (GOV) [<mailto:grace.jang@alaska.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 12, 2018 11:51 AM
To: Cory, Preston (Katherine) <Cory.Preston@epa.gov>
Cc: Block, Molly <block.molly@epa.gov>; Baird, Austin (GOV) <austin.baird@alaska.gov>; Moser, Amanda (GOV) <amanda.moser@alaska.gov>
Subject: Re: Quote Request

Thanks, Preston. I'm looping in Communications Director Amanda Moser and Press Secretary Austin Baird.

Grace Jang
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Alaska Governor Bill Walker

Ex. 6

On Jun 12, 2018, at 7:15 AM, Cory, Preston (Katherine) <Cory.Preston@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Grace,

Please see the request below!

Thanks,
Preston

K. Preston Cory
Director of Intergovernmental Relations
Office of the Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
202-579-4281

From: Block, Molly
Sent: Monday, June 11, 2018 3:29 PM
To: austin.baird@alaska.gov; david.lienemann@alaska.gov
Cc: Cory, Preston (Katherine) <Cory.Preston@epa.gov>
Subject: Quote Request

Austin and David –

As you may already know, EPA is signing a memorandum of agreement between EPA and the Army Corps on wetlands mitigation in Alaska. I would love to include a quote from Governor Walker in our press release. We are planning to announce this next Monday (June 18), so if you could send something by COB on Friday, June 15, that would be amazing! There will be implementation workshops in Anchorage on June 20 led by EPA and Army Corps with stakeholders (federal, state, Alaska natives, etc.).

Here's some info: The Memorandum of Agreement clarifies the flexibility in existing Clean Water Act Section 404 permitting requirements and how that flexibility will be applied in Alaska. MOA reflects changes that have occurred in mitigation regulation, policy, and practice over the past two decades. It is designed to ensure that mitigation requirements will be fairly and transparently implemented, and proportional to the potential adverse impacts under review. It will also ensure that appropriate compensatory mitigation is included.

The MOA highlights six key guiding principles regarding flexibility in mitigation requirements and policy that recognize the unique circumstances that can exist in regions of Alaska:

1. Avoiding wetlands may not be practicable where there is a high proportion of land in a watershed or region which are jurisdictional wetlands;
2. Restoring, enhancing, or establishing wetlands for compensatory mitigation may not be practicable due to limited availability of sites and/or technical/logistical limitations;
3. Selecting compensatory mitigation options over a larger watershed scale may be appropriate given that compensation options are frequently limited at a smaller watershed scale;
4. Compensatory mitigation projects may be available on public land given that a large proportion of land in Alaska is under public ownership;
5. Using out-of-kind compensatory mitigation (e.g., restoring streams to offset impacts to wetlands) may be appropriate when it better serves the aquatic resource needs of the adversely impacted watershed; and
6. Applying a less rigorous permit review for small projects with minor environmental impacts is consistent with the CWA Section 404 program regulations.

Please let me know if you have any questions!

Thanks,
Molly