



Devaris, Aimee <adevaris@usgs.gov>

Re: Budget issues for consideration during field trip

1 message

Hitzman, Murray <mhitzman@usgs.gov>

Thu, Aug 10, 2017 at 12:26 PM

To: Julia Jester <jjester@usgs.gov>

Cc: Justin Pressfield <jpressfield@usgs.gov>, "Devaris, Aimee" <adevaris@usgs.gov>, Anne Barrett <abarrett@usgs.gov>, "Bundschuh, Dawn" <dbundschuh@usgs.gov>

I would appreciate having that meeting so we are on the same page

On Thu, Aug 10, 2017 at 3:03 PM, Julia Jester <jjester@usgs.gov> wrote:

Sure

USGS Congressional
571-352-4677

On Aug 10, 2017, at 3:01 PM, Justin Pressfield <jpressfield@usgs.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Aimee. That works for me.

Anne and Julia?

Justin Pressfield
US Department of the Interior
US Geological Survey
Chief of Communications, West
Mobile: (916) 335-1211

On Aug 10, 2017, at 11:58 AM, Devaris, Aimee <adevaris@usgs.gov> wrote:

No. I'm tied up today. I've already talked to the MAs about it, so I think I'm good on the Alaska topics. The main thing is whether or not there are "other" USGS issues you'd like me to be cognizant of since there will be a lot of side bar conversations. Murray Hitzman felt the same way. We were hoping for a call to cover that question, but maybe we can just have a quick meeting Sunday with Anne after the orientation. I'm copying Murray here.

Aimee

On Thu, Aug 10, 2017 at 10:15 AM, Pressfield, Justin <jpressfield@usgs.gov> wrote:

Aimee,

Are you free at at 11:00 (AK) to talk with Anne Barrett and me about this?

Thanks. -Justin



Justin Pressfield
Chief of Communications | Western States
U.S. Geological Survey | Department of the Interior
Mobile: 916.335.1211 | Office: 916.278.9500

On Wed, Aug 2, 2017 at 1:02 PM, Devaris, Aimee <adevaris@usgs.gov> wrote:

Hi Justin,

There are a few budget issues I want to flag for you. We should have a game plan for how we want to discuss these. I can work these with the mission areas, but I don't want to cover ground you are already working.

Land Resources: FY18 PB proposed realignment of the National and Regional Climate Adaptation Centers (-\$7.65M), and the House accepted this reduction. It will likely impact the Alaska Climate Center and the funding we provide to UAF.

Ecosystems: FY18 PB proposed reduction to Arctic Research and Monitoring (-\$1.6M), and the House accepted this reduction. It will impact our work on wildlife response to natural habitat variability. These studies respond to DOI partner needs concerning permitting, informing decisions concerning species of concern (walrus, polar bears), and informing management of species and habitats that support subsistence dependent communities.

Energy and Minerals: Secretarial Order 3352 is resulting in an unplanned investment in FY18 for additional oil and gas assessment work on the North Slope. While the FY18 PB and House Mark are close to FY17 funding levels, the Alaska Petroleum Project was only planned at \$1.5M. The funding gap for FY18 is ~\$4M.

Natural Hazards: The FY18 PB proposed a suspension of NVEWS implementation (-\$1.5M), and the House accepted this reduction. This will affect our ability to close monitoring gaps on very-high-threat volcanoes, and we will be unable to upgrade Alaska monitoring systems from analog to digital (a known NTIA compliance and modernization issue).

In addition, I expect the Transportable Array to come up during this trip. Are you familiar with this issue? It is a seismic network deployed by NSF across Alaska, which will be decommissioned in 2019-2020. The state has lobbied hard to have USGS take this network over. The cost is estimated to be \$4-6M per year to operate it (although I suspect that figure is low). We are concerned about getting a redirect (unfunded mandate) in the Senate Mark. I have a call scheduled with Bill Leith to discuss this tomorrow. I have been working on strategies.

--

Aimee M. Devaris
Regional Director
U.S. Geological Survey
4210 University Drive
Anchorage, Alaska
907-786-7091

--

Aimee M. Devaris
Regional Director
U.S. Geological Survey
4210 University Drive
Anchorage, Alaska
907-786-7091

--

Murray W. Hitzman
U. S. Geological Survey
Associate Director - Energy and Minerals
12201 Sunrise Valley Dr., MS 102
Reston, VA. 20192

8/22/2017

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Mail - Re: Budget issues for consideration during field trip

703-648-4576