BOU Weekly FOIA Report
Wednesday 5/24-Tuesday 5/30

Tracking Number	Receive Requester	Requester Organization	Submitted
DOC-NOAA-2017-001285	05/31/20 Jared S. Goodman	PETA Foundation	05/30/2017
DOC-NOAA-2017-001279	05/30/20 Jane Reldan	Seal Conservancy	05/27/2017
DOC-NOAA-2017-001275	05/24/20 MICHAEL PEPSON	Cause of Action	05/24/2017
DOC-NOAA-2017-001267	05/24/20 Raimundo Espinoza	Conservacion ConCiencia	05/23/2017

Detail

On behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), and pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, I request copies of all records regarding Permit No. 774, issued to SeaWorld on October 7, 1992, to import the orca Tilikum pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), from July 7, 2014, to the present, excepting correspondence between the agency and PETA, the Animal Welfare Institute, and their representatives. This request includes, but is not limited to, memoranda, reports, notes, letters, emails, and other correspondence.

All correspondence (emails, letters, documents) dated between April 1, 2016 and May 27, 2017, composed or received by the National Marine Fisheries Service, West Coast Region, in which "Children's Pool" appears in the correspondence.

Pursuant to the FOIA, CoA Institute hereby requests access to the following records for the time period of October 31, 2016 to the present: 1. The processing notes for CoA Institute's FOIA request dated October 31, 2016, tracking number DOC-NOAA-2017-000168, and the NOAA Tasker memorandum regarding or related to this request. 2. The processing notes for CoA Institute's FOIA request dated October 31, 2016, tracking number DOC-NOAA-2017-000169, and the NOAA Tasker memorandum regarding or related to this request. 3. The processing notes for CoA Institute's FOIA request dated October 31, 2016, tracking number DOC-NOAA-2017-000170, and the NOAA Tasker memorandum regarding or related to this request. 4. All communications—including, but not limited to, e-mail,5 instant messaging, Google hangouts or Google chat messages, text messages, SMS messages, Blackberry messages, Skype messages, handwritten notes, or communications through any other media—between NOAA and the Office of the White House Counsel concerning or related to any of the above FOIA requests.

I'm writing in regards to a shark fin investigation originating in Puerto Rico where it's been reported that 54 shark fins were illegally transported to Florida during 2016. The information I'm requesting is any information regarding the case that can be made available without interfering with a successful prosecution or aren't confidential. Information requested included but isn't limited to: - Confirmed total number of fins seized - Shark species involved in case - Who are the indivuduals/company/companies being held responsible in the shark finning and transport? - Who and what penalties have been issued if any? (fines, etc) - Any other information available to the public Conservación ConCiencia is a Puerto Rico registered non-profit organization dedicated to environmental research and conservation that promotes sustainable development by working in collaboration with communities, NGOs, governments, academia and the private sector. Within the next year, we're planning on launching Puerto Rico's first comprehensive Shark research and conservation program. An integral component of the program is collaboration with the commercial fishing industry. The information regarding this case will aid us to gauge the status and size of the current illegal shark trade in Puerto Rico, in addition to assisting us avoid partners that are involved with illegal fishing practices. Additionally, any information on any other shark fin or shark trafficking case originating in Puerto Rico would also be appreciated.

Category	Comments
Public Interest/Special Interest	These SeaWorld Orca permits are of particular public interest following the blackfish film, which documents the orca Tilikum
Public Interest/Special Interest	News reports on the seal pupping season in La Jolla at the "Children's Pool" can be found here: http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/environment/sd-me-childrens-pool-20161214-story.html
Legal	COA appears to be preparing to file suit in the underlying Seamounts FOIA requests. COA may be using this request to buttress a search adequacy or exemption challenge using NOAA's own records.
Public Interest/Special Interest	There is currently a petition circulating to ban shark fin sales in Florida, largely as a result of this and other similar reports.