



R3/FWS/DOI
11/23/2004 01:12 PM

To FW3 FO ES FO
cc
bcc
Subject Fw: PEER survey of ES FO employees -- Do Not respond pending approval

ES Field Office staff --

I received the survey yesterday and some of you may have also. Please note the direction we received from the Regional Office.

R3/FWS/DOI on 11/23/2004 01:07 PM

R9/FWS/DOI
11/23/2004 12:26 PM

To
cc
Subject PEER survey of ES FO employees -- Do Not respond pending approval

Hello all --

informed us this morning that his staff had received a survey by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER), specifically directed at Field Office staff. He asked for direction regarding staff response.

We discussed this with [redacted] Word is that employees are not to respond to surveys that have not been approved by the Washington Office...this applies whether they respond in the office or from home, since the survey is directed specifically at government employees and they can't realistically respond outside of their official capacity. Awaiting Director's approval also protects the employee from any appearance of conflict.

We will discuss this further here and decide whether to pursue Director's approval for the survey. Until then, please inform your staffs not to respond. If you have questions, give me a call.

Thanks,

USFWS, Region 3

— Forwarded by JRO/R1/FWS/DOI on 12/01/2004 02:21 PM —



Cynthia Barry
12/01/2004 01:58 PM

To:

cc:
Subject: Surveys

It has come to our attention that an outside entity (PEER) has sent a survey to "Ecological Services scientists located at field offices throughout the U.S." Staff at Carlsbad have already received the survey. This IS NOT a survey that employees are authorized to respond to.

Please forward the following message to employees. (I've already asked for the attachments referenced in the memo....I will forward upon receipt). For any questions, please ask Jeff Hardgrove.

Thanks, Cindy Barry

— Forwarded by Cynthia Barry/RO/R1/FWS/DOI on 12/01/2004 12:25 PM —

Jeff Hardgrove

To: Cynthia Barry/RO/R1/FWS/DOI@FWS

12/01/2004 12:08 PM

cc: Theresa Rabot/RO/R1/FWS/DOI@FWS, Pat
Thompson/RO/R1/FWS/DOI@FWS, Don
Weathers/RO/R1/FWS/DOI@FWS
Subject: Surveys

Cindy - Below is the Memorandum sent by the Director to all Service employees in regards to the Services position as it relates to employees completing surveys.

Jeff



**United States
Fish & Wildlife Service**

From Director
Title Surveys

February 15, 2001

Memorandum

To: All U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Employees
From: Acting Director /s/ Marshall P. Jones, Jr.
Subject: Surveys

The purpose of this memorandum is to ensure that employees receive notification that the only surveys they are authorized to respond to during duty hours are ones that have been authorized by the Service, the Department, or other Federal agencies. Employees can determine whether a survey is authorized by the Service by looking for the signature of or e-mail from an appropriate

Service official transmitting the survey. In the case of a survey that is from the Department or another Federal agency, employees must receive written notification from the Director of the upcoming survey before completing it. Absent such evidence, employees must not respond to surveys during their duty hours. Please contact your servicing personnel office if you have any questions or need additional information.

Attachment(s)

Chuck Underwood
12/07/2004 10:09 AM

To:

cc:
Subject: Outside group, non-DOI/FWS sponsored survey's

Recently, PEER sent out a survey to ES biologists nationwide. These surveys were sent to office addresses and at a time to coincide with an official survey being conducted by the Service/DOI: thus, making it possible for an employee to think it was the official DOI/FWS survey.

I forwarded a query up the line, and while there is still much bureaucratic discussion going on, everyone agrees such surveys are no official and as such should not be completed by employees: particularly when received at the office or via official email.

If you have already filled out, the survey police will not be knocking down your door. However, if you have not, the recommendation is you simply throw it away.

There was something put out from DOI/FWS several months ago about this matter, however, apparently it never made it into the form of an official policy. Based on the discussions I have "heard" this will likely be corrected shortly.

- Chuck

Charles Underwood
Public Information Officer
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
North Florida Field Office
6620 Southpoint Dr. South, Suite 310
Jacksonville, FL 32216-0958
V: 904/232-2580 x109
F: 904/232-2404
<http://northflorida.fws.gov>