

**RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: News release**

Horsman, Liam (Markey) &lt;Liam\_Horsman@markey.senate.gov&gt;

Wed 2/8/2023 11:05 AM

To: Hillman, Matthew D &lt;matthew\_hillman@fws.gov&gt;

Cc: Joseph, Jennifer A &lt;jennifer\_joseph@fws.gov&gt;

Thanks Matt! That's all very helpful, and again, I know I speak for all of our federal offices when I say how appreciative we are of your and FWS's work on the Pink House.

And yes, Jen and I connected briefly via email a couple months back! Thank you for the re-introduction: Jen, when we last corresponded you'd mentioned the possibility of site visits to different refuges across MA, and I think a couple members of our team might like to take you up on the offer. It's a busy stretch for us right now, but once things quiet down I'll circle back and connect you with the appropriate folks on our staff.

Thank you both again, and talk more soon!

Liam

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**From:** Hillman, Matthew D <matthew\_hillman@fws.gov>**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2023 10:50 AM**To:** Horsman, Liam (Markey) <Liam\_Horsman@markey.senate.gov>**Cc:** Joseph, Jennifer A <jennifer\_joseph@fws.gov>**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: News release

Hi Liam,

You are correct -- the temporary rule changes are due, in part, to those same owls! Typically we will see these types of intrusive viewing behaviors for snowy owls, but the barred owls now are too close and convenient for most photographers to resist.

Regarding the Pink House, it has indeed been a long slog with many ups and downs. We are in the process of identifying additional lands for an exchange -- both in MA and in NH. In NH specifically, we are looking to establish Great Thicket National Wildlife Refuge for the first time using possible future Pink House exchange funds. As I have relayed to the Pink House group, we, too, have a vested interest in seeing this deal through, so it remains a high priority. I will let you know of any significant developments as they arise.

Finally, you may have already met Jennifer Joseph, our congressional and legislative affairs specialist. But if not, I am cc'ing her here by way of an introduction.

All my best,

Matt

Matthew D. Hillman

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**From:** Horsman, Liam (Markey) <[Liam\\_Horsman@markey.senate.gov](mailto:Liam_Horsman@markey.senate.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 6, 2023 5:24 PM  
**To:** Hillman, Matthew D <[matthew\\_hillman@fws.gov](mailto:matthew_hillman@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: News release

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Hi Matt,

It was good to see you on Friday – quite the contentious meeting! Thank you as always for checking in, and thank you too for helping to coordinate the Great Marsh roundtable two weeks back: I really appreciated the chance to join, and found it very informative. As always, Senator Markey and our office are happy to be a resource on any of the resiliency efforts you have underway.

Thank you too for sharing this release. Is this connected to the earlier email about the irresistible owls? We haven't received any outreach on it yet, but I really do appreciate you keeping me in the loop: it's always helpful to have the background if/when we get a call. Thank you too for your efforts in response – I'm sure it's not easy work managing the different interests at play here, along with the safety of the public, the refuge employees, and the animals themselves.

As a flag, I was approached after the MRBA meeting by a couple folks looking to talk with our office about the latest relating to the Pink House. I know from my conversations with Kelly that FWS (and you especially) have gone to tremendous lengths around the Pink House, and I've thus far done my best to fly below the radar to avoid unnecessarily stirring the pot, especially when so much work is already happening. Just wanted to give you a heads up, and rest assured that any involvement on my end would be to support your ongoing efforts. I'm happy to talk further at any point, if it might be helpful.

Thank you as always for your help and partnership, and looking forward to seeing you again soon.

All best,  
Liam

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**From:** Hillman, Matthew D <[matthew\\_hillman@fws.gov](mailto:matthew_hillman@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 3, 2023 2:30 PM  
**To:** Horsman, Liam (Markey) <[Liam\\_Horsman@markey.senate.gov](mailto:Liam_Horsman@markey.senate.gov)>  
**Subject:** News release

Hi Liam,

Sorry to have missed you today -- I had a scheduled interview with a reporter to talk about the attached new policy, which is causing quite a stir here locally. I wanted you to be aware of this change to refuge winter regulations in the event you hear anything at your level.

Enjoy your weekend and above all, stay safe!

Matt

Matthew D. Hillman

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