



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Washington, DC 20240

OCT 31 2017

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The Honorable Rob Bishop  
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter provides additional information and clarification relating to your October 3, 2017, request for information on Department of the Interior Secretarial travel use of non-commercial flights.

Enclosed with this letter is a copy of a disk titled "00005042\_001" that contains an electronic set of the documents transmitted to your Committee by the Department on October 5, 2017. This electronic set of documents contains several updates to the paper copy originally provided to your Committee. First, the disk contains four additional documents identifying travel policies in the Department, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Bureau of Reclamation. Second, we have identified and included 6 additional documents relating to Secretarial travel during the years 2011-2015.

With the addition of this new material and other corrections to the organization of the original document set, the summary of pertinent information included in our original letter has also been updated to reflect this new information, as follows:

Year	Total Costs	# Trips	Secretary
2010	\$215,512	16	Salazar
2011	\$247,712	19	Salazar
2012	\$177,015	17	Salazar
2013	\$119,923	13	Jewell
2014	\$145,804	7	Jewell
2015	\$95,781	8	Jewell
2016	\$86,863	8	Jewell
Total	\$1,088,610	88	

In addition, for the Committee's convenience, the Department is providing below descriptions and justifications for Secretary Zinke's 2017 non-commercial travel on behalf of the Department of Interior.

Official DOI Travel Using Non-Commercial, Chartered Flights by Secretary Zinke			
Aircraft	Destination	Cost	Purpose
Turbo Prop Plane	Return trip from St. Thomas to St. Croix, US Virgin Islands	\$3,000	Keynote speaker on behalf of the President for the transition of power centennial ceremony that memorialized the transfer of the islands from Denmark to the U.S. He was accompanied by Governor Mapp, U.S. Virgin Islands and the Prime Minister of Denmark. No commercial flight was available.
Turbo Prop Plane	One-way trip from North Slope to Anchorage, AK	\$3,983	Guest of a bipartisan Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Congressional delegation. Transportation from North Slope oil fields to Fairbanks, AK. No commercial flight was available.
Turbo Prop Plane	One-way trip from Las Vegas, NV to Kalispell, MT	\$12,253	Announced PILT grant awards in Pahrump, NV, visited BLM Red Rock Canyon NCA, and was the keynote speaker at Golden Knights training camp. He traveled to Kalispell for keynote speech and round table at the Western Governors Association conference in Whitefish, MT. No commercial flight was available within schedule confines.
Total		\$19,236	

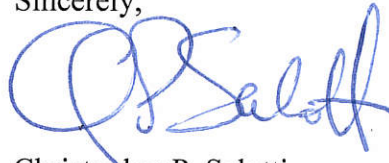
Official DOI Operational Flight Missions Using Non-Commercial Flights by Secretary Zinke			
Aircraft	Destination	Cost	Purpose
Contract-DOI Rotary Wing	Round trip from Las Vegas, NV returning to Las Vegas, NV	\$39,295	Aerial survey of objects and boundaries pertaining to the 704,000 acres in Basin and Range National Monument and the 300,000 acres in Gold Butte National Monument.
DOI Rotary Wing	Round trip from Washington D.C. to Shepherdstown, WV	\$8,066	Emergency preparedness exercise in support of National Command Authorities
DOI Rotary Wing	Round trip from Washington D.C. to Jamestown, VA	\$6,252	Aerial survey of proposed high voltage transmission line over James River and tour of Yorktown National Battlefield along with ceremony to award Maritime Recreational Grants
Total		\$53, 613	

The above information does not include flights on Air Force One and other inter-agency mission aircraft.

Finally, as noted in the Joint Statement of Melinda Loftin (Department of the Interior Designated Agency Official and Director of Departmental Ethics Office) and Edward Keable (Deputy Solicitor-General Law), released on September 29, 2017, the Scheduling Office meets regularly with the Department Ethics Office and Division of General Law to ensure that all travel is thoroughly reviewed and approved in advance and that it is fully compliant with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations. Consistent with this process, these trips were reviewed and approved in advance by both the Department Ethics Office and the Division of General Law and were determined to be compliant with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

If you or your staff needs any additional assistance regarding this production, please contact Micah Chambers, Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs, at (202) 208-5348 or [micah\\_chambers@ios.doi.gov](mailto:micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov).

Sincerely,



Christopher P. Salotti  
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs  
Department of the Interior

cc: Bruce Westerman  
Chairman, Subcommittee on  
Oversight and Investigations