



Monthly

Bulletin

Environmental Crimes Section

September 2015

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Burning oil production platform after explosions. See [U.S. v. Black Elk Energy Offshore Operations LLC](#), [inside](#), for details.

Send your federal case updates to: [redacted]

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“Our nation’s energy independence and security is enhanced by the safe, responsible, and lawful extraction of domestic energy, but it is undermined when laws are abused in a race to profit,” said Assistant Attorney General John C. Cruden for the Justice Department’s Environment and Natural Resources Division. “The American people expect nothing less than legal behavior from those involved in oil and gas development and the Justice Department will vigorously prosecute those who do not honor this obligation.” See press release from [U.S. v. Halek](#) indictment.

District/Circuit	Case Name	Case Type/Statutes
Eastern District of California	<u>United States v. Francisco Javier Gomez-Rodriguez</u> <u>United States v. Jose Reyna-Chavez</u> <u>United States v. Toribio Cruz-Galvan</u>	Marijuana Grow /Drug Charges, Depredation of Public Land
Southern District of California	<u>United States v. Southern California Plating Company</u>	Electroplater/ RCRA, CWA
Central District of Illinois	<u>United States v. Joseph R. Keebler</u>	Underground Storage Tank Cleanup/ Conspiracy
District of Kansas	<u>United States v. Integrated Plastic Solutions</u>	Recycling Facility/CAA, RCRA
Eastern District of Kentucky	<u>United States v. Anthony Anglin</u>	Waste Storage/RCRA
Eastern District of Louisiana	<u>United States v. Black Elk Energy Offshore Operations LLC</u> <u>United States v. Keith Cantore</u>	Oil and Gas Platform/OCSLA, CWA Turtle Sales/Lacey Act
Southern District of Mississippi	<u>United States v. Mississippi Phosphates Corporation</u>	Wetlands/CWA
Western District of Missouri	<u>United States v. Petr Babenko</u> <u>United States v. Fedor Pakhnyuk</u> <u>United States v. David Obermeyer</u>	Paddlefish Caviar/Lacey Act, Conspiracy Wetlands/CWA
District of Montana	<u>United States v. Kelly Steen</u>	Gas Condensate Transportation/ HMTA
District of Nevada	<u>United States v. Lumsden Quan</u> <u>United States v. James Jariv</u>	Rhino Horn Sales/Conspiracy, Lacey Act Biodiesel Fraud/Conspiracy, CAA, Wire Fraud, Money Laundering
Eastern District of New York	<u>United States v. Gerard Kruse</u>	Snake Shipments/Lacey Act
Northern District of New York	<u>United States v. Mark Pullyblank</u>	Hydro-Demolition Waste/CWA
Eastern District of North Carolina	<u>United States v. Alphin Brothers, Inc.</u>	Shrimp Sales/Lacey Act

District/Circuit	Case Name	Case Type/Statutes
Western District of North Carolina	<u>United States v. Billy Joe Hurley</u> <u>United States v. Walter H. Stancil</u>	Ginseng Poaching/Natural Resources Preservation Black Bear Hunts/Lacey Act, Conspiracy
District of North Dakota	<u>United States v. Jason A. Halek</u>	Fracking/SDWA, False Statements, Obstruction
Southern District of Ohio	<u>United States v. William Bradley</u> <u>United States v. Donald W. Wainwright, Sr.</u>	Biodiesel Fraud/Conspiracy, HMTA White-tailed Deer Breeding/Conspiracy, Lacey Act, Wire Fraud
Eastern District of Pennsylvania	<u>United States v. Ronan Bakshi</u>	Asbestos Removal/Wire Fraud, Obstruction, CAA
District of Puerto Rico	<u>United States v. Edgardo Albino</u> <u>United States v. Jose Javier Rodriguez Sanchez</u>	Asbestos Removal/CAA, CERCLA Sea Turtle Sale/Lacey Act
Western District of Texas	<u>United States v. John A. Brommel</u>	Rhino Horn Sales/Lacey Act
Southern District of West Virginia	<u>United States v. Gary Southern</u>	Chemical Spill/Refuse Act, CWA

Trials

United States v. Petr Babenko, No. 13-CR-04016 (W.D. Mo.), ECS Senior Trial Attorney Jim Nelson, AUSA Lawrence Miller, and ECS Paralegal Casey Layman.

On August 19, 2015, Petr Babenko was convicted by a jury on charges stemming from his involvement in a scheme to illegally buy and sell paddlefish. After deliberating for less than an hour, the jury convicted Babenko on conspiracy to violate the Lacey Act and Lacey Act trafficking violations (18 U.S.C. § 371; 16 U.S.C. §§ 3372(a)(2)(A) and 3373(d)(1)(B)).



Caviar made from paddlefish

Babenko owned European International Foods, a specialty grocery business located in Vineland, Missouri. Armenian national Bogdan Nahapetyan previously pleaded guilty to illegally trafficking in paddlefish. Neither defendant had a valid roe fish dealer permit. Evidence introduced during the trial indicated that they possessed paddlefish and paddlefish eggs in excess of the Missouri possession limits and transported them across state lines.

This conviction is a result from an undercover investigation known as “Operation Roadhouse,” centered on an area known as the Roadhouse in Warsaw, Missouri. As part of the operation, state and federal officers engaged in a paddlefish roe business during the 2011 and 2012 seasons. Five additional defendants previously pleaded guilty to Lacey Act trafficking violations. [See *U.S. v. Pakhnyuk in the Guilty Pleas Section* for details on these defendants]. A final defendant, Andrew A. Praskovsky, is scheduled for trial to begin on October 26, 2015.

The American paddlefish, also called the Mississippi paddlefish or the “spoonbill,” is a freshwater fish that is primarily found in the Mississippi River drainage system. Paddlefish eggs are marketed as caviar. The retail value of the caviar is estimated to be between \$30,000 and \$50,000. Paddlefish were once common in waters throughout the Midwest. However, the global decline in other caviar sources, such as sturgeon, has led to an increased demand for paddlefish caviar. This has led to over-fishing of paddlefish and the consequent decline of its population.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Missouri Department of Conservation, with assistance by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation.

Indictments/Informations

***United States v. David Obermeyer*, No. 4:15-CR-00277 (W.D. Mo.), ECS Trial Attorney Mary Dee Carraway and AUSA Jane Brown.**

On August 23, 2015, developer David Obermeyer was charged with violating the Clean Water Act for filling wetlands near Shoal Creek and the Missouri River without a permit (33 U.S.C. §§ 1311, 1319(c)(2)(A)).

The indictment alleges that, between 2011 and 2014, Obermeyer caused the filling of approximately 6.6 acres of wetlands despite receiving a cease and desist order from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers in 2013. Obermeyer allowed and paid construction companies to dump loads of construction debris containing asphalt, solid waste, concrete, dredged spoil, rock, sand, and other debris into the wetland area.

This case was investigated by the U.S EPA Criminal Investigation Division.

***United States v. Jason A. Halek*, No. 1:15-CR-00130 (D.N.D.), ECS Senior Trial Attorney Christopher J. Costantini, AUSA Cameron W. Hayden, and ECS Paralegal Casey Layman.**

On August 20, 2015, a 13-count indictment was unsealed charging Jason A. Halek with violations stemming from the illegal operation of a saltwater disposal well. Halek was charged with one count of conspiracy to violate the Safe Drinking Water Act and to defraud the United States. He also is charged with four counts of violating the SDWA, four counts of making false statements, and four counts of obstructing grand jury proceedings (18 U.S.C. §§ 371, 981(a)(1)(C), 1001, 1512(c)(1)(2); 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c); 42 U.S.C. § 300h-2).

The well, named the Halek 5-22, received produced water constituting brine and other wastes commonly and generically referred to as “saltwater.” “Saltwater” is a generic term used for a variety of waste liquids from oil wells, including waste fracking water as well as brine-laden formation water.

According to the indictment, Halek conspired with others, including co-defendant Nathan Garber to, among other things, inject saltwater into the well without a test being conducted that was required to be witnessed by State officials after the well had failed an earlier pressure test. Halek also is charged with SDWA violations for improperly injecting fluids down the backside of the well, and for instructing Garber to move a safety device called a “packer” out of its proper location, in violation of the well’s permit. Garber previously pleaded guilty to similar violations.

Halek is scheduled for trial to begin on October 27, 2015.

The case was investigated by the U.S. EPA Criminal Investigation Division, with assistance from the North Dakota Industrial Commission.

Indictments/Informations

United States v. Francisco Javier Gomez-Rodriguez, No. 1:15-CR-00226 (E.D. Calif.), AUSA Karen Escobar.

On August 13, 2015, an indictment was returned charging three Mexican nationals and another individual with violations in connection with their involvement in a large marijuana operation in the Sierra National Forest in Madera County, California. Francisco Javier Gomez-Rodriguez; Alejandro Ramirez-Rojo, aka Alejandro Ramires; Humberto Ceballos-Rangel, and Anthony Isaac Santibanez are each charged with conspiracy, manufacturing marijuana, distributing marijuana, possessing marijuana with intent to distribute, and damaging public land and natural resources (18 U.S.C. § 1362; 21 U.S.C. § 841).

According to the indictment, Ceballos-Rangel was found at a campsite within the marijuana cultivation site, where agents identified close to 6,000 marijuana plants and a loaded firearm. A short time later, it is alleged that Gomez-Rodriguez, Ramirez-Rojo, and Santibanez approached the grow site in a vehicle previously identified as a load vehicle used for the delivery of supplies. A .22 caliber rifle also was found in the vehicle, along with .40 caliber rounds of ammunition.

The cultivation operation caused significant harm to the forest. Native vegetation was cut to accommodate the marijuana plants, foot trails, and cooking and sleeping areas. Water also was diverted from a nearby creek for irrigation. A large quantity of trash was also found in pits and throughout the site.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Forest Service, Homeland Security Investigations, the California Department of Justice's Campaign against Marijuana Planting, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Madera County Narcotic's Enforcement Team.



Illegal pesticide

Indictments/Informations

United States v. Black Elk Energy Offshore Operations LLC, No. 2:15-CR-00197 (E.D. La.), ECS Senior Trial Attorney Ken Nelson and AUSA Emily Greenfield.

On August 11, 2015, a six-count information was returned charging Black Elk Energy Offshore Operations LLC (Black Elk) with violating the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act and the Clean Water Act (43 U.S.C. § 1350; 33 U.S.C. §§ 1319(c)(1)(A), 1321(b)(3)).

On November 16, 2012, a series of explosions occurred on an oil production platform that was owned and operated by Black Elk. Three men died while several others were soaked in burning oil and seriously injured. Approximately 500 barrels of oil were discharged into the Gulf of Mexico when the tanks that exploded were launched over the platform and into the Gulf.

The explosions appear to have resulted from welding being conducted on a hydrocarbon line connected to an oil tank that had not been purged of flammable oil and gas. The information alleges that several senior supervisors on the platform failed to ensure that the work was being performed in a safe manner. Numerous OCSLA safety requirements were violated and the company negligently discharged a pollutant into waters of the United States.

This case was investigated by the DOI Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement and the U.S. EPA Criminal Investigation Division.



Oil platform after explosion

Guilty Pleas

***United States v. Lumsden Quan*, No. 2:14-CR-00127 (D. Nev.), ECS Trial Attorneys Jennifer Blackwell and Ryan Connors, AUSA Kate Newman, and ECS Paralegal Amanda Backer.**

On August 21, 2015, Lumsden Quan pleaded guilty to the indictment charging him with conspiring to violate the Lacey Act and the Endangered Species Act, and one substantive Lacey Act violation (18 U.S.C. § 371; 16 U.S.C. §§ 3372(a)(1), 3373(d)(1)(B)).

According to the indictment, over the course of approximately two months, Quan and co-defendant Edward Levine negotiated the sale of two black rhinoceros horns by e-mail and telephone, ultimately communicating with an undercover agent. Quan and Levine are further alleged to have offered to sell two black rhinoceros horns for \$55,000 and agreed to meet the buyer in Las Vegas. In March 2014, after directing another person to drive from California to Las Vegas with the horns, Quan and Levine flew from California to Las Vegas to complete the transaction with the undercover agent. Quan met the undercover agent in a Las Vegas hotel room, where he sold the horn for the agreed-upon amount.

Levine is scheduled for trial to begin on October 19, 2015, and Quan is scheduled to be sentenced on December 3, 2015.

The case is a result of "Operation Crash," a nationwide effort jointly led by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Justice Department to investigate and prosecute those involved in the black market trade of horns from endangered rhinoceros. Officers from the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Nevada Division of Wildlife assisted with the arrests in this matter.

***United States v. Gary Southern*, Nos. 2:14-CR-00264, 00275 (S.D.W.V.), AUSAs Philip Wright, Larry Ellis, and Eric Bacaj.**

On August 19, 2015, the remaining two defendants involved in a January 2014 chemical spill pleaded guilty. Gary Southern, current president of Freedom Industries, Inc., pleaded guilty to two negligent Clean Water Act violations and one Refuse Act charge. Dennis P. Farrell, a former company president and owner, pleaded guilty to a CWA misdemeanor charge and to violating the Refuse Act (33 U.S.C. §§ 407, 411, 1311, 1318, 1319(c)(1)(A)). Freedom Industries and four other employees previously pleaded guilty in March 2015.

On January 9, 2014, a leaking chemical silo at Freedom Industries released an estimated 10,000 gallons of 4-methylcyclohexane methanol (MCHM) into the Elk River,



Black rhino horn

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Guilty Pleas

(Continued from page 9)

forcing West Virginia's governor to issue an order that 300,000 residents in nine counties not use their tap water. Freedom Industries declared bankruptcy within a week after the spill was discovered. The company faces multiple lawsuits, including a putative class action on behalf of all businesses and individuals harmed by the incident.

Southern and Farrell failed to properly inspect a tank containing the MCHM; failed to develop and implement a spill prevention, control and countermeasures plan; failed to develop and implement a stormwater pollution prevention plan and groundwater protection plan, as required by NPDES, and failed to properly maintain the containment area surrounding the tanks at the facility and to make necessary repairs to ensure the containment area would hold a chemical spill. Farrell is scheduled to be sentenced on December 14, 2015, and Southern is set for December 16, 2015.

Former company owners William E. Tis and Charles E. Herzing each pleaded guilty to violating the Refuse Act. Tis is set to be sentenced on December 2, 2015, and Herzing is scheduled for December 3, 2015.

Freedom environmental consultant Robert J. Reynolds and tank farm plant manager Michael E. Burdette pleaded guilty to negligent violations of the CWA (33 U.S.C. § 1319(c)(1)(A)). Reynolds is scheduled to be sentenced on December 7, 2015, and Burdette is scheduled for December 9, 2015.

Freedom Industries, which has been in bankruptcy since shortly after the spill, pleaded guilty to a felony and a misdemeanor CWA charge, and a Refuse Act violation. The company is scheduled to be sentenced on December 10, 2015.

This case was investigated by the U.S. EPA Criminal Investigation Division and the FBI.

United States v. Mississippi Phosphates Corporation, No. 1:15-CR-00058 (S.D. Miss.), ECS Senior Trial Attorney Jeremy Korzenik and AUSA Gaines Cleveland.

On August 19, 2015, Mississippi Phosphates Corporation (MPC) pleaded guilty to violating the Clean Water Act for discharging pollutants that have killed thousands of fish and destroyed wetlands and fish breeding grounds over the past decade (33 U.S.C. §§ 1311(a); 1319(c)(2)(A)). This fertilizer-producing business filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in October 2014 and laid off most of its 200 employees.



Tidal creek and wetlands

(Continued on page 11)

Guilty Pleas

(Continued from page 10)

MPC has a history of illegal wastewater discharges and of failing to rectify the problems even after receiving hundreds of notices. The company was a major producer of diammonium phosphate, the nation's most widely used phosphate fertilizer. Its manufacture produces strong acids and ammonia that, if improperly discharged, can be toxic to fish and other marine life. The company has two sulfuric acid plants with direct access to the Gulf of Mexico. It also has a phosphoric acid plant and a granulation plant. MPC stopped producing diammonium phosphate in December 2014, but is still operating in a limited capacity.

The company admitted to discharging more than 38 million gallons of acidic wastewater in August 2013. The discharge caused the death of more than 47,000 fish and the closing of Bayou Casotte. MPC also admitted that, in February 2014, it discharged oily wastewater from an open gate on a storm water culvert into Bayou Casotte, creating an oily sheen that extended approximately one mile down the bayou from MPC.

The Bayou Casotte has been designated an impaired waterway since 2004 due to a high concentration of ammonia found in the water that could only have come from MPC. Following heavy rains in April 2005, the company discharged more than 17 million gallons of "highly acidic wastewater" into adjacent waterways including Tillman Creek and Bangs Lake in the Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, causing a significant fish kill. Those waters are considered the gulf region's most productive nurseries for aquatic species.

Because MPC is in bankruptcy and is obligated to assist in funding the estimated \$120 million cleanup of its site, the court accepted the parties' agreement for MPC to transfer 320 acres of property near its Pascagoula plant to become a part of the Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, which is managed by the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources as part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Estuarine Research Reserve System.

This case was investigated by the U.S. EPA Criminal Investigation Division.

United States v. Edgardo Albino, No. 3:15-CR-00448 (D.P.R.), ECS Senior Litigation Counsel Howard Stewart, with assistance from RCEC Carolina Jordan-García.

On August 19, 2015, Edgardo Albino pleaded guilty to a one-count information charging a CERCLA violation (42 U.S.C. § 9603 (b)(3)) for his involvement in an illegal asbestos removal during the renovation of the Minillas North Tower in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Albino's company, AIREKO Construction Company, was recently charged in a six-count indictment with five Clean Air Act counts and one CERCLA violation (42 U.S.C. §§ 7413(c)(1), 9603(b)(3)).



Ceiling removed and dropped to floor

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Guilty Pleas

(Continued from page 11)

In May 2012, subcontractors removed ceiling materials that contained asbestos and improperly placed it and other debris behind the building. The material was not wet, not placed in plastic trash bags, and not properly labeled as required by the NESHAP. Albino failed to immediately notify the National Response Center of the release of a reportable quantity of a hazardous substance. Kenneth Baez, the project manager for AIREKO, previously pleaded guilty to a NESHAP and a CERCLA violation.

This case was investigated by the U. S. EPA Criminal Investigation Division.

United States v. Fedor Pakhnyuk, No. 13-CR-04018 (W.D. Mo.), ECS Senior Trial Attorney Jim Nelson, AUSA Lawrence Miller, and ECS Paralegal Casey Layman.

On August 13, 2015, Fedor Pakhnyuk pleaded guilty to a Lacey Act trafficking violation. Codefendants Arkadiy Lvovskiy and Dmitri Elitchev pleaded guilty to participating in a conspiracy to illegally traffic in paddlefish and paddlefish eggs in violation of the Lacey Act. Co-defendant Artour Magdessian pleaded guilty to a Lacey Act trafficking violation (18 U.S.C. § 371; 16 U.S.C. §§ 3372(a)(2)(A) and 3373(d)(1)(B)).

In April 2011, Lvovskiy and Elitchev traveled to Missouri where they illegally purchased five female paddlefish and a container of paddlefish eggs. They processed the eggs into caviar and transported it from Missouri to Colorado. In March 2012, Lvovskiy and Elitchev returned to Missouri to purchase eight more female paddlefish. They processed the eggs into caviar and transported them from Missouri to Colorado.

In April 2012, Lvovskiy, Elitchev, and Magdessian traveled to Missouri with co-defendant Felix Baravik. They befriended covert Fish and Wildlife Service agents who were posing as fishermen staying in the same area. The defendants purchased two female paddlefish from the agents, as well as three more female paddlefish from other sources, in excess of the Missouri take and possession limits. The defendants processed the eggs from all of those paddlefish into caviar and transported them from Missouri to Colorado.

The retail value of the caviar is estimated to be between \$30,000 and \$50,000. Bogdan Nahapetyan and Baravik each previously pleaded guilty to misdemeanor Lacey Act violations. Petr Babenko was recently convicted at trial [See *U.S. v. Babenko in the [Trial Section](#)*] and Andrew A. Praskovsky is scheduled for trial to begin on October 26, 2015.

These cases were investigated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Missouri Department of Conservation, with assistance by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation.

Guilty Pleas

United States v. Jose Antonio Reyna-Chavez, No. 1:14-CR-00161 (E.D. Calif.), AUSA Karen Escobar.

On August 10, 2015, Mexican national Jose Antonio Reyna-Chavez (Reyna) pleaded guilty to conspiring to manufacture, distribute, and possess with intent to distribute marijuana and possessing a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime (21 U.S.C. § 841; 18 U.S.C. § 942). Reyna had also been charged with depredation to government land and resources (18 U.S.C. § 1361).

Reyna was involved in the cultivation of more than 1,500 marijuana plants in the Blue Canyon-area of the Sierra National Forest in Fresno County when he attempted to flee from law enforcement officers. The cultivation operation caused significant damage to the land and natural resources. Removed from the grow site were six large helicopter net-loads of material and debris, including fertilizer, propane tanks, and pesticides, along with an AK-47 style assault rifle with a loaded high-capacity magazine, and a 12 gauge pump action shotgun.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Forest Service, the California National Guard, and Fresno County Sheriff's Office, with assistance from the California Department of Fish

United States v. Gerard Kruse, No. 1:15-CR-00207 (E.D.N.Y.), ECS Trial Attorney Christopher Hale.

On August 7, 2015, Gerard Kruse pleaded guilty to 13 counts of Interstate Transport or Receipt of Illegal Wildlife in violation of the Lacey Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 3372(a)(2) (A), 3373(d)(2)). Kruse, a reptile enthusiast, participated in multiple interstate transactions involving the illegal collection, transportation, and receipt of a variety of snakes.

Kruse admitted that, during 2008 through 2012, he knowingly received or transported 59 snakes that were illegally collected under the laws of California, Oregon, North Carolina, or New Jersey. In 2011, he also knowingly received a rattlesnake that was shipped by U.S. Mail. Among the species transported in interstate commerce were corn snakes, San Diego mountain kingsnakes, and northern pine snakes.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as part of Operation Kingsnake.



Western Diamondback Rattlesnake

Sentencings

United States v. William Bradley, No. 2:15-CR-00044 (S.D. Ohio), ECS Trial Attorney Adam Cullman and AUSA Mike Marous.

On August 27, 2015, the primary owners and operators of New Energy Fuels of Waller, Texas, and American Made Renewable Fuels, of LaBelle, Florida, pleaded guilty and were sentenced for their involvement in a conspiracy to fraudulently claim biodiesel tax and energy credits. Dean Daniels was sentenced to 63 months' incarceration, William Bradley to 51 months, Ricky Smith to 41 months, and Brenda Daniels to 366 days. They also were ordered to pay \$23 million in restitution.

As employees and officers of New Energy Fuels, they claimed to be in the business of processing animal fats and vegetable oils into biodiesel. They subsequently relocated, operating a similar scheme at Chieftain Biofuels LLC in Logan, Ohio. The defendants purchased low-grade feedstock and performed minimal processing to produce a low-grade fuel. The fuel was not biodiesel; however, the defendants represented to the EPA that they had produced biodiesel. They subsequently generated fraudulent biodiesel RINs and sold them to various third parties. In total, the defendants sold over \$15 million worth of fraudulent biodiesel RINs.

They also made false claims to the IRS in order to obtain the biodiesel tax credit that they were not eligible to receive. Throughout 2009, 2010 and 2011, refundable tax credits were available for renewable fuel producers. If companies complied with IRS regulations, they could earn one dollar per gallon of biodiesel. The biodiesel had to meet industry standards, which the defendant's fuel did not. In total, they claimed over \$7 million in false biodiesel tax credits.

In addition, the New Energy Fuels' production process generated substantial hazardous by-products. Dean Daniels arranged for an employee, Lonnie Perkins, to transport the wastes off-site at night. Perkins previously pleaded no-contest in Texas to several charges related to the dumping of hazardous waste in and around the city of Houston.

Each defendant pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud and to defraud the United States (18 U.S.C. § 371). Dean Daniels also pleaded guilty to offering a hazardous material for transport without providing or affixing proper placards (49 U.S.C. § 5124).

This case was investigated by the U.S. EPA Criminal Investigation Division, the IRS, the FBI, and the DOT Office of Inspector General, with assistance from the Houston Police Department.

Sentencings

United States v. Integrated Plastic Solutions, No. 6:13-CR-10185 (D. Kan.), AUSA Alan Metzger.

On August 26, 2015, Integrated Plastic Solutions, LLC (IPS) was sentenced after previously pleading guilty to a RCRA violation (42 U.S.C. § 6928(d)(2)(A)). The company will pay a \$10,000 fine, \$97,612 in restitution to the U.S. EPA, complete a two-year term of probation, and implement an environmental compliance plan.

IPS was a facility that recycled plastics and electronics. Sean Riley was the owner and his brother, Brian, was a general manager. The company stored hazardous wastes at its facility, including, paints, solvents, and other chemicals. The paints and solvents contained ethyl benzene, a hazardous air pollutant. After becoming aware that the Kansas Department of Health and Environment was investigating the company's waste handling practices, the defendants allowed paints and solvents to be dumped on IPS grounds, releasing ethyl benzene and exposing employees to the risk of flash fire and explosion.

Sean Riley was previously sentenced to complete 18 months' unsupervised probation and is jointly and severally responsible with his brother for \$118,807 in restitution to be paid to the EPA. Brian Riley was sentenced to complete a three-year term of probation with a special condition of three months' home confinement. Both pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor Clean Air Act violation (42 U.S.C. § 7413(c)(4)) for negligent exposure to a hazardous air pollutant.

This case was investigated by the U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General and the U.S. EPA Criminal Investigation Division.

United States v. John A. Brommel, No. 6:15-CR-00020 (W.D. Tex.), ECS Trial Attorney Gary Donner, AUSA Greg Gloff, and ECS Supervisory Paralegal Lisa Brooks.

On August 26, 2015, John A. Brommel was sentenced to pay a \$2,000 fine, perform 100 hours of community service, and will complete a five-year term of probation. Brommel previously pleaded guilty to a Lacey Act false labeling violation (16 U.S.C. §§ 3372(d)(2), 3373(d)(3)(A)) for knowingly selling Black rhinoceros horns to non-Texas residents and falsifying the bill of sale to conceal the fact that the purchasers did not live in Texas.



Abandoned drums

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Sentencings

(Continued from page 16)

Brommel sold the horns from the shoulder mount of a Black rhinoceros in September 2010 to a group of Irish nationals, which included Michael Slattery, Jr., previously prosecuted and sentenced to 14 months' incarceration. Brommel, who owned and operated a taxidermy shop for more than 25 years, was investigated as part of "Operation Crash," a nationwide effort led by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Justice Department to investigate and prosecute those involved in the black market trade of rhinoceros horns and other protected species.

United States v. Joseph R. Keebler, Nos. 3:13-CR-30080, 30081 (C.D. Ill.), AUSAs Patrick D. Hansen and John E. Childress.

On August 24, 2015, Duane T. Keebler and Joseph R. Keebler were each sentenced to pay \$30,000 fines and to complete two-year terms' of probation with a special condition of three months' home confinement. They also were held jointly and severally liable for \$179,438 in restitution to the Illinois EPA (IEPA). The defendants and their brother, Michael R. Keebler, previously pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit mail fraud for defrauding the IEPA in connection with underground storage tank cleanup projects (18 U.S.C. § 371).

Joel Andrews founded Environmental Management of Illinois, Inc. (EMI) in 1997 and served as president. Eric Andrews joined in 1999 as vice-president. In April 2001, professional engineer Michael Keebler joined this environmental consulting firm and he became the owner in 2006. EMI worked with property owners to clean up property contaminated by petroleum leaks, spills, or overfills from leaking underground storage tanks. The firm then sought reimbursement of its remediation costs from the Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) program fund administered by the IEPA.

Between 2001 and 2013, the defendants conspired to defraud the LUST fund by artificially inflating expenses they incurred in remediating property. They did this by, among other things, submitting falsified invoices to the IEPA for reimbursement, and by paying vendors a reduced rate and then telling IEPA that they had paid full price.

Michael Keebler was recently sentenced to five years in prison, followed by three years' supervised release. He was held jointly and severally responsible for \$13,363,665 in restitution to the Illinois EPA, along with the Andrews brothers. They are scheduled to be sentenced on October 2, 2015. All three pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit mail fraud.

A final defendant, Jeremy L. VanScyoc, was previously sentenced to one day of incarceration, followed by two years' supervised release. VanScyoc also was ordered to pay \$262,032 in restitution. He pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit mail fraud, admitting that he prepared inflated subcontractor invoices.

This case was investigated by the FBI and the U.S. EPA Criminal Investigation Division.

Sentencings

United States v. Kelly Steen, No. 14-CR-00111 (D. Mont.), AUSA Kris McLean.

On August 20, 2015, Kelly Steen was sentenced to pay a \$20,000 fine and will complete a three-year term of probation. Steen previously pleaded guilty to violating the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act (49 U.S.C. § 5124) for illegally transporting natural gas condensate from the North Dakota Bakken Shale oil fields without placarding.

Steen admitted to hauling a hazardous material known as "drip gas" from a pipeline station for Bakken products in December 2012. The drip gas was hauled from Watford City, North Dakota, to a Montana recycling center, with a bill of lading that identified it as nonhazardous "slop oil and water." The gas ignited when Steen attempted to pump the truck's contents into the recycling center, injuring three employees and triggering a blaze that burned for eight days, until the local fire department determined what was actually in the truck's tanks.

This case was investigated by the U.S. EPA Criminal Investigation Division.

United States v. Anthony Anglin, No. 5:15-CR-00037 (E.D. Ky.), AUSA Erin Roth.

On August 17, 2015, Anthony Anglin was sentenced to pay \$209,614 in restitution for cleanup costs and will serve a five-year term of probation. Anglin previously pleaded guilty to a RCRA storage violation (42 U.S.C. § 6928(d)(2)(A)).

Anglin was the owner and operator of Bluegrass Industrial LLC. In May 2013, EPA inspectors found numerous 55-gallon drums and 250-gallon containers of hazardous waste that had been abandoned at the company's facility. A total of approximately 6,000 gallons of corrosive waste was discovered. The defendant had filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy and left the site without disposing of the waste.

This case was investigated by the U.S. EPA Criminal Investigation Division.



Abandoned waste

Sentencings

United States v. Billy Joe Hurley, No. 15-po-00002 (W.D.N.C.), AUSA David Thornloe.

On August 13, 2015, Billy Joe Hurley was sentenced to six month's incarceration for illegally possessing ginseng taken from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This is Hurley's fifth conviction for ginseng poaching (36 C.F.R. 2.1(a)(1)).

In June 2015, Hurley was caught with more than 500 American Ginseng roots he had illegally dug from areas in the Park. He had filled a backpack with the roots and attempted to hide the pack behind a guardrail beside a hiking trail. Hurley was sentenced in August 2014 to five months and fifteen days in jail the last time he was caught with ginseng. Experts testified during the most recent sentencing hearing that the American ginseng species is under severe pressure from poachers in the Park and it may not be sustainable if it continues to be illegally harvested.

Fresh ginseng can bring up to \$200 per pound on the black market. The wild roots are a highly-prized tonic, particularly in Asian markets. Dried ginseng roots are used in medicines, teas, and other health products. Each year rangers seize between 500 and 1,000 illegally poached ginseng roots. Over the years, biologists have marked and replanted over 15,000 roots seized by law enforcement.

This case was investigated by the National Park Service.

Sentencings

***United States v. Walter H. Stancil*, No. 2:13-CR-00015 (W.D.N.C.), AUSA Richard Edwards.**

On August 11, 2015, Walter H. Stancil was sentenced to 30 days' incarceration, followed by one year of supervised release, and will pay a \$500 fine. Stancil and co-defendant Jerry F. Parker were convicted by a jury of violating the Lacey Act for engaging in illegal black bear hunts. Stancil also was convicted of conspiracy (16 U.S.C. §§ 3372(a)(2) (A), 3372(c)(1), 3373(d)(1)(B), 3373(d)(2); 18 U.S.C. § 371). Parker was sentenced to 30 days' incarceration, followed by eight months' home confinement as a condition of one year of supervised release. He also will pay a \$1,500 fine.

In 2011, Parker and Stancil engaged in a number of illegal hunting activities, including using chocolate candy as bait at what one of the defendants described as "probably the most active bait site in the United States."

This case was investigated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Forest Service, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

***United States v. Alphin Brothers, Inc.*, No. 5:14-CR-00287 (E.D.N.C.), ECS Trial Attorney Joel LaBissonniere, former ECS Trial Attorney Colin Black, and AUSA Banu Rangarajan.**

On August 11, 2015, Alphin Brothers, Inc., was sentenced to pay a \$100,000 fine and to forfeit approximately 21,450 pounds of shrimp. The company also will complete a three-year term of probation, including a special condition requiring the company to implement a training program to educate its employees on federal labeling requirements.

Alphin Brothers pleaded guilty to a felony Lacey Act false labeling violation for mislabeling imported shrimp as domestic product of the United States (16 U.S.C. §§ 3372 (d), 3373(d)(3)(A)). An Alphin Brothers employee, who purchased and sold shrimp on the company's behalf, directed other employees and employees of another seafood processing facility to falsely label approximately 25,000 pounds of farm-raised imported shrimp from Ecuador, Mexico, and elsewhere as wild-caught product of the United States. The falsely labeled shrimp was later sold by Alphin Brothers in interstate commerce to customers in Louisiana.

This case was investigated by the NOAA Office of Law Enforcement, with assistance from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Sentencings

***United States v. Keith Cantore*, No. 2:14-CR-00197 (E.D. La.), AUSA David Haller.**

On August 5, 2015, Keith Cantore was sentenced to 41 months' incarceration, followed by three years' supervised release. He also will pay \$42,805 in restitution that will go toward the Lacey Act Reward Fund. Cantore previously pleaded guilty to a Lacey Act violation (16 U.S.C. §§ 3372(a)(2)(A), 3373(d)(1)(B)) for attempting to purchase 100 North American Wood Turtles, a threatened species, in August and September 2014.

The defendant has a previous conviction for illegally selling turtles and had continued to purchase the reptiles while on bond for the current charges.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Homeland Security Investigations, and the United States Postal Inspection Service.

***United States v. James Jariv*, Nos. 2:14-CR-0006, 00015 (D. Nev.), ECS Assistant Chief Wayne Hettenbach, Deputy Criminal Chief AUSA Crane Pomerantz, Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering Section Trial Attorney Darrin McCullough, and ECS Paralegal Casey Layman.**

On August 5, 2015, James Jariv was sentenced to ten years' incarceration, followed by three years' supervised release, and will pay \$6,345,831 in restitution as well as forfeit between \$4 to \$6 million in cash and other assets. Alex Jariv recently pleaded guilty for his involvement in this biodiesel fraud scheme. Co-defendant Nathan Stoliar was previously sentenced to two years in prison, to pay more than \$1.4 million in restitution, and to forfeit \$4 million in cash.

Beginning around September of 2009, James Jariv and Stoliar operated and controlled a company called City Farm Biofuel located in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The company claimed to produce biodiesel made from feedstocks such as animal fat and vegetable oils. Stoliar and Jariv also formed a company called Canada Feedstock Supply that was supposed to have supplied City Farm with feedstocks. Jariv also operated and controlled a company based in Las Vegas, Nevada, called Global E Marketing (GEM).

Alex Jariv worked for and on behalf of these companies. Using these three and other closely-held companies, the three defendants claimed to produce biodiesel at the City Farm facility and to import and sell biodiesel to GEM and then generated and sold RINs based upon this claimed production, sale and importation. In reality, no biodiesel produced at City Farm was ever imported and sold to GEM as claimed. The Jarivs and Stoliar used GEM to claim to blend the biodiesel with petroleum diesel, allowing them to sell the RINs separately from any actual biodiesel. Using this scheme, the three men falsely claimed to import, purchase and blend more than 4.2 million gallons of biodiesel. They then sold the RINs, and fraudulently generated more than \$7 million.

From approximately September 2009 through December 2013, Jariv and others also purchased large quantities of a biodiesel-petroleum blend, known as B-99, which is 99% biodiesel and 1% or less petroleum diesel. Jariv knew that this B-99 was RIN-less and

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Sentencings

(Continued from page 21)

already had been used to generate RINs by another party, and also had been used to allow someone else to claim a tax credit available to those who blend B-100 into B-99. Because RIN-less B-99 cannot be used to lawfully generate RINs, and cannot be used to claim the tax credit, it sells at a substantially lower price than B-100.

Jariv and his co-defendants also exported to Canada significant amounts of the RIN-less B-99 they bought in the United States. They sold the biodiesel in Canada, without acquiring and providing RINs for these exports as required. In doing so, they failed to give to the United States RINs worth in excess of \$34 million, keeping this money for themselves.

Finally, Jariv and his co-defendants conspired to launder the proceeds of their crimes, utilizing foreign banks and complex financial transactions to promote their illegal schemes and distribute the proceeds of their crimes. Accounts were utilized in Canada, Nevada, and Australia, and transactions between the defendants' closely held companies were falsely described as other legitimate transactions involving biodiesel.

James Jariv and Stoliar pleaded guilty to conspiring to defraud the government and to launder money, two wire fraud counts, and one Clean Air Act false statement count (18 U.S.C §§ 371, 1956(h), 1343; 42 U.S.C. § 7413(c)(2)(A)). Alex Jariv pleaded guilty to a conspiracy violation. He is scheduled to be sentenced on September 25, 2015.

This case was investigated by the U.S. EPA Criminal Investigation Division and the FBI, with assistance from the U.S. Secret Service and the Department of Homeland Security.

United States v. Jose Javier Rodriguez Sanchez, No. 3:13-CR-00393 (D.P.R.), AUSA Carmen Márquez.

On August 4, 2015, Jose Javier Rodriguez Sanchez was sentenced to complete a two-year term of probation after previously pleading guilty to a Lacey Act violation (16 U.S.C. § 3372(a)(1)). Sanchez was involved in the illegal sale of meat taken from endangered Hawksbill sea turtles in November 2011. A total of eight individuals were arrested on similar charges in July 2013 in conjunction with the formation of the new Puerto Rico Environmental Crimes Task Force. Roberto Guzman Herpin, Madelyne Montes Santiago, Edwin Alamo Silva, Juan Soto Rodriguez, Ricardo Dejesus Alamo, Iris Lebron Montanez, and Miguel Rivera Delgado all have been sentenced.

The case was investigated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, with assistance from the Puerto Rico Environmental Crimes Task Force.

Sentencings

United States v. Mark Pullyblank, No. 3:13-CR-00198 (N.D.N.Y.), former AUSA Craig Benedict and AUSA Miroslav Lovric.

On August 4, 2015, Crane-Hogan Structural Systems, Inc. (Crane-Hogan), and Project Managers Mark Pullyblank and William Clements were sentenced after previously pleading guilty to violating the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §§ 1311, 1319(c)(2)(A),(c)(1), 1342(a)(3)).

The charges stem from the illegal discharge of voluminous amounts of concrete slurry without

a permit into the Susquehanna River in Binghamton, New York, over the course of two years. The company will pay a \$500,000 fine and complete a five-year term of probation, to include implementing an environmental compliance plan. Pullyblank was ordered to pay a \$10,000 fine, complete a three-year term of probation, and perform 120 hours of community service. Clements will pay a \$2,000 fine and complete a one-year term of probation.

Crane-Hogan is a company that engages in hydro-demolition to remove concrete prior to resurfacing structures, including parking garages, dams, bridges, and highways. The process can generate tens of thousands of gallons of wastewater slurry each day. The untreated wastewater slurry in this case contained significant total suspended solids with a pH that in some instances reached 12.5 or higher. The company's activities resulted in the cementing over of a portion of the Susquehanna River bank and bottom. The discharges occurred immediately adjacent to a protected walleye breeding ground.

The Susquehanna River is the longest river on the East Coast. It originates in New York and travels through Pennsylvania and Maryland prior to discharging into the Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean. Clements pleaded guilty to a CWA misdemeanor violation related to shorter-term discharges made from the Wilson Hospital parking garage into the Binghamton-Johnson City POTW, without an industrial wastewater discharge permit.

This case was investigated by the N.Y. State Department of Environmental Conservation Bureau of Environmental Crimes Investigations and the U.S. EPA Criminal Investigation Division, with assistance from the N.Y. State Office of General Services, the Binghamton City Engineer, and the Binghamton-Johnson City Publically Owned Treatment Works.



Concrete slurry visible in river

Sentencings

United States v. Southern California Plating Company, No. 15-CR-00947 (S.D. Calif.), AUSA Melanie Pierson.

On August 4, 2015, metal finishing company Southern California Plating Company (SoCal Plating), and owner Paul Hummell were sentenced after pleading guilty to violating RCRA and the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §§ 1317(d),1319(c)(2)(A); 42 U.S.C. § 6928(d)(2)(A)) for illegally storing hazardous waste and unlawfully discharging the waste into the local POTW. The company will pay a \$50,000



View inside plating facility

fine and \$36,397 in restitution to be divided as follows: \$8,266 to the County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health Services and \$28,131 to the San Diego Public Utilities Industrial Waste Control Program. Hummell was ordered to pay a \$1,000 fine and both defendants will complete a one-year term of probation.

SoCal Plating's metal finishing operations generated a number of wastewater streams, including spent corrosive cleaning and process baths and rinse waters that were corrosive and contaminated with toxic heavy metals. An inspection by the San Diego Department of Environmental Health Services in January 2014 revealed drums of wastewater that had been stored onsite for more than 90 days. The drums were sampled and found to contain hazardous levels of chromium waste. Hummell admitted that he knew that the industrial wastewater stored at the facility was hazardous waste and that they did not possess a permit to legally store it onsite.

SoCal Plating's wastewater discharge limits for nickel and zinc exceeded the daily maximum permitted levels on July 8, 2013 and October 8, 2013, in violation of the CWA.

This case was investigated by the U.S. EPA Criminal Investigation Division and the FBI.

Sentencings

United States v. Donald W. Wainwright, Sr., No. 2:14-CR-00044 (S.D. Ohio), AUSAs Mike Marous and Peter Glenn-Applegate, and SAUSA Heather Robinson.

On August 4, 2015, Donald W. Wainwright, Sr., was sentenced to 21 months in prison, followed by three years' supervised release, after previously pleading guilty to charges stemming from the illegal operation of a White-tailed deer breeding and hunting facility. Wainwright also will serve six months' home confinement and pay a \$125,000 fine. He previously pleaded guilty to conspiracy, wire fraud, and Lacey Act violations (18 U.S.C. §§ 371, 1343; 16 U.S.C. §§ 3372(a)(1), 3373(d)(1)(B)).

His son, Donald W. Wainwright, Jr., was sentenced to four months' home detention as a condition of a three-year term of probation for his role in the operation. He also will pay a \$1,000 fine and pay the following in restitution: \$500 to the Ohio Turn in a Poacher program and \$500 to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Habitat Fund. Wainwright, Jr., pleaded guilty to eight Lacey Act violations.

Wainwright, Sr., owned hunting preserves in Logan County, Ohio, and Live Oak, Florida, both of which were named Valley View Whitetails. Wainwright, Jr., was a part-time resident and part-time operator of the site in Ohio. Wainwright, Sr., illegally shipped deer to Florida from Ohio and attempted to ship deer to Georgia from Ohio. These deer herds were not certified to be free from chronic wasting disease, tuberculosis, and brucellosis, as required by federal law. As a result, deer herds in Florida were potentially exposed to these diseases. A shipment of deer was intercepted on its way to Georgia when Ohio Wildlife officers saw the animals travelling inside a cargo trailer on the interstate.

The defendants also sold illegal white-tailed deer hunts at the Ohio facility. They drew clients from around the country to hunt there, charging them between \$1,000 and \$50,000 to kill deer inside the preserve. As part of their sentences, the defendants were each required to perform 200 hours of community service to be served in a parks system. Wainwright, Sr., also must publish an article in *The Deer Breeders Gazette*.

This case was investigated by the Ohio DNR and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

United States v. Toribio Cruz-Galvan, No. 1:14-CR-00225 (E.D. Calif.), AUSA Karen Escobar.

On August 3, 2015, Toribio Cruz-Galvan (Cruz), an undocumented Mexico national, was sentenced to two year's incarceration after pleading guilty to conspiring to manufacture, distribute, and possess marijuana with intent to distribute. Cruz also had been charged with damaging public land and natural resources.

Cruz was involved in the cultivation of more than 1,000 marijuana plants in the Yucca Mountain area of the Sequoia National Park. In addition to marijuana plants, park rangers found processed marijuana, a shotgun, ammunition for various firearms, and other equipment. The marijuana cultivation operation caused significant damage to National Park land and natural resources. Fertilizer, rodenticide, propane tanks, and 300 pounds of trash were removed from the grow site. It is estimated that over one million gallons of water was

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Sentencings

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diverted from a nearby spring to irrigate the plants.

This case was investigated by the National Park Service.

Environmental Crimes Section Attorneys

Position	Name	Phone
Chief	Deborah Harris	
Deputy Chief	Joseph Poux	
Assistant Chief	Thomas Ballantine	
Assistant Chief	Elinor Colbourn	
Assistant Chief	Wayne Hettenbach	
Senior Litigation Counsel	Howard P. Stewart	
Senior Litigation Counsel	Richard Udell	
Senior Counsel	Robert Anderson (Montana)	
Senior Counsel	Kris Dighe	
Senior Counsel	Rocky Piaggione	
Senior Trial Attorney	Georgiann Cerese	
Senior Trial Attorney	Christopher Costantini	
Senior Trial Attorney	Daniel Dooher	
Senior Trial Attorney	Todd Gleason	
Senior Trial Attorney	David Kehoe	
Senior Trial Attorney	Jeremy Korzenik	
Senior Trial Attorney	James Nelson	
Senior Trial Attorney	Ken Nelson	
Senior Trial Attorney	Lana Pettus	
Senior Trial Attorney	Jennifer Whitfield	
Trial Attorney	Cassandra Barnum	
Trial Attorney	Jennifer Blackwell	
Trial Attorney	Mary Dee Carraway	
Trial Attorney	Ryan Connors	
Trial Attorney	Adam Cullman	
Trial Attorney	Gary Donner	
Trial Attorney	Patrick Duggan	
Trial Attorney	Ethan Eddy	
Trial Attorney	Thomas Franzinger	
Trial Attorney	Christopher Hale	
Trial Attorney	Joel LaBissonniere (NOAA)	
Trial Attorney	Leslie Lehnert	
Trial Attorney	Brandy Parker (USCG)	
Trial Attorney	Shennie Patel	
Trial Attorney	Richard Powers	
Trial Attorney	Mark Romley (Colorado)	
Trial Attorney	Brendan Selby	
Trial Attorney	Lauren Steele	
Trial Attorney	Shane Waller	

Announcements

In August 2015, a number of federal worker safety crimes were assigned to the Environmental Crimes Section for criminal enforcement purposes. [Title 5 of the USAM](#) has been revised to include the following: Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA), Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act, Mine Safety and Health Act (MSHA) of 1977, and the Atomic Energy Act. Please contact [redacted] if you have any questions.

The first of two issues of the U.S. Attorney's Bulletin devoted to wildlife crimes was published in [May 2015](#) and features articles on current issues related to the Lacey Act; wildlife charges in oil spill cases; forensics in wildlife cases; illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing and seafood fraud; the use of the criminal enforcement to stop the growing threat of invasive species; restitution in wildlife cases and the use of civil and administrative alternatives to criminal enforcement. These articles reflect the contributions of prosecutors in ECS, ENRD's Appellate, Law and Policy, and Wildlife and Marine Resources Sections, Assistant U.S. Attorneys, and agents, scientists and regulators at FWS, NOAA and USDA. The second issue will be published in September 2015.

Please send information regarding State and local cases to the [Regional Environmental Enforcement Association's Webpage](#). Updates on federal cases should be sent to [redacted]