

Freedom of Information Act Request

Stacey Ann Arras Disappearance (Yosemite National Park, July 1, 1981 – December 31, 1983, and Subsequent Reviews)

To:

FOIA Officer
National Park Service – Yosemite National Park
P.O. Box 577
Yosemite National Park, CA 95389
Email: nps_yose_foia@nps.gov

CC:

National Park Service FOIA Office (Washington, DC) – foia@nps.gov
Department of the Interior – Office of the Solicitor – foia@sol.doi.gov
National Archives and Records Administration – San Bruno Branch –
sanbruno.archives@nara.gov

From:

Rudy Barton
Email: rudolph.barton@gmail.com
Date: November 12, 2025

Dear FOIA Officer,

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552), I request access to all records relating to the disappearance of **Stacey Ann Arras** near Sunrise High Sierra Camp, Yosemite National Park, from **July 1, 1981 through December 31, 1983**, and any later administrative or archival actions regarding those records.

A. Scope of Records Requested

1. Search-and-Rescue (SAR) and Operational Records: Command logs, task sheets, maps, resource deployments, helicopter or air-ops manifests, dispatch or weather logs, situation or after-action reports, and personnel assignment schedules.
2. Administrative & Oversight Records (Post-1981): Memoranda, correspondence, evaluations, or record-retention decisions discussing this case, including records of periodic reviews determining whether it remains open.
3. Communications with Other Agencies: Records between NPS, DOI, USPP, or county/state partners regarding the case's status or FOIA handling—especially materials created after January 1, 2010 referencing Exemption 7(A).
4. Indices and Redaction Materials: Any Vaughn-style indices, redaction logs, or segregability analyses created in connection with prior FOIA processing (ref. DOI Solicitor FOIA Appeal No. 2011-107).
5. Custody and Transfer Records: All documents showing where the case file (≈ 2,000 pages, per the Department's 2011 denial) is maintained, including any accession or transfer to

NARA.

B. Legal Standards Governing This Request

1. Foreseeable Harm Requirement (FOIA Improvement Act of 2016): Any exemption must demonstrate a specific, non-speculative, foreseeable harm to an identifiable enforcement proceeding today.
2. Stale 7(A) Assertions: The Department previously withheld these records in 2011 using generalized language. Fourteen years later, a fresh review consistent with current law is required. Identify investigative authority, responsible component, current case number, supervising agency, and date of last substantive action.
3. Segregability (5 U.S.C. § 552(b)): Conduct a line-by-line segregability analysis. Blanket assertions of “no segregable material” are improper.
4. Public Domain / Waiver Context: The 2011 denial discussed the Charles Farabee publication and rejected a waiver theory. This request does not rely on any waiver claim and seeks segregable factual and administrative records only.

C. Fees, Format, and Timing

Format: Electronic delivery (PDF or ZIP via email/download).

Fee Waiver: Requested under 43 C.F.R. § 2.45; disclosure serves the public interest and has no commercial purpose.

Fee Notice: If costs exceed \$25, notify me first.

Rolling Releases: Please issue interim releases if processing requires time.

Please confirm receipt within 20 business days, assign a tracking number, and contact me with any clarification needs. A signed physical copy is being sent via certified mail.

Sincerely,

Rudy Barton

rudolph.barton@gmail.com