



Kim Mclees &lt;kim.mclees@wyo.gov&gt;

## Fwd: North Dakota Pipeline Protest

1 message

**Keith Groeneweg** <keith.groeneweg@wyo.gov>  
 To: Kim McLees <Kim.McLees@wyo.gov>

Thu, Nov 17, 2016 at 11:32 AM

**Major Keith Groeneweg**  
**Field Operations Commander**  
**Wyoming Highway Patrol**  
**5300 Bishop Blvd.**  
**Cheyenne, WY 82009**  
**(307) 777-4307 (office)**  
**(307) 630-1808 (mobile)**  
**(307) 777-3897 (fax)**  
[Keith.Groeneweg@wyo.gov](mailto:Keith.Groeneweg@wyo.gov)

**Vision:** Wyoming's Leaders in Highway Safety

**Mission:** The Wyoming Highway Patrol is committed to serve and protect all people in Wyoming with courtesy, professionalism and integrity.

**Values:** Integrity, Courage, Discipline, Loyalty, Diligence, Humility, Optimism, Conviction

[Below100.org](http://Below100.org)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Shannon Ratliff** <[shannon.ratliff@wyo.gov](mailto:shannon.ratliff@wyo.gov)>  
 Date: Mon, Nov 7, 2016 at 8:22 AM  
 Subject: Fwd: North Dakota Pipeline Protest  
 To: "Jones, Perry" <[perry.jones@wyo.gov](mailto:perry.jones@wyo.gov)>, "Groeneweg, Keith" <[keith.groeneweg@wyo.gov](mailto:keith.groeneweg@wyo.gov)>

Just FYI--

**Lt. Colonel Shannon Ratliff**  
**Operations Commander**  
**Wyoming Highway Patrol**  
**Office- (307) 777-4302**  
**Cell- (307) 630-0197**  
**Fax- (307) 777-3897**  
[Shannon.Ratliff@wyo.gov](mailto:Shannon.Ratliff@wyo.gov)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Butler, Tom** <[tobutler@mt.gov](mailto:tobutler@mt.gov)>  
 Date: Fri, Nov 4, 2016 at 4:55 PM  
 Subject: North Dakota Pipeline Protest  
 To: "Ansari - CDPS, Afsoon" <[afsoon.ansari@state.co.us](mailto:afsoon.ansari@state.co.us)>, Colonel Dennis Osborn <[dosborn@dps.nv.gov](mailto:dosborn@dps.nv.gov)>, Commissioner Farrow <[jfarrow@chp.ca.gov](mailto:jfarrow@chp.ca.gov)>, "Craig Price (Craig.Price@state.sd.us)" <[Craig.Price@state.sd.us](mailto:Craig.Price@state.sd.us)>, "Eric Pederson ([ejpeders@nd.gov](mailto:ejpeders@nd.gov))" <[ejpeders@nd.gov](mailto:ejpeders@nd.gov)>, "Gerhart, Col. Michael T." <[mtgerhart@nd.gov](mailto:mtgerhart@nd.gov)>, "James.Cockrell@alaska.gov" <[james.cockrell@alaska.gov](mailto:james.cockrell@alaska.gov)>, "john.batiste@wsp.wa.gov" <[john.batiste@wsp.wa.gov](mailto:john.batiste@wsp.wa.gov)>, Kebin Haller <[kebin.haller@wyo.gov](mailto:kebin.haller@wyo.gov)>, Kedrick Wills <[Kedrick.Wills@isp.idaho.gov](mailto:Kedrick.Wills@isp.idaho.gov)>, "Lt. Colonel Danny Lugo" <[dlugo@azdps.gov](mailto:dlugo@azdps.gov)>, "pete.kassetas@state.nm.us" <[pete.kassetas@state.nm.us](mailto:pete.kassetas@state.nm.us)>, Ralph Powell <[ralph.powell@isp.idaho.gov](mailto:ralph.powell@isp.idaho.gov)>, Richard Evans <[richard.evans@state.or.us](mailto:richard.evans@state.or.us)>, "scott.hernandez@state.co.us" <[scott.hernandez@state.co.us](mailto:scott.hernandez@state.co.us)>, Shannon Ratliff <[shannon.ratliff@wyo.gov](mailto:shannon.ratliff@wyo.gov)>  
 Cc: "ppride@dps.ohio.gov" <[ppride@dps.ohio.gov](mailto:ppride@dps.ohio.gov)>, Tracy Trott <[Tracy.Trott@tn.gov](mailto:Tracy.Trott@tn.gov)>, "Flaherty, W. Steven, Colonel (Steve.Flaherty@vsp.virginia.gov)" <[Steve.Flaherty@vsp.virginia.gov](mailto:Steve.Flaherty@vsp.virginia.gov)>, "Hildenstab, Jason" <[JHildenstab@mt.gov](mailto:JHildenstab@mt.gov)>, "Banchemo, Kristin" <[KBanchemo@mt.gov](mailto:KBanchemo@mt.gov)>, "Nelson, Jay" <[JNelson2@mt.gov](mailto:JNelson2@mt.gov)>, "Brandon Gardner" <[gardner@theiacp.org](mailto:gardner@theiacp.org)> ([gardner@theiacp.org](mailto:gardner@theiacp.org))" <[gardner@theiacp.org](mailto:gardner@theiacp.org)>

Mountain Pacific Colonels,

I returned yesterday from spending 24 hours in North Dakota with Colonel Gerhart and his staff at the pipeline protest. I have 10 troops working alongside 40 Ohio troopers at the protest site. Since Colonel Gerhart and I share a border and this protest could easily be going on in Montana it made sense for us to send some troops to assist. Colonel Price in South Dakota and Colonel Haller in Wyoming have also sent troops to assist.

First and foremost I was impressed with the professionalism of the state troopers. They all looked sharp considering the circumstances and commanded attention from everyone around them. They stood out among all of the law enforcement working at the protest.

It was very enlightening for me to spend time talking with NDHP commanders and others involved in the day to day management of this situation, which is now entering its 84th day. The protest is clearly being driven by political/environmental issues and historical Native American Tribal Land Issues. My concern is that I have all of those same issues in Montana and I think most of you have similar situations in your states. From my view the perceived successes of the protestors and the lack of objective reporting by the media is going to embolden these folks for the next protest coming to a state near one of us in the future. If you search around on social media or fringe media, based on my first hand observations, very little of what they are reporting is correct.

I would highly recommend that you or some of your senior commanders come out and spend a day or two to see this incident first hand. It will be enlightening and educational providing you with some valuable insight in the event something similar happens in your state. The logistics involved to keep everything moving along for over 3 months was very impressive. All of us have worked fires or other natural disasters, however making sure all the needed support is in place for a 3 month protest that is being watched around the world brings its own set of unique challenges.

Finally, if you haven't sent troops to work a tour, I would highly recommend it. Colonel Gerhart and his staff along with local law enforcement are taking great care of them while they are in North Dakota. The troops will gain valuable experience to bring back to other members of your agencies and form relationships to allow our agencies to continue working together in the future as they move up through the ranks. Also the local resources in ND are becoming stressed due to the length of this protest. They would be happy with as few as 5 troops and all the expenses will be covered under the Nationwide EMAC Request that was sent out last week. If you have any questions, please drop me an email or give me a call...

Colonel Pride,

Your Ohio Troopers looked sharp and I had the chance to visit with them on Thursday morning. Thanks to your major for pairing up with us. It was quite impressive to see all 50 of them walk over the hill into the protest area!

Brandon and Tracy,

FYI, forward as you see fit...

Thanks,

Colonel Thomas Butler  
Montana Highway Patrol  
2550 Prospect Ave  
Helena, Mt. 59620  
Office 406-444-3780  
Cell 406-422-7200  
Fax 406-444-4169  
[tobutler@mt.gov](mailto:tobutler@mt.gov)

*Service Integrity Respect*

GO CATS!



E-Mail to and from me, in connection with the transaction of public business, is subject to the Wyoming Public Records Act and may be disclosed to third parties.

E-Mail to and from me, in connection with the transaction of public business, is subject to the Wyoming Public Records Act and may be disclosed to third parties.