

From: Laura Rigas
To: [Darling, Nedra](#)
Cc: [Heather Swift](#); James.Cason@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Re: 1 of 2: Screenshot of the post: Sec Zinke and Cassandra Begay (without comments)
Date: Wednesday, May 10, 2017 4:03:46 PM

Thanks, Nedra. Appreciate your help. Yes, it was a less than ideal situation all the way around.

Laura Keehner Rigas
Communications Director
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 897-7022 cell
@Interior

On May 10, 2017, at 2:01 PM, Darling, Nedra <nedra_darling@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Laura -

Thanks so much for getting back to me, this is very helpful, I needed, the other side of the story. I will get back with key Indian Women leaders, Jackie Johnson Pata at NCAI and the public members that called to let them know the other side of what was going on now that I know. It is still being circulated. I hope he remembers not to let anyone provoke him into playing into their hands, the smirk on her face at the end says it all. She pushed his button.

I hope all else is going smoothly.

Nedra

On Wed, May 10, 2017 at 2:13 PM, Laura Rigas <laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Hi Nedra --

I'm in and out of comms service but a few things people who call should be aware of:

1. She was a paid activist who was not a credentialed member of the media.
2. The tapes don't tell the full story. She was so rude that there were Navajo women who were supporters of the monument behind her saying to the Secretary:
"Sorry, Mr. Secretary, her rudeness is not the Navajo way."
3. The Navajo VP's office sent out a very positive statement after their meeting which included a quote from the Secretary.

Laura Keehner Rigas
Communications Director
U.S. Department of the Interior
[\(202\) 897-7022](tel:(202)897-7022) cell
@Interior

On May 9, 2017, at 1:45 PM, Nedra Darling <nedra_darling@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Hi Laura â€“

This is moving around Indian Country social media faster than the Moccasin

Telegraph! There is a video, the link below, of the incident with Secretary Zinke pointing his finger at the woman who is an activist from

PANDOS, not a reporter. My office has received a few calls from people

seeing the posts and complaining about the Secretary scaring the reporter

(not) and commenting how they thought it was unprofessional and too

aggressive for him to wave his finger at the young Native woman.

(b)(5)
DPP



I am saying that I am sure he is sorry and that he has met with many tribal leaders regarding this topic and there is more time for input to this review of monuments. For more specifics I refer them to Park or the press release depending, if I can get a word in. Most of the calls are women and are angry but calm down after we talk. Iâ€™ll keep you posted.

This is the movement of the what the Water Protesters are calling for regarding the new Standing Rock = Bears Ears.

Thanks.

Nedra

Post link: <https://www.facebook.com/dallasgoldtooth/posts/10106687342708413>

Sent from my iPhone

<Zinke Bears Ears May 8 1 of 2.png>

<Zinke Bears Ears May 8 2 of 2.png>

<IMG_5051.PNG>

<IMG_5059.PNG>