

**From:** Thiele, Aaron  
**To:** [Andrea Travnicek](#); [Brenda Burman](#); [Bryan Rice](#); [Caroline Boulton](#); [Dan Jorjani](#); [David Bernhardt](#); [David Mihalic](#); [Doug Domenech](#); [Downey Magallanes](#); [Elinor Renner](#); [Greg Sheehan](#); [Gregory Sheehan](#); [James Cason](#); [Jason Larrabee](#); [John Tahsuda](#); [John Tanner](#); [Joseph Balash](#); [Laura Rigas](#); [Lori Mashburn](#); [Micah Chambers](#); [Rees, Gareth](#); [Rusty Roddy](#); [Scott Angelle](#); [Scott Cameron](#); [Scott Hommel](#); [Todd Willens](#); [Todd Wynn](#); [Vincent DeVito](#); [William Dove](#)  
**Subject:** Slides for tomorrow  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 02, 2018 6:06:46 PM  
**Attachments:** [Bi-Weekly Briefing 1-3-18.pptx](#)

---

Attached are the slides for the presentation tomorrow.



# Bi-Weekly Policy Briefing for Secretary Zinke



# Agenda

1. Insular Areas
2. Fish and Wildlife and Parks
3. Water and Science
4. Policy, Management, and Budget
5. Land and Minerals Management
6. Indian Affairs
7. Solicitor
8. Congressional and Legislative Affairs
9. External Affairs/  
Intergovernmental
10. Communications
11. White House Liaison
12. Scheduling and Advance



# Insular Areas



# Assistant Secretary Insular Areas

## Hurricane Recovery and Rebuilding

- The Department continues to participate in the White House Principals Committee meetings on the hurricane recovery framework, as well as the FEMA Recovery Support Function Leadership Group for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
- The House passed the third disaster recovery supplemental for \$81 billion. Awaiting Senate action.
- OIA Director will be attending FEMA IRMA/MARIA USVI Health and Social Services Recovery kickoff meeting in the Virgin Islands on January 9, 2018. This meeting is designed to convene senior leaders across health, human services and education within the territory and various federal departments and agencies.



# Assistant Secretary Insular Areas

## Palau Compact Review Agreement

### POTUS Signed FY18 NDAA

- POTUS signature finalizes authorization on long over-due agreement U.S. first signed with Palau in 2010.
- Appropriation by U.S. Congress in FY 2018 Interior Appropriations bill is Pending. (\$123.9 million).



# Assistant Secretary Insular Areas

## Issues

**FAS VOTES at UN to SUPPORT U.S.:** The three Freely Associated States were among nine countries who voted on December 21 in the UN General Assembly against the resolution calling on countries to avoid moving their embassies to Jerusalem.

**AMERICAN SAMOA PROVISION CUT OUT:** The Tax Cuts and Jobs Acts signed by POTUS on December 22, did not include a provision introduced by the American Samoa Congresswoman to extend the American Samoa Economic Development Credit critical to the tuna cannery in American Samoa.

**BROWN TREE SNAKE INTERDICTION:** ASIN released a partial payment of \$147,140 for Brown Tree Snake interdiction work at the commercial ports of Guam. Funding was provided to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services a partner in ongoing efforts to control this invasive species.



# Assistant Secretary Insular Areas

## Issues

- **ISLAND GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY**: The annual Island Government Finance Officers Association meeting with participation of finance officers from all U.S. territories and the freely associated states. Theme: Good financial governance creates leads to efficiency, trust, and benefits the people.
- **PACIFIC DEFENSE POSTURE**: Received briefing by the Pacific Command headquarters at Camp Smith in Honolulu.
- **COMPACT IMPACT**: Met with Hawaii Governor David Ige to assure him of our continued commitment to working with Hawaii on important regional issues.
- **TRANSITION TO COMPACT TRUST FUNDS IN 2023**: DOI and State Dept. officials hold initial meeting to discuss plans for review and policy recommendations for Transition from Federal Grants to Compact Trust Fund distributions for Marshall Islands and Micronesia in 2023.





# Assistant Secretary Insular Areas

## Issues

- **GUAM WAR CLAIMS FUND**: Waiting determination by U.S. Treasury on P.L. 114-328 (NDAA 2017) to determine amounts for Guam derived from “excess” taxes and fees.
- **ISLAND SOLDIER**: Over 70 people attended the December 15 screening of the documentary about Micronesian soldiers serving in the U.S. military. The Micronesia Ambassador announced the FSM government has created a new Veterans Affairs office to be working closely with the U.S. on issues surrounding island warriors.



# Assistant Secretary Insular Areas

## 30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

- January 14 – 18, 2018 – ASIN travel to the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) to meet with President Hilda Heine, U.S. Ambassador to the RMI Karen Stewart and travel to Majuro, and Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site at Kwajalein Atoll.
- January 22-26, 2018 - ASIN travel to the VI and PR for Hurricane Recovery Support meetings. Will also attend Conservation Trust of Puerto Rico meeting.
- February 18 – 23, 2018 - Coral Reef Task Force in Washington, D.C. to discuss coral reef protection and rehabilitation. DOI Co-Chairs with Commerce (NOAA).
- February 26, 2018 – Senior Plenary Session of the **Interagency Group on Insular Areas** when Federal officials discuss important policy issues for U.S. Territories with Governors and Delegates. DOI Co-Chairs with White House.



# Fish and Wildlife and Parks



# Fish and Wildlife and Parks



## Current Operations

- ASFWP
  - Alaska 1002 Polar Bear Survey
  - Boring BW Parkway
  - Shut Down Plans
- FWS
  - Safari Club and NRA International Importations Lawsuit
  - MBTA Regulations
  - Sage Grouse Plan Coordination
- NPS
  - Gateway National Recreation Area
  - Career Development Pathways Update
  - Fee Increase Proposal Comments and Next Steps
  - Anti-Harassment Policy, Implementation, and Next Steps



# Fish and Wildlife and Parks



## 30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

- FWS
  - CSKT Shared Management Agreement
  - Zack Gambill travel to Denver
  - Regional Meetings and Sportsman's Shows
- NPS
  - 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission



# Fish and Wildlife and Parks



## Major Events and Travel

- Acting Assistant Secretary Jason Larrabee  
Personal Travel 1/11-1/12
- FWS Principal Deputy Director Greg Sheehan  
Travel to the FWS Northeast Regional Office on 1/4  
Will attend the Dallas Safari Club Meeting on 5/5
- Acting NPS Director Mike Reynolds  
DOI Leadership Meeting 1/10-1/11



# Water and Science



# Water and Science

## Current Operations

### Bureau of Reclamation

- NOI on Central Valley Project and Bay Delta Operations Published in Federal Register
- Interpretation of WIIN Winter Operations
- Klamath Basin Negative Notice Published in Federal Register

### U.S. Geological Survey

- National Academies of Sciences Report Entitled “Thriving on Our Changing Planet: A Decadal Strategy for Earth Observation from Space” Due Out on Friday
- Critical Minerals E.O./S.O.
  - List of Designated Minerals Due in Late January
  - “Critical Minerals in Navy SEAL Gear” Due Out in Mid-January





# Water and Science

## 30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

### Bureau of Reclamation

- Columbia River Treaty
- Title Transfer

### U.S. Geological Survey

- Critical Minerals E.O./S.O. Follow Up Work
- 41<sup>st</sup> annual Mineral Commodity Summaries 2018 Due Out Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>
- Sage Grouse



# Water and Science

## Major Events and Travel

### Bureau of Reclamation

- *Texas v. New Mexico* U.S. Supreme Court Oral Arguments, Washington, DC 1/8
- Columbia River Treaty Discussions, Ottawa, Canada 1/16-18
- Friant Water Authority Board Meeting, Fresno, CA 1/25-26
- Adaptive Management Working Group, Phoenix, AZ 2/13-15
- Reclamation Leadership Team Meeting, Denver, CO 2/7-8

### U.S. Geological Survey

- Advisory Committee on Water Information Annual Meeting, Reston, VA 1/17-18
- FGDC Coordination Group Meeting, Washington, DC 1/19
- PNT Executive Committee Meeting, Pentagon, 1/25 (Dep Sec)
- Urban Waters Federal Partnership Celebration of Success Event, Atlanta, GA 1/25



# Policy, Management and Budget



# Policy, Management and Budget

## Current Operations

- FY 2018 Budget
  - Continuing Resolution through 1/19
  - Contingency planning under way in case of government shutdown evening of 1/19; plan is to inconvenience the DOI visitor as little as possible, with emphasis on NPS and FWS
- FY 2019 President's Budget
  - All funding numbers with OMB are settled
  - Bureau Budget Justifications and Department Budget in Brief under development and pending political level review
  - (b) (5)



# Policy, Management and Budget

## Current Operations

- Grants management
  - Memo distributed on new approval process; Steve Howke in charge
  - Asst. Secy's and bureau directors being asked to focus grant eligibility criteria in upcoming Funding Opportunity Announcements on Secretarial Top 10 Priorities
  - Departmental manual updates on grant-making likely starting February 2018
- DOI reorganization for the next 100 years
  - January 10-11 Leadership Summit to engage career SES in how to manage common regions
  - FY18 reprogramming on common regions ready to go; ambiguity on Chairman Calvert's position
  - (b) (5)
  - (b) (5)



# Policy, Management and Budget

## 30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

- Government Performance and Results Act revised strategic plan for DOI
  - Incorporating final bureau director/assistant secretary comments
  - Plan due for public release on 2/5/18 with budget
  - Plan's metrics need to be tied to FY18 SES performance standards this winter
  - Agency Performance Goals quarterly review process with Office of the Deputy Secretary TBD
- Human Resource management
  - FY 17 SES performance evaluations almost finalized
  - Need to set (b) (5) DPP [REDACTED]
  - Best Places to Work in Government report; DOI moved up to ninth from eleventh place; PMB exploring path to #1



# Policy, Management and Budget

## Major Events and Travel

- Series of Congressional budget hearings and budget-related stakeholder outreach efforts anticipated from February 5 to about March 5; details to be worked out with OCL, OEIA, Communications



# Land and Minerals Management





# Land and Minerals Management

## BLM

### Current Operations

- Monument NOIs
- Sage Grouse
  - Scoping Report
  - USGS Study
- Surnaming Reforms (3-Day Review)
- RAC Charters
- GMT 2 EIS

### 30-60 Day Outlook

- Wild Horse and Burro Options Report
- Regulatory Reform
  - Venting & Flaring Revision
- SO 3356 60 Day Report
- Energy Focused RMPs
  - Carlsbad
  - Farmington



# Land and Minerals Management

## OSMRE

### Current Operations

- AML Pilot Projects
- Continuing to Process Program Amendments Left From Previous Administration

### 30-60 Day Outlook

- Upcoming Mine Plan Decisions
  - Cordero Rojo Mine - To ASLM Jan 22
  - Bridger Mine - To ASLM Jan 24



# Land and Minerals Management

## BOEM

### Current Operations

- Draft Proposed Program
  - Public meetings
- OCS Resource Report to Congress
  - In ASLM Surnaming

### 30-60 Day Outlook

- Next milestones for DPP
  - I. 60 Day Comment Period
  - II. Proposed Program & Draft PEIS
  - III. 90 Day Comment Period
  - IV. Proposed Final Program & Final PEIS



# Land and Minerals Management

## BSEE

### Current Operations

- Well Control Rule
- Subpart H
  - Public Comment Period Closes Jan 29
- Arctic Rule
- Risk Based Inspections

### 30-60 Day Outlook

- BSEE/USCG Quarterly Meeting Feb 6
- Royalty Policy Committee Meeting in Houston Feb 27-28



# Land and Minerals Management

## Major Events and Travel

From January 22-25 Deputy Assistant Secretary, Kate MacGregor and Deputy Director Cruickshank will be in California to meet with California State agencies, DOD, and Industry to discuss offshore wind sites.

From January 29-31 Deputy Assistant Secretary, Kate MacGregor join BOEM in Mexico City to attend Mexico's upcoming offshore lease sale.

On January 23, BSEE Director Angelle is scheduled to speak at a meeting of the Texas Oil and Gas Association in New Orleans, LA.

On January 29 BOEM Deputy Director Cruickshank will be in NYC to speak at the Finance Forum: Advancing Investment in offshore wind.



# Indian Affairs



# Indian Affairs

## Current Operations

- Bureau of Indian Education:
  - Federal Register Notice inviting nominations of members to serve on the BIE Advisory Board for Exceptional Children was published on December 28, 2017. Deadline for nominations is January 29, 2018.
  - The BIE Strategic Plan consultations completed. The comment period ends on January 13, 2018.
- Update of Land into Trust Regulations
  - Off-Reservation Fee to Trust policy consultations scheduled; issued Dear Tribal Leader Letter with policy discussion questions
  - 184 Mortgage effort with HUD
  - Continuing work on short form leases for tribes engaged in commercial real estate development
- Planning for Indian Trust Asset Reform Act pilot project
- Work on Native American Child Safety Act draft regulations



# Indian Affairs

## 30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

- Work on charter school policy proposals from NIEA
  - Expansion of grades and facility sharing
  - Eliminate prohibitions on charter schools as school choice options for BIE schools
  - Allow BIE schools to contract with charter management organizations
- Work on Indian Trust Asset Reform Act
  - Outline pilot project for discussion during tribal consultations
- Work on draft NACSA regulations for consultations
  - Complete consultations end of February
- Conduct consultations on Off-Reservation Fee to Trust policies





# Indian Affairs

## Major Events and Travel

- Keynote Addresses / Presentations
  - Meet with Self Governance tribes – discuss upcoming 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Self Governance Act.
- Tribal Consultations
  - Off-Reservation Fee to Trust (1/16-Sacramento; 1/18-Minneapolis; 1/23-Connecticut; 1/25-Portland; 2/20-Phoenix; 2/22-Miami)
- Meeting with Assoc. Tribes of Northwest Indians (1/24 in conjunction with FTT consultation in Portland)
  - Discuss Forestry program and ITARA



# Solicitor



# Office of the Solicitor

## Current Operations

- General Update



# Office of the Solicitor

## 30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

- General Update



# Office of the Solicitor

## Major Events and Travel

None



# Congressional and Legislative Affairs



# Congressional Affairs

## Current Operations

- Nominees
  - Combs (ASPMB), Gardner (OSM) & Nelson (Solicitor) were sent back to the WH to be renominated.
    - WH will be sending renominations in tranches throughout the week
    - Committee outlook on hearing and markups TBD
  - Tara Sweeney (AS-IA) - Nominated & held in the Senate, OGE legal review
  - Tim Petty (ASWS) & Joe Balash (ASLM) Confirmed
- Floor Schedule:
  - Senate & Senate – Convenes January 3, 2017



# Congressional Affairs

## 30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

### Hearings

- Three expected hearings, none formally noticed
  - HNR Hearing on reorganization expected 1/18/18
  - SENR OCS Hearing expected after DPP rollout, timing TBD
  - SENR, WP Subcommittee Hearing on Title Transfer (1/17/18) – Austin Ewell (DAS, ASWS) will testify
- HNR Hearing to Review Bill to Create First Tribally Managed National Monument
  - No federal witness requested, but relevant to DOI actions

### Legislative Agenda

- Supplemental Disaster Relief bills – Passed House, Stuck in the Senate
- Senate Interior Appropriations
  - Released out of committee, need to conference with House. Expect January Omnibus or CR to avoid 1/19 shutdown
  - Multiple policy riders potentially lumped into Interior Appropriations bill
- Maintenance Fund Language – On the Hill, awaiting OMB
  - Included in OMB Infrastructure View Document, but needs clarification of the details
- Reorg Hill outreach, hearings and briefings
- Starting FY19 Budget Preparation
- Completing NPR-A and 1002 DepSec Request – delivery today.





# Congressional Affairs

## Major Events and Travel

- Congressional Meetings for Secretary Zinke
- Congressional Meetings for Dep. Sec. Bernhardt



# External and Intergovernmental Affairs



# Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

## Current Operations

- Common regional boundary outreach
- OCS/DPP outreach
- Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council FACA Board Outreach
- Finalize “Made In America” FACA Board
- Invasive Species Advisory Committee outreach



# Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

## 30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

- Building state legislator program and outreach
- Continued outreach and relationship building with county and local leaders
- [OIEA@ios.doi.gov](mailto:OIEA@ios.doi.gov)



# Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

## Major Events

- National Governors Association, Feb. 23-26, D.C.
- National Association of Counties, Mar. 3- Mar. 7, D.C.

## Travel

- Tim Williams - Cattlemen's Industry Convention (Jan. 31- Feb 2)
- Ben Cassidy - Dallas Safari Club (Jan. 5-8), SHOT Show (Jan. 24-27)



# Communications



# Office of Communications

## Current Operations

- TBD – announcement of draft proposed 5 yr Program for OCS Oil & Gas development
- Jan. 5 – National Bird Day (blog)
- Jan. 6 – Dallas Safari Club (Dep Sec.)
- Jan. 8-12 – Accomplishments Week Rollout
- Jan. 9 – National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day
- Jan. 10-11 – Regional Leader Summit
- Jan. 12 – Secretary's "New Year's" Address to employees
- Jan. 22 – King Cove Announcement
- Jan. 25 – SHOT Show



# Office of Communications

## 30-60 Day Objectives and Policy Outlook

- *Themes: 2017 Accomplishments, 2018 Priorities, MLK Day, Conservation*
- To do:
- Rolling out regionally-focused comms plan supporting 2017 accomplishments, including: op-eds, videos, blogs, etc.
- TBD SOTU media/travel





# White House Liaison



# Office of White House Liaison

## Personnel:

- Schedule C
  - 34 of 70 onboard
  - 3 starting
  - 8 in process
- SES
  - 28 of 44 onboard
  - 2 starting
- PAS
  - 5 out of 17 confirmed
  - 4 of 17 announced
  - 15 of 17 submitted

### New Hires starting January 8

- James Voyles – Counselor, OCL
- Gary Lawkowski – Counselor to the Deputy Secretary
- Paul (Dan) Smith – Deputy Director, National Park Service

### Boards

- International Wildlife Conservation Council
- “Made in America” Recreation Advisory Committee
- Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council



# Scheduling and Advance



# Scheduling and Advance

## In Town Events:

- Remarks at Leadership Summit: Planning for the Next 100 Years (1/10)
- Cabinet Meeting (1/10)
- Meeting with GSA Administrator (1/12)
- Possible MLK Mural Event (1/12)
- Meeting with General Kelley (1/16)
- Remarks to WH Fellows (1/12)
- Meeting with Sen. Cruz (1/17)
- Remarks at Alaska Federation of Natives (1/22)
- Cabinet Meeting (1/24)

## Upcoming Trips

- Las Vegas – Remarks at SHOT Show (1/25)