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We've been pulling the daily clips that reference Zinke since 1/17 in Bulletin into this rolling doc, which I can give you access to once you have email.

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Bulletin Articles - 1/24/2017

SENATE COMMITTEE POSTPONES VOTES ON ZINKE, PERRY. [The Hill](#) (1/23, Henry, 1.25M) reports Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee has postponed a vote, which was scheduled for Tuesday morning, on two of President Trump's cabinet nominees, Rep. Ryan Zinke to be the next Interior Secretary, and former Texas governor Rick Perry to head the Energy Department. On Monday evening, the committee said that the hearing will be delayed "until further notice." Perry and Zinke "have not been considered especially controversial nominees." [Reuters](#) (1/23) reports "the panel gave no reason for the delay." The [AP](#) (1/24) and the websites of [CNBC](#) (1/23, 2.17M) and [NBC News](#) (1/24, 2.67M) also provide coverage of the postponement.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (1/23, 400K) reports both "nominees are less controversial than Trump's pick to lead the Environmental Protection Agency, Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt, who is being considered by the Environment and Public Works Committee." The three men "are the key Cabinet officials who would drive Trump's energy and environment agenda." A separate article by [The Hill](#) (1/23, Cama, Henry, 1.25M) reports that if the nominations are approved by the committee, "they'll move to the floor for a final confirmation vote."

Zinke's Top Donor Lobbies For Confirmation. [E&E](#) (1/23) reports that Rep. Ryan Zinke has "gotten a boost from his biggest campaign donor as he looks to secure confirmation as the next secretary of the Interior." Fidelity National Financial Inc. "disclosed that it lobbied in support of President Trump's nominee for Interior toward the end of last year." John Benton, "who handles governmental relations for Fidelity, told E&E News that the reason for the corporation's lobbying in support of Zinke was simple. Fidelity's nonexecutive chairman, William Foley II, is a good friend of the congressman."

MEMBERS OF TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S INTERIOR TEAM ARRIVE. [Politico Pro](#) (1/23) reports that "a list circulating has a number of names expected to be on Interior's beachhead team arriving" Monday. They include: "long-time Interior employee James E. Carson as acting deputy secretary; Doug Domenech, a former deputy chief of staff at DOI; Kathy Benedetto, a former Natural Resources Committee professional staffer for a role at BLM; Daniel Jorjani, former general counsel to Freedom Partners; Rusty Roddy for the Fish and Wildlife Service; Virginia Republican operative Tucker Davis for a role within the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement; DCI Group's Megan Bloomgren; Micah Chambers, deputy chief of staff to Zinke; Heather Swift, a Zinke spokeswoman; Kate Macgregor, another Natural Resources panel staffer, for a job with the assistant secretary for land and minerals management; Casey Hammond, who works for the committee's Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations; and Melissa Simpson, formerly with the Safari Club."

[E&E](#) (1/23) reports that Domenech, "the leader of Trump's Interior transition team and an Interior official during the Bush administration," is "moving in as assistant secretary of insular affairs."

OP-ED: ZINKE WON'T HAVE CONGRESS' HELP IN FIXING PARKS' MAINTENANCE PROBLEM. For the "Pundits" blog of [The Hill](#) (1/23, Regan, Contributor, 1.25M), Shawn Regan, a research fellow at the Property and Environment Research Center, writes that if Interior nominee Ryan Zinke "wants to fix the national park deferred maintenance problem, he's going to have to look beyond Congress for solutions." According to Regan, "decades of neglect and misplaced priorities have made it clear that relying on Congress is hardly the solution; it's the root of the problem." Regan suggests that "one solution is to rely

more on park visitors, instead of Congress, for revenue.” Regan proposes that “other ideas, such as harnessing public-private partnerships and tapping the private sector to help maintain and operate parks, could also help — as long as park leaders are willing to think outside the box.”

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MCCLATCHY ANALYSIS: TRUMP EXPECTED TO END OBAMA’S CLIMATE POLICIES DESPITE NOMINEES’ TESTIMONY. [McClatchy](#) (1/21, Leavenworth, 74K) reports that while Interior Secretary-designate Ryan Zinke, Energy Secretary-designate Rick Perry, and Environmental Protection Agency Administrator-designate Scott Pruitt “have taken a more moderate line on global warming” since their nominations, they did not describe “climate change as an urgent threat requiring a coordinated governmental response, as many scientists contend,” and they still “appear to support” President Trump’s “call to repeal former President Barack Obama’s actions to reduce greenhouse gases, without a replacement alternative.”

Additional coverage was provided by the [Wall Street Journal](#) (1/22, Harder, Subscription Publication, 6.37M), [The Hill](#) (1/22, Cama, 1.25M), and the [Christian Science Monitor](#) (1/22, 387K).

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE PUTS SPOTLIGHT ON TRUMP’S INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN. [The Hill](#) (1/20, Zanona, 1.25M) reports that the Arlington Memorial Bridge was “shut down to vehicular traffic from Thursday to Saturday because it has been placed under weight limits after being deemed structurally deficient.” According to the article, “to some, the decaying bridge is a symbol of the need for the United States to spend money on its crumbling roads and bridges.” However, “the infrastructure plan put forward by Trump, say critics, would likely do nothing to revitalize the bridge,” because “the plan would rely heavily on tax credits to incentivize private firms to build projects, rather than repair existing structures owned by the government.” The article notes that “the local issue already got a bit of the national spotlight at a Senate confirmation hearing earlier this week.” Interior nominee, Rep. Ryan Zinke “said he would try to ensure that Trump’s infrastructure bill ‘includes our national treasures’ like the Arlington Memorial Bridge.”

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE OF ZINKE’S CONFIRMATION HEARING. Additional coverage of Interior nominee Rep. Ryan Zinke’s confirmation hearing last week was provided by the [Scientific American](#) (1/20, 1.88M).

ZINKE GIVEN MIXED GRADES FOR CONFIRMATION PERFORMANCE. In an editorial, the [Missoulian \(MT\)](#) (1/20, 114K) gives “huckleberries to U.S. Rep. Ryan Zinke for the pragmatic comments he made during his confirmation hearing before the Senate on Tuesday.” It notes that although Zinke has been a “staunch supporter” of President Trump’s campaign, he also “showed a willingness to depart from Trump on key issues, such as climate change.” However, the paper also gives “chokecherries to Zinke for his as-yet unexplained vote in favor of a rule change that would allow federal land transfers to be treated as budget-neutral.” According to the paper, “his vote and his lack of communication left many Montanans feeling as though Zinke had already abandoned his post as their representative.”

ZINKE URGED TO BE BALANCED IN LAND MANAGEMENT. The [Havasupai \(AZ\) News-Herald](#) (1/22, 27K) editorializes that Interior Secretary-designate Ryan Zinke “brings what he calls an ‘all of the above’ approach to the Interior Department, advocating for fish and wildlife while promoting responsible and appropriate land and business development.” For western Arizona, the paper says that “probably the

most important things to monitor in the new administration are commitments to recreational access and assurance of fact-based approaches to water quality and its continued supplies.” Although some Republicans may “want to press the advantage with a wholesale overturning of regulations and a large transfer of lands,” the paper argues that “doing so will further assure that federal land is just a game piece in a political match, inviting a backlash when the GOP loses power one day.” The editorial hopes that “Zinke will bring the right approach, the right balance to assure highest use each type of land, whether that be energy development, hunting and fishing or just solitude.”

LETTER: MONTANANS EXPECT MUCH FROM ZINKE. In a letter to the [Missoulian \(MT\)](#) (1/22, 114K), Ben Horan, executive director of MTB Missoula, penned an open letter to Interior nominee Rep. Ryan Zinke. Horan extends “a word of congratulations as a mountain biker, as an outdoorsman and as a Montanan.” Horan writes that “our relationship moving forward will be built on trust, expectations and promises.” He writes; “We trust that as a fellow Montanan, you understand that public land is essential to the quality of life, economic growth and cultural resiliency that endears the West to our shared American identity. We trust that you realize that an overwhelming majority of western residents oppose federal land transfers. We trust that you know that outdoor recreation, almost entirely on public land, contributes 64,000 jobs, \$1.5 billion in salaries, and \$6.5 billion in sales to the Montana economy.” Also, Horan expects that Zinke “will continue to support federal land ownership” and that he will “continue protect the Land and Water Conservation Fund” Finally, he promises to follow Zinke’s record.

ZINKE URGED TO UPHOLD GOLD BUTTE’S NEW PROTECTED STATUS. In an editorial, the [Las Vegas Sun](#)(1/22, 178K) raises concerns after Interior nominee Ryan Zinke said he planned to review the designation of Gold Butte as a national monument during his confirmation hearing last week. The paper welcomes Zinke’s plan to visit Nevada, but asserts that “there’s only one acceptable outcome to his decision-making, and that’s to keep the order firmly in place.” The paper acknowledges that “the method behind the declaration wasn’t ideal — it would have been wonderful if Nevada congressional delegates would have succeeded in pushing through a legislative solution.” However, it concludes that “Obama’s order was acceptable and appropriate.”

CONGRESS URGED TO PERMANENTLY REAUTHORIZE LWCF. In an editorial, the [Missoulian \(MT\)](#) (1/22, 114K) argue that “the new Congress could do itself and future Congresses a favor by breaking its longstanding habit of kicking simple but important measures down the road with only partial funding and temporary authorization.” It identifies the Land and Water Conservation Fund as “the easiest” of “all the potential places to start.” It concludes that “in the House, where a bipartisan solution already awaits action, it is particularly important that whoever wins election to replace Congressman Ryan Zinke, who appears headed for confirmation as President Trump’s pick for secretary of the Interior, shares Zinke’s unequivocal support for the LWCF. And that this person demonstrate that support by actually voting to fully fund and permanently authorize it.”

Bulletin Articles 1/20/2017

HAUGRUD TO TAKE HELM AT INTERIOR PENDING ZINKE’S CONFIRMATION. [E&E](#) (1/19) reports that “career staffers are in line to take the helm of energy and environmental agencies while Donald Trump’s incoming Cabinet officials await confirmations.” At the Interior Department, Jack Haugrud will “take over as acting secretary, according to outgoing agency spokesman Blake Androff.” Haugrud is “currently acting principal deputy solicitor at Interior.” Trump’s nominee to lead Interior, Ryan Zinke, “testified before the Senate this week and is expected to be confirmed and on the job relatively quickly.”

[Politico Pro](#) (1/19, Subscription Publication) reports that it is unclear when the Senate will vote on Zinke, “but it is not unusual for a senior career official to serve as acting administrator for a few days between administrations, and typically they do little aside from keeping the agency running.”

Trump Energy, Environment Nominees Express Similar Messaging On Climate Change. [Bloomberg News](#) (1/19, Dlouhy, Natter, 2.41M) reports in confirmation hearings this week Donald Trump’s nominees for key energy and environmental posts “rejected the idea that global warming is a hoax,” but they debate its the effects. The responses “deviated from what they’ve said in the past,” but critics say “the new formulation may just be another way for Republicans to avoid pursuing policies to curb the use of fossil fuels.” The shift in tone “reflects the reality on the ground,” as temperatures are trending upward and “public opinion has shifted.” The nominees are trying to “avoid the outright ‘climate denier’ label by vaguely admitting that warming is occurring and may have something do to with emissions,” said Paul Bledsoe, a former climate adviser in the Clinton administration, calling the rhetorical strategy a “non-denial denial.”

The [Washington Post](#) (1/19, Dennis, Mooney, 11.43M) reports Interior Secretary nominee Ryan Zinke said: “I do not believe it is a hoax. . . . I think where there’s debate on it is what [the human] influence is, what can we do about it.”

The [Christian Science Monitor](#) (1/19, 387K) reports to most climate scientists, the comments are “deliberately misleading,” says Susan Joy Hassol, director of Climate Communication.

NYTimes Analysis: Trump Nominees Present Picture Of “Still Evolving” Police Agenda. The [New York Times](#) (1/19, Shear, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that “in dozens of hours of testimony,” President-elect Trump’s “nominees told senators that they favored less regulation, a smaller federal government, more state control over policy decisions and taxpayer money, and greater personal responsibility by Americans across the country.” The article notes that Zinke of Montana, the nominee to lead the Interior Department, said he supported drilling, mining and logging on federal lands Yet “taken together, the congressional testimony reflects a domestic policy agenda that is still evolving,” as “during his campaign, Mr. Trump was often contradictory in laying out a domestic policy blueprint.”

Zinke Wins Approval From Ag Groups. [Tri-State Livestock News \(SD\)](#) (1/19) reports that “with the Senate Hearing for the Secretary of the Interior nominee Ryan Zinke completed, those most affected by federal lands management in the west are giving Montana’s sole Congressman a nod of approval.” The article notes that “throughout his opening statement, Zinke reiterated his willingness to meet with people most affected by the department’s policies, and listed his three immediate tasks.” According to the article, “despite the lack of agriculturally related comments, ranchers believe the Congressman will listen to the concerns of those whose livelihoods depend on grazing public lands.”

Editorial: Zinke Likely To Pass Senate Muster. In an editorial, the [Billings \(MT\) Gazette](#) (1/19, 208K) believes that Zinke will “soon be confirmed as U.S. Interior secretary.” According to the editorial, “Zinke mostly, but not completely, agreed with comments from GOP senators,” and “he deftly answered harder questions from Democratic senators.” Notably, “he spoke on points of bipartisan agreement: encouraging collaborative solutions, ensuring multiple use of federal lands to include recreation and natural resource development, protecting public access, respecting Native American treaty obligations, shrinking the \$12.5 billion National Park Service deferred maintenance backlog.” The paper concludes that “Zinke is well qualified to become the first Montanan to serve as secretary of a U.S. government department.”

Zinke's Stance On National Monument Designations Appreciated. The [Las Vegas Review-Journal](#) (1/20, 676K) editorializes that "Zinke did make eminent sense when he said during the hearing that it would be appropriate to work 'with, rather than against, local communities and the states' when making determinations about federal monuments." According to the paper, "Zinke's approach would be a breath of fresh air and long overdue."

Bulletin Articles - 1/19/2017

ZINKE LIKELY TO BE CONFIRMED. [Politico Pro](#) (1/18) reports that Energy and Natural Resources Ranking Member Maria Cantwell "seemed cautiously optimistic" about Interior's secretary nominee, Ryan Zinke, during his confirmation hearing on Tuesday. She said, "He's had some good articulation of things that people care about." Chairman Lisa Murkowski "said at the end of the hearing she believed Zinke would be confirmed."

[CNN](#) (1/18, Browne, Payson-Denney, 29.79M) reports that Zinke "should not face too much of a fight in Congress, but until he is confirmed the department will be led by a relatively obscure official," Deputy Solicitor Kevin Haugrud, according to the department's press secretary, Jessica Kershaw.

Zinke Touts Balanced Approach On Conservation, Development. [E&E](#) (1/18) reports that Zinke, during his confirmation hearing on Tuesday "repeatedly stressed a desire to act as both an environmental steward and a careful manager of resources." During his hearing, Zinke "referenced public lands icons John Muir and Gifford Pinchot, noting that he would follow Muir's hands-off approach for 'lands that deserve special recognition,' while the 'preponderance' of other public lands would be better-served by Pinchot's sustainable-use model." Zinke "said he strongly supports the National Environmental Policy Act as the 'backbone of environmental policies' but noted that he will prioritize energy independence to support economic growth."

Zinke Suggests Possibility Of Overturning National Monument Decisions. [E&E](#) (1/18) reports that Zinke "promised to protect public lands but also indicated that, if he is confirmed as Interior secretary, he will urge President-elect Donald Trump to undo some national monuments." According to the article, "Zinke strongly suggested that the Trump administration will take the unprecedented and legally uncertain step of attempting to undo some national monuments established unilaterally by presidents using their authority under the Antiquities Act," He said, "It will certainly be interesting to see whether the president has the authority to nullify a monument." But Zinke "also reaffirmed his support for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and distanced himself from a House rules package he voted for earlier this month that contained a provision making it easier to turn federal lands over to states."

Zinke Says Climate Change Is "Indisputable". [E&E](#) (1/18) reports that Zinke "broke" with President-elect Donald Trump on Tuesday by "telling the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee that he does not think climate change is a hoax." When pressed repeatedly by Sen. Bernie Sanders, Zinke "said it is 'indisputable' that the climate is changing and humans are having an influence." He added, "As a matter of fact ... my family and I have eaten lunch on Grinnell Glacier, and the glacier has receded during lunch." Later, Sen. Angus King "said he was going to use that story in his 'arsenal' to explain the impacts of increased greenhouse gas emissions on the planet's atmosphere."

Zinke Promises To Tackle Issue Of Sexual Harassment In NPS. [CNN](#) (1/17, Kopan, 29.79M) reports that Zinke "faced tough questions Tuesday about his and Trump's views on sexual assault during his

Senate confirmation hearing.” Sen. Tammy Duckworth asked Zinke “a series of questions about his views on sexual assault” and “asked Zinke, a former Navy SEAL, how he would tackle problems of sexual harassment within the National Parks Service, where men and women serve in sometimes remote and rugged locations.” Zinke said, “I take issues of sexual assault ... absolutely seriously.” He continued, “They have to know from leadership from the top to the bottom that we have zero tolerance.” Later, Zinke “committed” Sen. Debbie Stabenow “that he would study the issue of sexual harassment in the Parks Service.” Zinke said, “(Everyone) should absolutely have the right expectation of a work environment that is conducive to success. And if there is a culture of sexual harassment, that is flat wrong. And I’m going to stamp it out if confirmed.”

Zinke Questioned About Sage Grouse. [Boise \(ID\) State Public Radio](#) (1/18) reports that Zinke was “pushed on several hot button land use issues – issues he’s well acquainted with as a Montana congressman.” According to the article, “when it comes to questions about how he would manage the relationship between states and federal land managers, the greater sage grouse inevitably came up.” Zinke said, “Everyone loves sage grouse, everyone understands that we have to protect the species – generally those living on the ground are in a better position. And we should be an advocate and a partner in this, rather than heavy-handed.”

Zinke Urged To Remember Commitments Made During Hearing. The [Missoula \(MT\) Independent](#) (1/19, 65K) says that “Zinke offered a lot of commitments Tuesday.” The article lists them as: “No land transfers. No denying climate change. No tolerance for sexual misconduct among Interior employees.” It advises that “if confirmed, he best remember those statements. Because this time, finally, he was under oath.”

Zinke Urged To Prioritize Stewardship Of Public Lands. In an op-ed for the [AgWeek](#) (1/17, 87K), rancher Mark Fix raises concerns that Rep. Ryan Zinke will not follow “in the long line of great stewards that have preceded him.” Fix asserts, “As the top public custodian of our country’s natural resources and public lands, he will need to understand the value that Americans put on the fair and wise management of public lands and public resources.” He hops Zinke will “make stewardship his highest priority – stewardship of land, air, water, taxpayers, and the sovereign treaty rights of American Indians.”

Additional Coverage. Additional coverage of the hearing was provided by the [Great Falls \(MT\) Tribune](#) (1/17, 85K), the [Washington \(DC\) Post](#) (1/17, 11.43M), the [Washington \(DC\) Post](#) (1/17, 11.43M), the [Washington \(DC\) Post](#) (1/17, 11.43M), the [Washington \(DC\) Post](#) (1/17, 11.43M), the [Washington \(DC\) Post](#) (1/17, 11.43M), [Wired](#) (1/18, 3.98M), [Yahoo! News](#) (1/17, 8.62M), and [KING-TV](#) Seattle (1/17, 313K).

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ZINKE STRESSES NEED FOR CONSERVATION WHILE ALSO REMAINING OPEN TO DRILLING AND MINING. [The Hill](#) (1/17, Cama, 1.25M) reports that Interior Secretary-designate Ryan Zinke’s opening speech at his confirmation hearing before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee “focused on his credentials as a committed conservationist, while largely avoiding controversial issues like how much fossil fuel extraction should happen on federal land.” Zinke “said he would make three priorities: work to restore trust through cooperation with local communities and states, work on the National Park Service’s \$12.5 million maintenance backlog — which he wants to be part of Trump’s major infrastructure legislation — and giving front-line land managers the ability to make decisions that they need to.” He said, “I look forward to ... representing the interests of our great nation and giving a voice to

all Americans, to include our great Indian Nations, on how we manage and sustain our public lands and treasures they contain.”

The [New York Times](#) (1/17, Huetteman, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that Zinke “pitched himself...as a serious steward of federal resources” during his confirmation hearing, “frequently bucking conservative orthodoxy on ownership of public lands, federal funding for preservation and even, briefly, climate change.” But he also “emphasized his support for drilling, mining and logging on federal lands, activities strongly opposed by many environmental groups.” Zinke “broke with” President-elect Trump “and even his own past statements on climate change,” saying that it “was ‘indisputable’ that the climate is changing and that humans are having an effect on it.”

[Politico](#) (1/17, Wolff, Whieldon, 2.46M) reports Zinke cited Teddy Roosevelt and “Sierra Club founder John Muir and early-1900s Forest Service chief Gifford Pinchot as role models for his approach to conservation,” while also calling for an “all of the above” energy policy.

[Reuters](#) (1/17, Volcovici) reports that Zinke told the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee that he “would consider an expansion of energy drilling and mining on federal lands but would ensure sensitive areas remain protected.” Zinke said, “I can guarantee you it is better to produce energy domestically under reasonable regulation than overseas with no regulation.” However, he said that he “was committed to protecting sensitive wildlife habitats and to keeping federal lands under federal control to ensure they are preserved for future generations, so ‘my granddaughter’s children can look back and say that we did it right.’”

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (1/17, Yardley, 4.52M) reports that Zinke “said states should have more say in policies that affect land and water within their boundaries,” but also “said that he ‘absolutely’ opposed the sale or transfer of public land.”

Additional coverage was provided by [Politico](#) (1/17, 2.46M), the [Wall Street Journal](#) (1/17, Harder, Subscription Publication, 6.37M), [The Hill](#) (1/17, Cama, Henry, 1.25M), the [Washington \(DC\) Post](#) (1/17, 11.43M), the [Washington \(DC\) Post](#) (1/17, Fears, 11.43M), the [Washington \(DC\) Times](#) (1/17, Dinan, 272K), the [Washington \(DC\) Examiner](#) (1/17, 400K), [Reuters](#) (1/17, Volcovici), the [Great Falls \(MT\) Tribune](#) (1/17, 85K), the [Boston \(MA\) Globe](#) (1/17, Daly, 1.08M), the [Alaska Dispatch News](#) (1/17, 212K), and [WRC-TV Washington \(DC\)](#) Washington (1/17, 453K).

Zinke Signals Support Of Fossil Fuels. [ABC News](#) (1/17, 3.09M) reports that Zinke said “that he would consider reversing a decision from the Obama administration last year to halt oil and gas drilling in the Arctic, a move that could allow fossil fuel development in region.” He said, “The president-elect has said we want to be energy independent. I can guarantee you it is better to produce energy domestically under reasonable regulation, than watch it be produced overseas with no regulation.”

The [Ogden \(UT\) Standard-Examiner](#) (1/17, 100K) reports that Zinke also said, “The war on coal, I believe, is real. All-of-the-above is the correct (energy) policy. Coal is a great part of that energy mix. I’m also a great believer that we should invest in research and development on coal — because we know we have the asset — to make it cleaner and better. We should lead the world in clean energy technology.” However, “Zinke hesitated several times to mention renewables as part of his ‘all of the above’ energy strategy for public lands — a term often used by politicians to signify that they favor coal, oil, gas and renewables development instead of focusing primarily on renewables to address climate change and other environmental challenges.”

[Politico Pro](#) (1/17) reports that Zinke “said that if confirmed as Interior secretary he would support congressional efforts to block a rule that orders oil and gas companies to reduce the amount of methane that leaks from their operations on public lands.” According to the article, “while he opposes the specific rule, Zinke’s answer resembles Interior Secretary Sally Jewell’s from early in 2016 when she proposed it.”

Additional coverage was provided by [My Central Oregon](#) (1/17) and [WTVQ-TV Lexington \(KY\)](#) Lexington, KY (1/17, 1K).

Zinke Says Climate Change Is Real. [The Hill](#) (1/17, Henry, 1.25M) reports Zinke said climate change isn’t a “hoax.” Zinke added, “I think where there’s debate is what that influence is, what we can do about it. ... I’m not a climate science expert, but I will become much more familiar with it and it will be based on objective science.” The [Washington Post](#) (1/17, Mooney, Erickson, 11.43M) says that Zinke’s answer to the question “seems consistent with how other Trump nominees have addressed this tough question.”

The [Washington Examiner](#) (1/17, Cohen, 400K) reports Zinke indicated that climate change “is visible at Glacier National Park, recalling that he could see a glacier receding over lunch with his family while they were at the park one day.”

Additional coverage was provided by the [AP](#) (1/17, Daly), the [Washington Times](#) (1/17, Wolfgang, 272K), [Bloomberg Politics](#) (1/18, 201K), [CNN](#) (1/17, Diamond, 29.79M), [NPR](#) (1/17, 1.92M), [McClatchy](#) (1/17, 74K), [U.S. News & World Report](#) (1/17, Neuhauser, 1.02M), [TIME](#) (1/17, 6.98M), [UPI](#) (1/17, Ware), the [Boston \(MA\) Globe](#) (1/18, Mooney, Erickson, 1.08M), and [Montana Public Radio](#) (1/17).

Zinke Says He Prefers Having State’s Support For National Monuments. [Politico Pro](#) (1/17) reports that Zinke “said there was no provision for rescinding monuments in the Antiquities Act, but he left open the door to some kind of concessions to states whose leaders may not want a monument.” He agreed with Sen. Martin Heinrich “that there is no provision in the Antiquities Act that allows the president to rescind a national monument.” However, “he also pushed for state input into management of a monument, seemingly opening the door to an alternative way to weaken monument status.”

Zinke Highlights Maintenance Backlog At National Parks. The [Washington Post](#) (1/17, O’Keefe, Fears, 11.43M) reports that Zinke also said “that completing billions of dollars in backlogged projects at national parks should be a major part of the new president’s plans to revamp aging roads, bridges and transportation hubs.”

Zinke Earns High Marks From Montanans With Confirmation Performance. The [Billings \(MT\) Gazette](#) (1/17, 208K) reports that “Montanans from Trout Unlimited, to the timber industry, to Indian tribes spoke approvingly of Zinke’s responses.” Bozeman businesswomen Marne Hayes “had a half dozen things she needed to hear before supporting her congressman’s nomination, one that would make Zinke the first Montanan in a presidential cabinet.” According to the article, “Hayes needed Zinke to oppose the sale of public lands, and she wanted confirmation of his objection to a proposed gold mine on the Montana edge of Yellowstone National Park.” Hayes also “wanted affirmation that federal royalties from offshore drilling would continue to be spent on improving public land access.” The article says that “Zinke delivered on all three, a good thing considering Hayes had assembled more than 100 members of the group Business for Montana’s Outdoors to oppose Zinke’s nomination if he didn’t.”

Additional coverage was provided by the [Helena \(MT\) Independent Record](#) (1/17, 38K) and the [Missoulian \(MT\)](#) (1/17, 114K).

Republican Senators Hope For More Balanced Approach Under Zinke. [Politico Pro](#) (1/17) reports that Republican senators hope an Interior Department under Zinke “would strike a balance between the needs of different constituencies and avoid the ‘overreach’ of the Obama administration’s aggressive approach to conservation.”

Relatively Few Trump Nominees Likely To Be Confirmed Before Inauguration. [Politico](#) (1/17, Everett, Dawsey, 2.46M) writes that when Bill Clinton took office as president in 1993, “every single member of his Cabinet but one was confirmed by the Senate within two days. When Donald Trump is sworn in on Friday, he’ll be lucky to have half that many installed.” Politico says “it wasn’t supposed to be this difficult for Trump” to get his nominees confirmed, “especially since Democrats did away with the 60-vote requirement for Cabinet nominees.” But even though Trump “made his Cabinet selections in rapid fire after the election,” they have “been hampered since by ethics complications for some of them, Democratic opposition and an unforgiving calendar.”

Additional coverage was provided by [CNN](#) (1/17, Barrett, 29.79M).

Letter: Zinke Wrong Choice To Lead Interior. In a letter to the [Cape \(DE\) Gazette](#) (1/16), Leslie Ledogar writes that “our federal lands are too precious to entrust to a presidential cabinet nominee who refuses to take a consistent stand against federal land-use giveaways.” For this reason, Ledogar asks Delaware’s senators to “oppose the confirmation of Rep. Zinke as our next secretary of the interior.”

Additional Coverage. Additional coverage was provided by [E&E Daily](#) (1/17, Subscription Publication), [ClimateWire](#) (1/17, Subscription Publication), [The Hill](#) (1/17, Devaney, Wheeler, 1.25M), [The Hill](#) (1/17, Cama, Henry, 1.25M), the [New York \(NY\) Times](#) (1/17, Huetteman, Subscription Publication, 13.9M), the [Washington \(DC\) Post](#) (1/17, Viebeck, 11.43M), the [Los Angeles \(CA\) Times](#) (1/17, 4.52M), [USA Today](#) (1/17, Kelly, 5.28M), [CNN](#) (1/17, Kopan, 29.79M), the [Huffington Post](#) (1/17, 237K), the [Huffington Post](#) (1/17, 237K), [PBS NewsHour](#) (1/17, 255K), [U.S. News & World Report](#) (1/17, Alexander, 1.02M), the [Chicago \(IL\) Tribune](#) (1/17, 2.54M), [The Guardian \(UK\)](#) (1/17, Jacobs, 4.07M), the [Huffington Post](#) (1/17, 237K), [Breitbart](#) (1/17, 2.02M), [Common Dreams](#) (1/17, 19K), [Think Progress](#) (1/16, 83K), [EcoWatch](#) (1/17, 47K), and [KQED-FM](#) San Francisco (1/17, 46K).

Coverage by the AP was also picked up by the [Houston \(TX\) Chronicle](#) (1/17, Daly, Press, 1.91M), the [Denver \(CO\) Post](#) (1/17, 778K), the [Chicago \(IL\) Tribune](#) (1/17, 2.54M), the [Albuquerque \(NM\) Journal](#) (1/17, 234K), and the [San Francisco Chronicle](#) (1/17, 2.2M).

Additional Coverage Of Zinke’s Experience And Positions On Issues. Background reporting on Zinke was provided by [E&E Publishing](#) (1/16, Subscription Publication, 705), [Politico](#) (1/17, Whieldon, 2.46M), and [Politico](#) (1/17, Whieldon, Snider, Wolff, 2.46M).

Additional Coverage Of Zinke’s Ethics Report. Additional coverage of the ethics report on Zinke was provided by [Bloomberg News](#) (1/17, Natter, 2.41M) and [E&E Daily](#) (1/17, Subscription Publication).

Bulletin Articles - 1/17/2017

ZINKE CONFIRMATION HEARING TO BE HELD THIS WEEK. On its website, [NPR](#) (1/16, Taylor, 1.92M) reports several of President-elect Donald Trump's nominees will receive Congressional hearings this week, and most of them "are expected to be fairly routine," Interior Secretary-designate Ryan Zinke will have his confirmation hearing before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on Tuesday.

The [AP](#) (1/16, 1.27M) reports that the ownership of public lands is likely to be a focal point for the hearing, considering Zinke's vote "in favor of a measure from House Republicans that would allow federal land transfers to be considered cost-free and budget-neutral, making it easier for drilling and development." Also, "coal is likely to be another focus on Tuesday." Eric Washburn, "a lobbyist and former aide to Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle, said Zinke will likely be asked to 'defend federal ownership over federal lands' and detail how he would balance energy development with the need to conserve fish and wildlife habitats."

The [Boston Globe](#) (1/17, Linskey, 1.08M), in a piece that contends that many of Trump's Cabinet choices do not have "expertise in the departments they'll run," reports Zinke is "a former Navy SEAL commander who's been a member of the House of Representatives representing Montana for two years and is now on his way to run the \$20 billion Department of the Interior."

Coverage by the AP was also picked up by the [Washington \(DC\) Times](#) (1/17, Daly, 272K), [Philly \(PA\)](#) (1/17, 942K), [TIME](#) (1/17, 6.98M), [U.S. News & World Report](#) (1/17, 1.02M), and the [Daily Mail](#) (1/17, 4.59M).

Additional coverage was provided by [Voice of America](#) (1/17, 57K).

Two Retired Admirals Say Zinke Understating Impact Of Travel Billing "Glitch." The [New York Times](#) (1/16, Drew, Naylor, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that Interior Secretary-designate Ryan Zinke "has promoted his 23-year career in the Navy SEALs as one of his main credentials" in his runs for office in Montana, but now, as a Cabinet nominee, he "has acknowledged one 'glitch': that he improperly billed the government for travel" when he was a SEAL Team 6 officer. While he repaid the cost, "two retired admirals under whom Mr. Zinke served say his account understates the damage that it did." Zinke "was in fact punished for abusing his travel expenses, they say, through an evaluation that prevented him from rising to senior levels in the Navy."

Conservation Group Backs Zinke. [Politico Pro](#) (1/13) reports that ahead of his confirmation hearing, the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership is "throwing its support behind Rep. Ryan Zinke's Interior secretary nomination." President Whit Fosburgh wrote in a Thursday letter, "We are confident that, as Secretary of Interior, Congressman Zinke will continue to approach resource management issues with an eye towards improving the multiple-use productivity of our public lands and seeking solutions that balance the needs of all Americans."

Watchdog Groups Raise Concerns About Zinke Donors. [E&E](#) (1/13) reports that Rep. Ryan Zinke "took thousands of dollars in campaign donations from companies that drill for oil and gas on the vast public lands that he would oversee as Interior secretary." Watchdog groups say "the contributions, totaling \$345,000 since 2013, raise questions about whether the fossil fuel industry could influence a Cabinet secretary who controls drilling, mining and conservation policies across more than 500 million acres of public land." The article notes that "Zinke's top individual campaign donor is Taylor Reid, president and chief operating officer of a Texas-based oil and gas company that drills in the Bakken oil field." Reid, "who

has been with Oasis Petroleum since its founding in 2007, donated \$11,600 to Zinke's election efforts between 2013 and 2016, an analysis of Federal Election Commission data shows."

Additional coverage was provided by [NPR](#) (1/16, 1.92M).

Trump's First Cabinet Is "More White And Male" Of Any Since Reagan. The [New York Times](#) (1/13, Lee, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports President-elect Trump's cabinet "is shaping up to have a smaller percentage of women and nonwhites than the first cabinets of Barack Obama, George W. Bush, Bill Clinton and George Bush." In addition, the Times says these women "will also be in some of the lowest-ranking positions."

Zinke Urged To Open Up Federal Lands For Development. In a piece for [Forbes](#) (1/13, 15.17M), Christine Harbin, director of federal affairs and strategic initiatives of Americans for Prosperity, argue that Rep. Ryan Zinke can "unleash economic growth" if he "opens up a portion of federal lands and waters for energy exploration and economic development." Harbin points tot 2015 study by Joseph R. Mason of the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and Louisiana State University, which "shows that opening up federal lands and waters to exploration and development would drive stronger economic growth, more jobs, better wages and higher revenues for federal, state and local treasuries." Harbin dismisses "objections to this proposal on environmental grounds." She notes that "recent evidence suggests otherwise: Though American energy production nearly doubled from 2008 to 2014, carbon emissions actually decreased during the same time frame."

Senators Urged To Press Zinke On Conservation Issues. In an op-ed for the [Denver Post](#) (1/16, 778K), Jennifer Rokala, executive director for the Center for Western Priorities, urges Senators to ask Rep. Ryan Zinke to explain his stance on public lands. Rokala also urges Senators to ask "Zinke to confirm his strong support for renewing and funding" the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Rokala also says that "Senators should ask Zinke, who received hundreds of thousands of dollars in campaign donations from oil, gas and coal companies, if he plans to rescind any of the rule changes that earn taxpayers a fair share from their public resources."

Opinion: Green Groups' Worries About Zinke Justified. In a piece for the [Conversation \(UK\)](#) (1/16, 14K), John Freemuth, Professor of Public Policy and Senior Fellow Cecil Andrus Center for Public Policy, Boise State University, and Mackenzie Case, GIS and Policy Analyst, Boise State University, write that "while some conservation groups are cautiously optimistic that they can work" with Rep. Ryan Zinke, "others are worried about his support for fossil fuel production on public lands and his position on other key environmental issues." The authors, drawing from their "experience analyzing past controversies over public land use in the West under Republican administrations," say that "these worries are justified."

Zinke Urged To Prioritize Stewardship Of Public Lands. In an op-ed dfor the [Montana Standard](#) (1/15, 36K), rancher Mark Fix raises concerns that Rep. Ryan Zinke will not follow "in the long line of great stewards that have preceded him." Fix asserts, "As the top public custodian of our country's natural resources and public lands, he will need to understand the value that Americans put on the fair and wise management of public lands and public resources." He hops Zinke will "make stewardship his highest priority – stewardship of land, air, water, taxpayers, and the sovereign treaty rights of American Indians."

Zinke Asked To Find "Dedicated And Capable" Manager To Lead BLM. In a letter to the [Helena \(MT\) Independent Record](#) (1/16, 38K), David S. Watson asks Rep. Ryan Zinke to find a "dedicated and capable" manager to be the next director of the Bureau of Land Management According to Watson,

“proper management of the BLM requires a career employee who over his/her career has developed the necessary knowledge and skills of multiple use management and who can manage a team of dedicated and diverse professionals to achieve those goals.”

Additional Coverage Of Zinke’s Ethics Report. Additional coverage of the ethics report on Rep. Ryan Zinke was provided by the [Helena \(MT\) Independent Record](#) (1/13, 38K).