

To: Herbert Frost[bert_frost@nps.gov]
From: Elaine Leslie
Sent: 2017-05-09T15:43:51-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: U.S. Department of the Interior News Briefing for Tuesday, May 9, 2017
Received: 2017-05-09T15:44:19-04:00

We meaning me

Elaine

On May 9, 2017, at 2:22 PM, Herbert Frost <bert_frost@nps.gov> wrote:

Yes.

Bert Frost
Acting Deputy Director, Operations
National Park Service

202-208-3818

On May 9, 2017, at 10:45 AM, Elaine Leslie <elaine_leslie@nps.gov> wrote:

Do we have the memo yet on Boards and committees yet. Like CNN does.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Bulletin Intelligence
<Interior@bulletinintelligence.com>
Date: May 9, 2017 at 6:59:58 AM EDT
To: <Interior@BulletinIntelligence.com>
Subject: U.S. Department of the Interior News Briefing for Tuesday,
May 9, 2017

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DOI In The News

Secretary Zinke Kicks Off Utah Tour In National Monuments Review.

The Hill (5/8, Cama) reports that Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke is visiting Utah this week “to tour two controversial national monuments that the Trump administration is considering rescinding or shrinking.”

The Deseret (UT) News (5/8, O'Donoghue) reports that Zinke “landed in San Juan County Monday to begin his first full day exploring the rugged footprint of the new Bears Ears National Monument.” Zinke took an “aerial tour of the Bears Ears region in one of three Blackhawk helicopters before a scheduled hike later Monday to the House on Fire ruins near Mule Canyon, inside the monument footprint.”

The Salt Lake (UT) Tribune (5/8, Maffly) reports that Zinke said, “The trip today verified it is drop-dead gorgeous country. No question about it. We want to make sure everyone’s voice is heard. A lot of the anger out there in our country is local communities and states don’t feel like they had a voice. Washington has done things that seem heavy handed without coordination.”

The AP (5/8, Price, McCombs) reports that Zinke “said sacred tribal lands he toured Monday in America’s newest and most hotly contested monument should be preserved but he questioned whether the monument designation was the right way to do it.” Zinke “said he wants to make sure Native American culture is preserved but cautioned that not all tribal members share the same opinion about the monument designated by former President Barack Obama near the end of his term.”

Additional coverage was provided by USA Today (5/9, Grover), the St. George (UT) News (5/8), KSL-TV Salt Lake City (UT) Salt Lake City (5/8), KSL-TV Salt Lake City (UT) Salt Lake

City (5/8, O'Donoghue), KTVX-TV Salt Lake City (UT) Salt Lake City (5/9, Mills), KUTV-TV Salt Lake City (UT) Salt Lake City (5/8, Woodruff), and KTVX-TV Salt Lake City (UT) Salt Lake City (5/8, Mills).

Coverage by the AP was also picked up by ABC News (5/9, Price, McCombs), the Boston (MA) Herald (5/9, Price, McCombs), Business Insider (5/9, Price, McCombs), the Daily Mail (5/9), the Minneapolis (MN) Star Tribune (5/8, Price, McCombs), Philly (PA) (5/9, Price, McCombs), the San Antonio (TX) Express-News (5/9, Price, McCombs), the San Francisco (CA) Chronicle (5/9, Price, McCombs), the Seattle (WA) Times (5/8, Price, McCombs), U.S. News & World Report (5/9, Price, McCombs), the Washington (DC) Post (5/9, Price Brady McCombs |, Ap), the Darien (CT) News-Review (5/9, Price, McCombs), the Denver (CO) Post (5/8, Price, McCombs), the Greenwich (CT) Time (5/9, Price, McCombs), Yahoo! News (5/8, Price, Price, McCombs), KGMB-TV Honolulu (HI) Honolulu (5/8, Price, McCombs), KHQ-TV Spokane (WA) Spokane, WA (5/8, Price, McCombs), KWES-TV Odessa (TX) Odessa, TX (5/8, Price, McCombs), WTVQ-TV Lexington (KY) Lexington, KY (5/8), and WREX-TV Rockford (IL) Rockford, IL (5/8, Price, McCombs).

Interior Turns Down Meetings With Two Groups Supporting Utah Monuments. The Morning Consult (5/8, Fitzpatrick) reports that the Interior Department "turned down meetings this week with at least two groups supporting national monument designations in Utah, spurring complaints that the Trump administration's review of monuments may be one-sided." According to the article, "Interior turned down requests for meetings with Utah Diné Bikéyah, a nonprofit that supports Bears Ears and coordinates with five nearby tribes, Executive Director Gavin Noyes said." It adds that "the department also declined to meet with some members of the Escalante & Boulder Utah Chamber of Commerce, Vice President Kris Waggoner said."

Native Americans Demand Apology From Sen. Hatch For Alleged Racist Remarks. KSTU-TV Salt Lake City (5/8, Suggs) reports that the Utah League of Native American Voters are "demanding" Sen. Orrin Hatch "to apologize for his remarks during a press conference" with Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke. Hatch said, "The Indians, they don't fully understand that a lot of the things that they currently take for granted on those lands, they won't be able to do if it's made clearly into a monument or a wilderness." Navajo Nation Council Delegate Nate Brown said, "Sen. Hatch is not being honest and his words are racially charged, inflammatory and incredibly disrespectful to me as Tribal Councilman, and to all our highly educated tribal

members working on the Bears Ears."

Secretary Zinke Delivers Commencement Address At Montana State University-Northern.

The [Havre \(MT\) Daily News](#) (5/8, Ross) reports that Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke "urged Montana State University-Northern graduates of the Class of 2017 to be leaders and stay true to the values of the Treasure State Saturday in his commencement address at Montana State University-Northern." He said, "You are about to enter an exciting period for our country. My generation will turn the mantle of leadership over to you." Zinke "added that, whatever their aspirations are, the graduates should know they can go further, something Zinke illustrated through his career in both elected office and government." Zinke "said he doesn't think he is better than anyone else but credited his advancement to hard work and really good friends."

Secretary Zinke Talks About Monuments, Indian Relations While In Havre. The [Havre \(MT\) Daily News](#) (5/8, Ross) reports that Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke "said Saturday that a review ordered by the U.S Department of Interior of more than two dozen recent monuments established under the Antiquities Act, including the Upper Missouri River Breaks monument, is meant to give communities a say in the process." In Havre to give the commencement address at Montana State University-Northern's graduation ceremony Saturday, Zinke said, "I think, too often, Washington is deaf on giving Montana, states, the local voice, a say, at least a place at the table, so that is what I am doing." Zinke also "said that, since being sworn into office, the response to President Donald Trump's new administration has been 'great' and tribes know that the Trump administration is willing to sit down and negotiate in good faith with them."

Interior Department Freezes Work Of Advisory Boards.

[CNN](#) (5/8, Marsh, Watkins) reports that the Interior Department "froze the work of more than 200 advisory boards, committees and subcommittees last week, according to a department memo obtained by CNN." According to an agency spokeswoman, "about a third of those advisory boards are science-based." The memo, "received by a member of one of the advisory panels, said the department was instituting the freeze to review 'the charter and charge of each committee' and that the review required the groups' meetings be postponed until September at the earliest."

Additional coverage was provided by [CNN International](#) (5/8, Marsh, Watkins), the [Washington \(DC\) Post](#) (5/7, Eilperin,

Dennis), [Bloomberg Politics](#) (5/8, Dlouhy), the [Casper \(WY\) Star-Tribune](#) (5/8, Richards), [Law360](#), [Grist](#) (5/8, Merchant), [Scribd](#) (5/8, Leasca), [KSTU-TV Salt Lake City \(UT\)](#) Salt Lake City (5/8), [WKBT-TV La Crosse \(WI\)](#) La Crosse, WI (5/8, Marsh, Watkins), [WROC-TV Rochester \(NY\)](#) Rochester, NY (5/8, Marsh, Watkins), [KRCR-TV Redding \(CA\)](#) Redding, CA (5/8, Marsh, Watkins), [KCTV-TV Kansas City \(MO\)](#) Kansas City, MO (5/8), and [WHNS-TV Greenville \(SC\)](#) Greenville, SC (5/8).

Over 100 Recreational Leaders Praise Secretary Zinke's Leadership On Conservation Issues.

The [Resurgent](#) (5/8, Hoffman) reports that "over 100 executives representing recreational groups have praised Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke's leadership at his respective department." In an ad printed in the Wall Street Journal, the executives said: "In his first 100 days in office, President Donald Trump is setting an agenda to emphasize and prioritize outdoor recreation on federal lands, highlighted by selecting former Montana Congressman Ryan Zinke as Secretary to lead the Department of the Interior and donating his first quarter salary to the National Park Service." The letter added, "The President's proposals open the door for greater access to public lands for recreation and increased investment to overcome some \$20 billion in deferred maintenance something prior Administrations of both parties have not resolved."

Legislator Considers Chance Of Wyoming Control Of Federal Lands As "Remote".

The [AP](#) (5/8) reports that "the president of the Wyoming Senate says the chances that Wyoming will take over federal land anytime soon are "pretty remote."" Republican Eli Bebout "says he's not a fan of Wyoming suing for control of federal land because the process would be drawn out and unlikely to get good results."

Additional coverage was provided by [KGAB-AM](#) Cheyenne, WY (5/8, Randall).

Interior Shares Wildlife Photos On Social Media.

[USA Today](#) (5/8, Barnes) highlights the Interior Department's "favorite wildlife photos from a wide array of public lands" that it shared on its social media account.

Additional Coverage Of National Monuments Under Review.

Additional coverage of the national monuments under review by the Interior Department was provided by [Fox News](#) (5/8), the [Minneapolis \(MN\) Star Tribune](#) (5/8), [U.S. News & World Report](#)

(5/8), the Washington (DC) Post (5/8, Press), the Washington (DC) Times (5/8, Press), Voice of America (5/8), the San Diego (CA) Free Press (5/8, Gonzales), the Fort Collins (CO) Coloradoan (5/8, Marmaduke), the Las Vegas (NV) Sun (5/8, Rothberg), the Hi-Desert (CA) Star (5/8, Humphreville), Hawaii Public Radio (5/8, Harlow), Mainebiz (5/8), Natural Gas Intelligence (5/8, Passut), Law360 (5/8, Westney), Inquisitr (5/8, Dodrill), Field & Stream (5/8, Sullivan), Men's Journal (5/8, Radding), New West (5/8, Reichard), the New Mexico Political Report (5/8, Paskus), KTVZ-TV Bend (OR) Bend, OR (5/8), KOBI-TV Medford (OR) Medford, OR (5/8), KSL-TV Salt Lake City (UT) Salt Lake City (5/8, Nielsen), KIVI-TV Boise (ID) Boise, ID (5/8, Morrison), and WCSH-TV Portland (ME) Portland, ME (5/8, York).

Sen. Alexander's Support Of Conservation Legislation Applauded.

The Knoxville (TN) News Sentinel (5/8, Butler), Tennessee Wildlife Federation CEO Michael Butler, highlights "two pieces of federal legislation" that Sen. Lamar Alexander is cosponsoring, which "take the rare long view concerning conservation here and across the nation." The Land and Water Conservation Authorization and Funding Act, "would permanently reauthorize and fully fund the LWCF," and the National Park Service Legacy Act is "meant to address chronic underfunding" of national parks. Butler says that Alexander's support of these measures puts "him and by extension Tennessee at the forefront of defending resources that benefit us and future generations."

Williams: Trump's Executive Orders Are An Assault On US Lands, Waters.

Jamie Williams, the president of the Wilderness Society, writes in the Pundits blog for The Hill (5/8, Williams) saying that President Trump's two executive orders looking to expand domestic energy production "could ultimately result in the most devastating assaults on our lands and waters we've seen in a long time." Williams says the move to repeal environmental regulations "suggests a hellbent, ideological drive to undo a careful, decades-old, bipartisan consensus to protect our most cherished public resources, even as we enable responsible development."

America's Great Outdoors

National Park Service

Ozark National Scenic Riverways Remain Closed After Flood Event.

The [Salem \(MO\) News](#) (5/8) reports that "one week after widespread flooding caused unprecedented damage in Ozark National Scenic Riverways, the park remains closed." According to the article, "it is unknown at this time when areas will be reopened to visitors." Currently, the National Park Service Midwest Region Incident Management Team and "more than 120 National Park Service employees are working every day to assess conditions, plan for next steps, stabilize facilities, and protect resources in the park."

Lafayette Park To Partially Close For Drainage Work.

[WRC-TV](#) Washington (5/8, MacFarlane) reports that Lafayette Park, "just north of the White House in northwest Washington, D.C., is partially closed as construction crews work on preventing the area from turning into a swamp." The National Park Service is "replacing an outdated irrigation system at Lafayette Park that no longer functions, due to broken pipes and sprinkler heads, with a new water-saving irrigation system that includes intelligent sensors that adjust to evaporation rates and weather conditions, like rain or freezing temperatures." According to the article, "project work will also include repairing the park's historic fountains, improving storm water drainage and work to enhance the park's lawns."

Additional coverage was provided by the [Washington \(DC\) Post](#) (5/8, Weil).

NPS Proposing Bathroom Renovations In Glacier National Park's Apgar Campground.

The [Flathead \(MT\) Beacon](#) (5/8) reports that the National Park Service is "seeking to improve four restrooms in the popular Apgar Campground in Glacier National Park." According to the article, "to address increasing visitor use, the agency is proposing to remove and replace one restroom, or comfort station, that is currently used for storage and improve three existing restrooms in the busy campground."

Trump's Parks Donation Criticized.

In her column for the [Chattanooga \(TN\) Times Free Press](#) (5/9, Sohn), Pam Sohn downplays President Trump's "reported decision to donate the first quarter earnings of his \$400,000 presidential salary to the National Park Service and therefore perhaps some share of it to the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park." Sohn notes that "Trump's budget proposal called for the Department of the Interior's budget to be slashed by \$1.6 billion."

Fish and Wildlife Service

Evacuations Expand As West Mims Fire Torch's More Than 130,000 Acres.

The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (5/8, Foreman, Burns) reports that "a mandatory evacuation has broadened to include multiple South Georgia areas as a wildfire approaches communities on the edge of the Okefenokee Swamp." Rita Baysinger, "who came from Colorado to help the U.S. Forest Service as a spokeswoman, said Monday that Moniac and Canaday Loop were ordered to evacuate." Baysinger "said she doesn't know how many have evacuated the area, but that it is the second round of evacuations."

Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge To Celebrate Trail Opening.

The [Sudbury \(MA\) Town Crier](#) (5/8) reports that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will "hold the official opening of the improved Red Maple Trail" at the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge on May 13. The event will be "attended by federal and state officials, elected officials, conservation partners and volunteers, and will include a brief program and guided walk."

Lion's Gate Animal Sanctuary Under Investigation For Euthanizing 11 Animals.

The [Denver Post](#) (5/8, Aguilar) reports that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Elbert County sheriff's office are "investigating whether owners of Lion's Gate animal sanctuary committed any violations when they euthanized three tigers, five bears and three lions last month." Steve Segin, a spokesman with the FWS, "said his agency will be looking into whether the April 20 action at the longtime facility near Agate violated the Endangered Species Act." According to Segin, "special agents from the Fish and Wildlife Service will be working closely with investigators from the sheriff's office, and both agencies will be in contact with their respective federal and county prosecutors to determine what, if any, action is appropriate."

Western Snowy Plover Nests On Los Angeles Beaches.

[KCAL-TV](#) Los Angeles (5/8) reports that "a small, rare shorebird that has not been seen on the Los Angeles coastline for 68 years is suddenly back in the region." The western snowy plover has "been discovered nesting on several Los Angeles County beaches since April," the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said Monday. According to the article, "nests for the six-inch plover were found on Santa Monica Beach (April 18), Dockweiler State

Beach (April 27) and Malibu Lagoon State Beach (April 27 and May 4)."

Additional coverage was provided by the Ventura County (CA) Star (5/8, Carlson), the Pasadena (CA) Patch (5/8), the Malibu (CA) Patch (5/8), and the Canyon (CA) News (5/8).

Bureau of Land Management

Rural Oregon Counties Struggle To Provide Basic Services Without Federal Timber Revenues.

The AP (5/9, Flaccus) reports that "nearly 30 years after environmental protections slashed logging in federal forests, Oregon counties...that thrived on timber revenues for decades are struggling to provide basic services." According to the article, "these so-called timber counties received hundreds of millions of dollars during logging's long heyday, and since then the federal government has continued to pour money in to make up for timber's downfall," but "now the money has dried up and people are reluctant to tax themselves, leaving leaders scrambling and public institutions in free fall." Sen. Ron Wyden "recently joined other Western lawmakers in a last-ditch effort to restore federal assistance but local officials aren't optimistic."

US Geological Survey

Study Says Alaska Tundra May Be Shifting Toward Net Source Of Carbon.

The New York Times (5/8, Fountain) reports on a new study that suggests Alaska "may be shifting from a net sink, or storehouse, of carbon to a net source." The study found that "carbon emissions from the North Slope tundra in October, November and December had increased by 70 percent since the 1970s." According to Steven C. Wofsy, a Harvard professor and an author of the paper, "Part of the message of this paper is that there are a lot of major changes in the Arctic, and they're happening fast."

The Washington Post (5/8, Mooney) reports that "the new study contrasts with a 2016 study by the U.S. Geological Survey, which had found that Alaska was acting as a net carbon 'sink' at the moment removing more carbon from the air than it is emitting and that this should continue and expand over the course of the century as plant growth increases." One of the lead authors of that research, Dave McGuire of the University of Alaska at Fairbanks and USGS, said the new study is "not the final word, but it is a significant step forward." McGuire "pointed out that the new study looks at the years 2012 to 2014,

whereas the 2016 USGS study looked at earlier years and ended in 2009, making an 'apples to apples' comparison difficult."

Securing America's Energy Future

Onshore Energy Development

GOP Under Pressure As Senate Considers Methane Rule Repeal.

The [AP](#) (5/9, Daly) reports that Republicans from energy producing states are under pressure from a coalition of groups with ties to the fossil fuel industry and the Koch Brothers to overturn an Obama-era regulation to restrict methane emissions from wells on public lands. Sens. Lindsey Graham and Susan Collins have said they will oppose the repeal, while Sens. Cory Gardner and Dean Heller have not announced their vote. Environmental groups are cautiously optimistic they can preserve the rule despite a Republican-controlled Congress and White House.

Coverage by the AP was also picked up by the [Minneapolis \(MN\) Star Tribune](#) (5/8, Daly), [Fox Business](#) (5/9, Daly), [Philly \(PA\)](#) (5/9, Daly), the [San Francisco \(CA\) Chronicle](#) (5/9, Daly), [U.S. News & World Report](#) (5/9, Daly), the [Washington \(DC\) Post](#) (5/9, Matthew Daly |, Ap), [ABC News](#) (5/9, Daly), [Business Insider](#) (5/9, Daly), the [Daily Mail](#) (5/9), [Yahoo! News](#) (5/9, Daly, Daly, Press), [KSAT-TV San Antonio \(TX\)](#) San Antonio (5/9), and [KTAR-FM Glendale \(AZ\)](#) Glendale, AZ (5/9, Daly).

CRA Repeal Of Methane Regulation May Come To Vote This Week. [E&E Publishing](#) (5/8, Skibell) reports that as time expires for Congress to use the Congressional Review Act to repeal Obama-era regulations, "methane standards are the last major target of the Republican majority." The repeal of the methane rule hit unforeseen opposition within the Republican party when several members trying to leverage the vote to pass a waiver on seasonal restrictions on the sale of ethanol in gasoline. However, Sen. John Barrasso said that he is confident a vote will happen this week.

Additional Coverage. Additional coverage was provided by [The Hill](#) (5/8, Henry, Cama), [The Hill](#) (5/8, Henry), the [Washington \(DC\) Examiner](#) (5/8, Harbin), the [Grand Junction \(CO\) Daily Sentinel](#) (5/9, Webb), and the [Santa Fe New Mexican](#) (5/9, Moss).

DOJ Lawyers Argue Interior Has Fracking Authority, But Does Not Need To Defend Obama Regulation.

[EnergyWire](#) (5/8, Gilmer) reports Justice Department lawyers

filed legal briefs to the 10th US Circuit Court of Appeals saying the Interior Department has the authority to regulate hydraulic fracturing, but should not have to continue defending an Obama-era regulation in court. The brief said, "Although BLM had authority to promulgate the Hydraulic Fracturing Rule, it also has substantial discretion in how it carries out its statutory mission of administering federal and Indian leases. ... The specific provisions of the Rule may no longer reflect BLM's best judgment of how to exercise that authority." The agency "walked a fine line" as it tries to gain federal authority over fracking while also moving away from President Obama's rule.

Additional Coverage: BLM To Halt California Lease Sales While Conducting EIS Focusing On Hydraulic Fracturing.

Additional coverage that the Bureau of Land Management "agreed last week to rewrite a resource management plan for a large swath of California public lands, effectively barring any new oil and natural gas leasing for at least a year," was provided by [Natural Gas Intelligence](#) (5/8).

Renewable Energy

Solar, Wind Development In California Desert Stalled.

The [Palm Springs \(CA\) Desert Sun](#) (5/9) reports that "on public lands in the California desert, new development has slowed to a crawl" after the Obama administration last year "finalized a sweeping land-use plan covering 11 million acres of federal lands in the California desert." According to Greg Miller, from the Bureau of Land Management's California Desert District, "in the eight months since the desert plan was finalized, just one solar company has filed paperwork expressing interest in building in a development zone. No wind companies have expressed interest." And the BLM "can't start processing applications yet because it's still working to implement another solar and wind regulation issued late last year by the Obama administration, the competitive leasing rule, Miller said."

Tule Wind Project Opponents File Appeal To Stop Project.

The [San Diego Union-Tribune](#) (5/5, Nikolewski) reported that on Friday, the Protect Our Communities Foundation filed court documents with the U.S. Court of Appeals, claiming the federal government failed to follow its procedures when it approved the Tule Wind Project in San Diego's East County. The group "argued that the blades from turbines in both phases of the Tule project will pose significant danger to birds." POC executive director April Rose Sommer said, "This project should

not be built but at the very least it should be subject to the environmental review required by law." Tule 1, the first phase of the wind project, "is already under construction and is scheduled to erect 52 General Electric turbines with towers 262 feet high and 351 feet in diameter, with an estimated 132 megawatts of electricity." Meanwhile, "Southern California Edison has signed a 15-year power purchase agreement and the turbines will be connected to a substation operated by San Diego Gas & Electric."

Empowering Native American Communities

Senators Want Accurate Count Of Native American Students.

The [Navajo Times \(AZ\)](#) (5/8, Yurth) reports that "three U.S. senators have accused the Bureau of Indian Education of using severely outdated data to determine distribution of Johnson-O'Malley funds, and have introduced legislation requiring the U.S. Department of the Interior to update its records and the BIE to recalculate the distribution." According to Sens. Heidi Heitkamp (D-N.D.), James Lankford (R-Okla.) and Steve Daines (R-Mont.), the BIE is "currently basing its distribution on demographic data from 1995." The article notes that "since then, two U.S. Censuses have taken place, with the last one in 2010 finding the country's Native American population had increased by nearly one-third since 2000." This has resulted, the lawmakers claim, "in severely underfunding Johnson-O'Malley, the federal program that guarantees cultural education in public schools and aims at increasing Native students' success in school and graduation rates."

Jesuits To Return 525 Acres Of South Dakota Land To Rosebud Sioux.

The [National Catholic Reporter](#) (5/8) reports that the Jesuits are "returning more than 500 acres in South Dakota to the Rosebud Sioux." According to the article, "the formal return of the property is expected to be complete sometime in May."

Office Of Insular Affairs

General Says US Would Struggle To Resupply Forces After 30 Days Of War In Korea.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (5/2, McIntyre) reports that "in the event of all-out war on the Korean peninsula, the United States would be hard-pressed to move troops and weapons to the battle after one month because of an overreliance on commercial air and sea transport, Congress was told Tuesday."

According to Air Force Gen. Darren McDew, commander of U.S. Transportation Command, "the U.S. military has enough planes and ships to flow forces into the war zone for 30 days, but after that it would become difficult because of the inability to send commercial vessels into a contested war zone." In testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee, McDew "said he has been closely coordinating with Army Gen. Vincent Brooks, the U.S. Korea commander, about what he would need in the event of war against the North." He said, "We have a sufficient force today, and I have talked to Vince Books and his staff, to provide him what he needs in the first 30 days organically."

Additional coverage was provided by the [Hawaii Free Press](#) (5/8, Hansen), the [Hawaii Free Press](#) (5/8, Grennes), the [Grass Roots Institute](#) (4/9), and [Mercatus](#) (5/8).

NMI May Hold Job Fair In Micronesian Islands To Recruit Workers.

[Marianas Variety](#) (5/5, Villahermosa) reports that Gov. Ralph D.L.G. Torres "said he may visit the Micronesia islands to hold a job fair and try to recruit potential employees to comply with the current federal mandate to have 'zero' workers on CW permits by Dec. 2019." In an interview, Torres "said workforce was among the issues that he and the leaders of Guam, the FSM, Palau and the Marshall islands discussed during the recent Micronesian Islands Forum on Guam." He "said these islands also have workforce issues, but they agreed that holding a job fair could give interested Micronesian residents more job opportunities."

"Pago Pago Declaration" Hailed.

The [Hawaii Free Press](#) (5/8) reports that on Monday, Congresswoman Aumua Amata, took the Floor of the House "to hail Vice President Mike Pence's words to the people of American Samoa during his visit to the territory last week." Referring to it as the "Pago Pago Declaration", Amata said "that she believed this would become a component of the Trump Doctrine under development by the Administration."

Tackling America's Water Challenges

Rep. Rooney Introduces REPAIR Act.

The [Okeechobee \(FL\) News](#) (5/8, Elsken) reports that last Thursday, Rep. Tom Rooney introduced the Responsible Environmental Preservation and American Infrastructure Restoration Act (The REPAIR Act, H. Res. 313), which "would make a limited change to the House rules to allow Congress to direct necessary funding to vetted water resources development

projects of the Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation." The legislation "updates the definition of a 'congressional earmark' to appropriately classify these critical public safety and environmental projects that provide for the management of the storage, release and flow of water from our nation's rivers, lakes and dams." Rooney said, "The problem with these projects being classified as 'earmarks' is that they're routinely underfunded and the earmark ban prohibits us from making up the difference when these projects are indiscriminately cut by the executive branch. This is especially harmful when additional money is needed to respond to unforeseen weather events like last year's 100-year rain in Florida or when Congressional authorizations occur after the spring budget cycle."

Lack Of Emergency Spillway At Trinity Dam Raises Concerns.

E&E Publishing (5/8, Jacobs) reports that "after February's near catastrophe at Oroville Dam in Northern California, critics are questioning why the nearby Trinity Dam which impounds the third largest reservoir in the state does not have an emergency spillway." The dam is owned and operated by the federal Bureau of Reclamation, "whose 2000 report confirms the shortcomings of the dam's spillway, often referred as a 'morning glory' or 'glory hole.'" However, BOR officials "emphasized that they have an adequate management plan in place." In particular, officials "point to winter operations restrictions aimed at ensuring there's enough room in the reservoir to accommodate peak inflows and flood events." Also, "they note that Trinity's reservoir rises more slowly than Oroville's because its smaller watershed receives precipitation more as snow than as rain."

Hoover Dam Lit Up For Lung Cancer Awareness.

KXNT-AM Las Vegas (5/8) reports that the American Lung Association and Bureau of Reclamation will "light up the Hoover Dam turquoise Monday night at 8:30 p.m. to celebrate National Women's Lung Health Week." With support from the BOR and Total Show Technology, "they'll be using the color turquoise as part of the Lung Force turquoise takeover."

Top National News

Media Analyses: White House Disregarded Yates' Warnings About Flynn.

Former Acting Attorney General Sally Yates' appearance before a Senate Judiciary Committee subcommittee on Monday, during

which she said that during her brief tenure she repeatedly warned White House officials that then-National Security Adviser Michael Flynn was “compromised” by his interactions with Russian officials, led all three broadcast network newscasts. Her testimony, in which she said that she warned that Flynn was susceptible to blackmail, is called “dramatic” and “blunt,” but President Trump and some commentators say she offered no new information. However, a number of media analysts question why the White House took no immediate action, leaving Flynn in his sensitive post until mid-February.

ABC World News Tonight (5/8, lead story, 4:25, Muir) reported that Yates “offer[ed] in detail the warning she says she gave the White House” about Flynn, “telling Congress about her two meetings inside the White House. ... And she made it clear today, she says she warned them Flynn was, in her words, ‘compromised,’ and could be blackmailed by Russia. Yet Michael Flynn would stay on the job for weeks and was there for a call with President Trump and President Putin.” ABC’s Pierre Thomas: “Yates describing an intense call to White House Counsel Don McGahn on the morning of January 26.” Yates: “I called Don McGahn first thing that morning and told him that I had a very sensitive matter that I needed to discuss with him, that I couldn’t talk about it on the phone and that I needed to come see him.” Thomas: “She went to the White House that very day to discuss concerns Flynn might have been lying to White House officials.”

The CBS Evening News (5/8, lead story, 3:15, Pelley) reported, “President Trump’s team got more than one warning” about Flynn. CBS’ Jeff Pagues: “Yates said she felt compelled to warn the White House” that Flynn “had misled the Vice President about his contacts with Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak in late December. US intelligence had gathered intercepts of his conversations.” Jeffrey Toobin said on CNN’s Situation Room (5/8), “There has never been a conversation like the one Sally Yates had with Mr. McGahn in all of American history. She goes to the White House, new president in office, and says, ‘Your national security adviser can be blackmailed by the Russians.’ The next day she goes back and says it again. And what happens after that? Nothing.”

The AP (5/8, Tucker, Sullivan) reports that Yates told Congress that “she bluntly warned the Trump White House in January” that Flynn “‘essentially could be blackmailed’ by the Russians because he apparently had lied to his bosses about his contacts” with Kislyak. Yates said, “To state the obvious, you don’t want your national security adviser compromised with the Russians.” Bloomberg Politics (5/8, Dennis, Strohm) reports

that Yates said she warned McGahn on January 26 and January 27. She was fired by Trump on January 30 "for refusing to enforce his initial travel ban. ... The White House will be under increasing pressure to explain what it did" between that time and Trump's dismissal of Flynn.

The New York Times (5/8, Apuzzo, Huetteman) says that the warning came just "five days into the Trump administration." The Washington Post (5/8, Barrett, Horwitz) says her testimony was "much-anticipated," since Yates' "brief time" as acting attorney general "has fueled months of fierce political debate about the White House and Russia." The Washington Times (5/8, Boylan) writes that Yates offered "dramatic testimony." The Washington Examiner (5/8, Antle) reports that Yates "managed to dominate the headlines" by casting Flynn "as 'compromised' and susceptible to blackmail, despite Republican efforts to focus on the leaks that led to his downfall."

USA Today (5/8, Johnson) reports that Yates, "citing the classified nature of how the communications were obtained...declined to elaborate on the intercepts. But she said the anxiety about Flynn's actions was so great within the Justice Department that members of its national security division were consulted, as were other intelligence officials across the government."

The Los Angeles Times (5/8, Cloud) reports that ex-DNI James Clapper, who also testified, "said he agreed that Flynn's conduct had posed a risk." Clapper said, "There's certainly a potential vulnerability. There's no question about it." Politico (5/8, Wright) reports that both Yates and Clapper "said they did not know how classified information about Flynn's conversations with Russia's ambassador ended up in The Washington Post."

The Wall Street Journal (5/8, Wilber, Tau) reports that Sen. Dianne Feinstein noted during the hearing that the White House waited 18 days after the warning to fire Flynn. The Wall Street Journal (5/8) says in an editorial that the most important thing is that Trump did fire Flynn, and that there does not seem to be anything he could have been blackmailed over. However, Dana Milbank writes in his Washington Post (5/8, Milbank) column, "Trump didn't move to fire Flynn. He fired Yates instead," and "Flynn remained on the job, sitting in on highly classified sessions" including the President's phone call with Putin. Had the Post "not broken the story on Feb. 9 about Flynn's contacts with Russia, he might still be on the job today."

Sen. Chris Coons said on CNN's Situation Room (5/8) that it was "befuddling" that after learning Flynn had been compromised, the White House "for weeks...failed to restrict his

access or reduce his engagement in national security decisions with regard to Japan, North Korea, with regard to a phone conversation between Trump and Putin." By contrast, Sen. Lindsey Graham said on [CNN's Situation Room](#) (5/8) that he's "not worried about it taking 18 days" for Flynn to be fired. Graham said Yates "did the right thing" and McGahn "asked the right questions and put a process in place that led" to Flynn's dismissal, which is what matters.

[Reuters](#) (5/8, Zengerle, Landay), [McClatchy](#) (5/8, Schofield, Kumar), and [The Hill](#) (5/8, Williams) also cover Yates' testimony.

Trump: Yates "Said Nothing But Old News." [Politico](#) (5/8, Nelson) reports that before the hearing, President Trump said that committee members should question Yates on her source. Trump [tweeted](#), "Ask Sally Yates, under oath, if she knows how classified information got into the newspapers soon after she explained it to W.H. Counsel." The [Washington Examiner](#) (5/8, Giaritelli) reports that the President later criticized Yates for "not sharing new information" during her testimony, [tweeting](#), "Sally Yates made the fake media extremely unhappy today she said nothing but old news!" He then [tweeted](#), "The Russia-Trump collusion story is a total hoax, when will this taxpayer funded charade end?" The [Los Angeles Times](#) (5/8) briefly covers Trump's Monday tweets.

[Townhall](#) (5/8, O'Brien) writes that the President "appears pleased with what he heard" at the hearing, since "neither Yates nor Clapper could say for certain that Russia had colluded with the Trump transition team last year." Charles Krauthammer said on [Fox News Special Report](#) (5/8), "We learned nothing today that we didn't know yesterday. This is a classic case of a video event that lives only to dramatize things but not to add to our fund of knowledge."

Judicial Watch Suing For Access To Yates Emails. [Politico](#) (5/8, Gerstein) reports that Judicial Watch is suing for access to Yates' "emails from her brief but eventful tenure as acting attorney general." The emails could "shed light" on "her decision to warn the president" about Flynn.

Obama Also Warned Trump About Flynn In November Meeting. [NBC Nightly News](#) (5/8, lead story, 3:30, Holt) reported, "We learned today about the red flags and warnings sent to the Trump Administration" about Flynn, "including one delivered directly from President Obama to a then newly elected Donald Trump." [CNN's Situation Room](#) (5/8) reported the Trump White House "isn't denying" that Obama warned Trump, "but aides to Trump are chalking up the former President's feelings as quote, 'bad blood.'" [Fox News Special Report](#) (5/8)

showed White House press secretary Sean Spicer saying, "President Obama made it known he wasn't exactly a fan of Gen. Flynn's, which shouldn't come as a surprise" since Flynn was an "outspoken critic" of President Obama's "shortcomings."

The AP (5/8, Pace) reports that three former Obama Administration officials said Monday that in an Oval Office meeting two days after Trump's victory, Obama warned Trump against hiring Flynn. But Trump "ignored Obama's advice." Reuters (5/8) reports that Spicer said Monday that "Obama made clear he did not support" Flynn during the meeting. USA Today (5/8, Jackson) reports that Spicer said "that 'shouldn't come as a surprise' [since] the outgoing president had fired Flynn as the head of the military's intelligence unit." The Hill (5/8, Fabian) reports that Spicer "said Trump chalked up the statement to different views and partisan politics because of Flynn's criticism of Obama's 'lack of strategy' on counterterrorism."

Sen. Amy Klobuchar was asked on CNN's Wolf (5/8) if she knew about Obama's warning to Trump about Flynn. Klobuchar said, "No, I had never heard about it until today. But I'm not surprised, given that President Obama had basically fired Flynn from his Administration. ... I was more surprised by the fact that President Trump is now trying to act like this wasn't their problem, he'd been hired originally by the Obama Administration, when in fact there were clearly several warnings."

Bloomberg Politics (5/8, Talev, Strohm), the New York Times (5/8, Shear), the Washington Post (5/8, Rucker), the Wall Street Journal (5/8, Lee, Wilber), and Politico (5/8, Dove, Nussbaum) also have reports on Obama's warning and Spicer's Monday comments.

Trump Announces Ten Judicial Nominees.

Some coverage of President Trump's announcement of 10 Federal judicial nominees on Monday is somewhat negative for the Administration, portraying the President as trying to pack the Federal judiciary with conservative voices. Breitbart (5/8, Klukowski) reports that Trump named five nominees "for the federal appeals courts and four for the federal district courts (in addition to one for a specialized court, the Court of Federal Claims)." Trump's choices for the appeals courts are: Justice Joan Larsen of the Michigan Supreme Court, for the Sixth Circuit; Attorney John K. Bash, also for the Sixth Circuit; Professor Amy Coney Barrett of Notre Dame Law School, for the Seventh Circuit; Justice David Stras of the Minnesota Supreme Court, for the Eighth Circuit; Former Alabama Solicitor General

Kevin Newsom, for the Eleventh Circuit. Breitbart adds that "Larsen and Stras, were on Trump's List of 21 for the Supreme Court vacancy filled by [Justice Neil] Gorsuch."

The Wall Street Journal (5/8, Palazzolo) reports that White House press secretary Sean Spicer said that Trump made the nominations with the help from the heritage Foundation and the Federalist Society. The Hill (5/8, Wheeler, Fabian) says that according to Spicer, the nominees were "'chosen for their deep knowledge of the law' and their commitment to upholding constitutional principles." The Hill adds that Trump's choices drew praise from conservatives, while liberals "expressed reservations with what they called 'ultraconservative' nominees." The AP (5/8, Salama) says Trump is "work[ing] to pack the nation's federal courts with more conservative voices."

In a piece for the Washington Examiner (5/8) Ilya Shapiro, a senior fellow in constitutional studies at the Cato Institute and editor-in-chief of the Cato Supreme Court Review, praises Trump's choices, calling the nominees an "excellent slate," and arguing that Trump "continues fulfilling his campaign promise perhaps his most important one, in terms of securing the Republican coalition regarding judicial nominations." Shapiro expresses hope that "there's more where this came from."

Politico (5/8, Kim) reports that while Senate Democrats have little ability to block the confirmation of Trump's nominees, they can "wage a silent filibuster of sorts against nominees from their home states through the so-called blue slip process." Because Larsen and Stras are from Michigan and Minnesota, "Sens. Amy Klobuchar and Al Franken, who hail from Minnesota, and Michigan Sens. Debbie Stabenow and Gary Peters [have] what amounts to veto authority over the nominees, who are already drawing objections from other Democrats." Politico adds that Democrats "will retain the blue-slip leverage, at least for now" as "a broad swath of Senate Republicans" oppose "doing away with the tradition," and Judiciary Committee Chairman Sen. Chuck Grassley "plans to abide by it" despite calls from "prominent conservatives" to ignore it. The Wall Street Journal (5/8) lauds the nominees in an editorial, saying that while the left will likely pressure Democratic senators to use the blue-slip process to hold back their endorsement of nominees from their home states, there is little reason to block the nominees beyond blatant partisanship.

White House Postpones Meeting On Paris Climate Accord.

In a story posted Monday night Politico (5/8, Restuccia) said that a Tuesday meeting to decide whether the US will remain a

party to the Paris climate accord has been postponed, according to "a source familiar with the issue." While "a White House spokeswoman confirmed that the meeting is being rescheduled," it is "unclear when that will occur." Politico adds that this marks "the second time that a key meeting to discuss the Paris agreement has been delayed."

In a story posted before the Politico report, the Wall Street Journal (5/8, Stokols) said EPA Administrator Pruitt, senior adviser Steve Bannon and White House counsel Don McGahn, favor completely withdrawing from the agreement and would like the decision to be made before the G-7 and G-20 summits later this month in Italy and Germany. Others, including Tillerson, Energy Secretary Perry, and Ivanka Trump prefer a more measured approach such as trimming US carbon emission reduction targets.

Ex-Military Officers Urge Tillerson, Mattis To Stand Firm On Climate Agreement. Bloomberg News (5/8, Ryan, Dlouhy) reports that as the Administration considers "exiting the Paris climate accord," a group of 17 retired senior military officers is urging Secretary of State Tillerson and Defense Secretary Mattis "to remain firm in their support for combating global warming." In letters sent to Tillerson and Mattis, they "argue that climate change poses a critical national security risk and say the U.S. must remain engaged in the international effort to fight it."

Climate Negotiators Awaiting Decision From Trump On Paris Deal. Politico (5/8, Oroschakoff, Stefanini) reports that international climate negotiators "were supposed to spend the next 10 days in Bonn doing technical work on rules to fulfill the 2015 Paris climate agreement." Instead, they are "transfixed by the prospect that President Donald Trump will carry out his campaign pledge and abandon the agreement altogether a subject his top advisers are scheduled to discuss Tuesday in Washington." A "senior climate negotiator from Africa" told POLITICO, "It's clear that [the US] won't abide by the commitment. They are de facto out of the Paris agreement. Now it's a matter of making it de jure."

Black Chamber Of Commerce Urges Trump To Leave Pact. Meanwhile, the Washington Times (5/8, Dinan) reports that the National Black Chamber of Commerce is urging Trump to withdraw from the agreement, "saying it would 'undermine' the American economy." In an open letter dated Friday, Chamber President Harry C. Alford "said the Paris deal is 'skewed' against the US and will impose trillions of dollars of regulatory costs on American businesses, while allowing competitors in China and India to increase their own greenhouse gas emissions." Alford wrote, "On behalf of the millions of African Americans who have

a stake in the businesses represented by the National Black Chamber of Commerce, I respectfully call on you today to keep yet another critical promise to the American people: Withdraw the United States from the Paris Agreement."

Editorial Wrap-Up

New York Times.

"The Kushners And Their Golden Visas." A New York Times (5/8) editorial calls a pitch by Jared Kushner's sister, Nicole Kushner Meyer, to Chinese investors "disturbing" and says that while the President "made restricting immigration, including for refugees fleeing violence, a central plank of his campaign," he "seems O.K. with letting real estate moguls take advantage of a program that sells green cards."

"Monuments Of White Supremacy." In an editorial, the New York Times (5/9, Board) says the shooting two years ago of nine African-Americans in a Charleston church by a white supremacist brought "fresh urgency to a reappraisal" of public Confederate monuments "that was underway in many Southern communities." New Orleans plans to place the memorials in storage "until an appropriate setting can be found," but the "unfolding backlash" including threats against crane operators and demonstrations "shows the extent to which many citizens are hesitant to part with even the most abhorrent artifacts of history and how little many of them know about when and why these memorials were built."

Washington Post.

"Here's How The West Should Respond To The Macron Hack." A Washington Post (5/8) editorial says that a "massive leak of documents" from Emmanuel Macron's campaign failed to prevent his landslide victory Sunday. The Post argues that "what was most striking about the operation was not its impact on the election, but its sheer audacity. The Russians who participated in the attack appeared unconcerned about disguising their identity," which is "why it is essential that Western governments respond forcefully and effectively to the intrusions. Russia must be deterred from waging cyberwar against core democratic institutions of the United States and its NATO allies."

"Republicans Serve Up Dishonest Claims To Defend Their Healthcare Bill." In an editorial, the Washington Post (5/8) says that reports Trump Administration officials and House Speaker Ryan have "made several indefensible claims about the" AHCA, "despite widespread condemnation from experts, wariness from industry and concern from more sensible members of their own

party." For instance, HHS Secretary Price "claimed that the bill contains 'no cuts to the Medicaid program' because Medicaid spending would rise every year. In fact, The Post's Fact Checker found, spending would not rise every year, but drop significantly in absolute terms in 2020 and take years to recover. Besides, the more pertinent number is how Medicaid spending would change relative to what it would be without the bill: That adds up to a 25 percent cut over a decade."

"The Trump Administration Has A Chance To End A Corruption-Prone Visa Program." The Washington Post (5/8) argues in an editorial that the President should take the controversy surrounding Jared Kushner's sister's pitch to potential Chinese investors as "an opportunity for a forthright policy stance" and "get behind efforts to end the hopelessly inefficient and corruption-prone EB-5 program before it causes more embarrassment."

Wall Street Journal.

"Apple's Case For Tax Reform." The Wall Street Journal (5/8) editorializes that Apple has \$256 billion cash reserve, with over 90 percent parked overseas. CEO Tim Cook has said, "We've said at 40 percent, we're not going to bring it back until there's a fair rate. There's no debate about it." The Journal says the US has highest statutory corporate tax rate in the developed world and that even the average effective US corporate rate is higher than most countries' statutory rates. The Journal opines that tax reform should encourage US companies to bring foreign income back to the US and that proposals from President Trump and House Republicans to lower taxes on overseas income would be big improvements on the status quo. The Journal concludes that Trump and Republicans could cite Apple as an example of the need for corporate tax reform.

"Here Come The Trump Judges." In an editorial, the Wall Street Journal (5/8) lauds the ten judicial nominees announced by President Trump on Monday, saying that while the left will likely pressure Democratic senators to use the blue-slip process to hold back their endorsement of nominees from their home states, there is little reason to block the nominees beyond blatant partisanship.

"When The Senate Met Sally." The Wall Street Journal (5/8) says in an editorial that the most important thing is that President Trump did fire former National Security Adviser Michael Flynn, and that there does not seem to be anything he could have been blackmailed over.

Big Picture

Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

Wall Street Journal:

[Investor Anxiety Drops To New Low](#)

[Yates Warned Of Flynn Russia-Blackmail Risk](#)

[Why Do Gas Station Prices Constantly Change? Blame The Algorithm](#)

[Taliban Govern Afghan Villages, Making Insurgents Harder To Dislodge](#)

New York Times:

[Sally Yates Tells Senators She Warned Trump About Michael Flynn](#)

[Emmanuel Macron Embraces EU To Put France "Back In The Picture"](#)

[South Korea's Powerful Family Business Ties Could Be Tough To Cut](#)

[Kushner Family Stands To Gain From Visa Rules In Trump's First Major Law](#)

[Divided Senate Republicans Turn To Health Care With A Rough Road Ahead](#)

[Data Crunchers Ask New Yorkers: How Are The Police Doing?](#)

Washington Post:

[In Colombia, A New Surge In Coca Production](#)

[US Is Poised To Ramp Up Taliban Fight](#)

[Yates: I Expected Action On Flynn](#)

[Sinclair Aims To Buy Tribune, Raising Questions Over Content](#)

[Macron In Risky Political Center](#)

Financial Times:

[ChemChina And Sinochem Plan Merger](#)

[Merkel Rules Out Eased Spending Rules To Help Macron](#)

[South Koreans Look For Fresh Start After Park](#)

[Bill Clinton To Team Up On White House Book Thriller](#)

Washington Times:

[Yates Warned Trump Attorneys About Risk Of Russian Blackmail Of Flynn](#)

[Theology Professor Pressured Out Of Duke After Protesting Liberal Racism "Training" Program](#)

[Syrian White Helmets Leader Gains Sense Of Hope With Trump In Brutal Proxy War](#)

[Trump Attorneys Ask Skeptical Court To Look Beyond 'Muslim Ban' Campaign Rhetoric](#)

[Trump Barely Budes To Move NAFTA Toward Renegotiations](#)

[10 Conservatives Selected For Federal Courts As Part Of Trump's Move To Reshape Judiciary](#)

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Flynn Investigation-Yates Hearing; Immigration Executive Order; Boston-Doctors Murdered; Penn State-Fraternity Death; North Korea-Americans Detained; French Presidential Election; South-Wildfires; Phoenix-Serial Shooter; Tampa-Officers Attacked; California-Shark Alert; Life Expectancy Regional Differences; Dog Shelter.

CBS: Flynn Investigation-Yates Hearing; Airlines Electronics Ban; Kushner-Conflicts Of Interest; Kushner-Business Interests; Texas-Sanctuary Cities Bill; South Korea Presidential Election; French Presidential Election; Penn State-Fraternity Death; Phoenix-Serial Shooter; South-Wildfires; Bill Clinton-Novel Writing; Sudanese Refugee Immigrant.

NBC: Flynn Investigation; Healthcare Reform Plan; Penn State-Fraternity Death; French Presidential Election; Kushner-Conflicts Of Interest; Boston-Doctors Murdered; Health-Powassan Virus; Kids Baseball; Life Expectancy Regional Differences.

Network TV At A Glance:

Flynn Investigation 11 minutes, 10 seconds
 Kushner-Conflicts Of Interest 7 minutes, 15 seconds
 Penn State-Fraternity Death 5 minutes, 50 seconds
 Boston-Doctors Murdered 3 minutes, 10 seconds
 French Presidential Election 2 minutes, 45 seconds
 Life Expectancy Regional Differences 1 minute, 15 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News**Broadcasts:**

ABC: Flynn Investigation-Yates Hearing; Kushner-Conflicts Of Interest; Republican Town Hall Meetings; Severe Weather.

CBS: Flynn Investigation-Yates Hearing; Afghanistan War Strategy; Airlines Electronics Ban; Boston-Doctors Murdered; Wall Street News.

FOX: Flynn Investigation-Yates Hearing; Paris Subway Evacuation; Phoenix-Serial Shooter; LA-Shoot Out.

NPR: Flynn Investigation-Yates Hearing; Trump-Federal Court Nominations; Wall Street Stability; Wall Street News.

Washington Schedule**Today's Events In Washington.****White House:**

PRESIDENT TRUMP Meets with National Security Advisor H. R. McMaster.

VICE PRESIDENT PENCE Participates in the Senate

Republican Policy Lunch; joined by Second Lady Karen Pence, National Security Advisor H.R. McMaster, and Ivanka Trump, hosts military families at an event celebrating National Military Appreciation Month and National Military Spouse Appreciation Day.

US Senate: 9:30 AM Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on USCYBERCOM Hearing on 'United States Cyber Command', with testimony from U.S. Cyber Command Commander / National Security Agency Director / Central Security Services Chief Adm. Michael Rogers Location: Rm G50, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://armed-services.senate.gov/>

10:00 AM POSTPONED: Senate Finance Committee hearing on CHIP POSTPONED: Hearing on 'The Children's Health Insurance Program: The Path Forward', with testimony from Leanna George mother of a CHIP recipient; Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission Executive Director Dr Anne Schwartz; and Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services Chief Deputy Director Linda Nablo Location: Rm 215, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://finance.senate.gov>

10:00 AM Senate Committee on Foreign Relations Business Meeting Location: Rm 419, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://foreign.senate.gov/>

10:30 AM Nominations hearing considers John Sullivan to be Deputy Secretary of State Location: Rm 419, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://foreign.senate.gov/>

12:30 PM Dems Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Rep. Luis Gutierrez discuss bill to protect immigrant farmworkers Democrats Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Rep. Luis Gutierrez speak on UFW press call on the implications of President Donald Trump's immigration policies and the Agricultural Worker Program Act, legislation introduced by Dem Sens. Feinstein, Patrick Leahy, Michael Bennet, Mazie Hirono and Kamala Harris to protect farm workers from deportation and put them on a pathway to legalization and citizenship. Other speakers include UFW President Arturo Rodriguez, dairy worker Sagrario Arellano, grape worker Lourdes Cardenas and Monterey Mushrooms President and Owner Shah Kazemi Location: TBD <http://www.ufw.org> <https://twitter.com/ufwupdates>

2:00 PM Legislative briefing on migratory birds held at the U.S. Capitol American Bird Conservancy, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ducks Unlimited, and American Birding Association sponsor legislative briefing (2:00 PM EDT) and reception (4:45 PM EDT) on Capitol Hill, including a migratory bird photo show. Conservation partners and Members of Congress attend.

Speakers include Democratic Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (invited), National Audubon Society's Justin Stokes, National Wildlife Federation's Naomi Edelson, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Jen Mock Schaeffer and Mark Humpert, Defenders of Wildlife's Mark Salvo, The Wilderness Society's Alan Rowsome, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership's Ariel Wiegard, American Bird Conservancy's Steve Holmer, Ken Rosenberg, Ducks Unlimited's Dan Wrinn, and Jennifer Cipolletti, and American Birding Association's Bill Stewart
 Location: Rm 325, Russell Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC
www.abcbirds.org <https://twitter.com/ABCbirds1>

2:30 PM Senate Transportation subcommittee hearing on maritime transportation Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security Subcommittee hearing on 'Maritime Transportation: Opportunities and Challenges for the Maritime Administration and Federal Maritime Commission', with testimony from Federal Maritime Commission Acting Chairman Michael Khouri, and Commissioners Rebecca Dye and Mario Cordero; U.S. Maritime Service Superintendent Rear Adm. James Helis; and Maritime Administration Executive Director Joel Szabat Location: Rm 253, Russell Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC
<http://commerce.senate.gov>

2:30 PM Madeleine Albright testifies to Senate Appropriations subcommittee on U.S. democracy assistance abroad State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee hearing on 'United States Democracy Assistance', with testimony from National Democratic Institute Chairman of the Board Madeline Albright; International Republican Institute Vice Chairman of the Board James Kolbe; National Endowment for Democracy Co-Vice Chairman of the Board Vin Weber; and U.S. Institute of Peace Chairman of the Board Steven Hadley Location: Rm 192, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://appropriations.senate.gov/>
<https://twitter.com/SenateApprops>

2:30 PM Senate Public Works subcommittee oversight hearing on water resources Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee hearing on 'Water Resources: The Role of the Public and Private Sectors', with testimony from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Commanding General and Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. Todd Semonite; Alabama State Port Authority Director and CEO James Lyons; Carlton Landing, OK, Town Founder Grant Humphreys; Maryland Secretary of Transportation Pete Rahn; and Port Bandon Commissioner Rick Goche Location: Rm 406, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC
<http://epw.senate.gov/public/>

2:30 PM Senate Armed Services Committee nominations hearing Nominations hearing considers David Norquist to be Under Secretary of Defense and Department of Defense Comptroller; Robert Daigle to be DoD Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation; and Elaine McCusker to be Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense and DoD Comptroller Location: Rm G50, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://armed-services.senate.gov/>

US House: 12:30 PM Dems Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Rep. Luis Gutierrez discuss bill to protect immigrant farmworkers Democrats Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Rep. Luis Gutierrez speak on UFW press call on the implications of President Donald Trump's immigration policies and the Agricultural Worker Program Act, legislation introduced by Dem Sens. Feinstein, Patrick Leahy, Michael Bennet, Mazie Hirono and Kamala Harris to protect farm workers from deportation and put them on a pathway to legalization and citizenship. Other speakers include UFW President Arturo Rodriguez, dairy worker Sagrario Arellano, grape worker Lourdes Cardenas and Monterey Mushrooms President and Owner Shah Kazemi Location: TBD <http://www.ufw.org> <https://twitter.com/ufwupdates>

On recess until 15 May.

Other: 9:30 AM AG Sessions speaks at Correctional Workers Week memorial service Bureau of Prisons hosts Correctional Workers Week memorial service at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, including remarks from Attorney General Jeff Sessions Location: National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, E St between 4th and 5th Sts NW, Washington, DC www.bop.gov

11:00 AM Annual Washington Conference on the Americas Council of the Americas 47th Annual Washington Conference on the Americas. Speakers include Secretary of State Rex Tillerson (invited) and Acting Assistant Secretary for Western Hemisphere Affairs Francisco Palmieri, Republican Sens. John McCain and Marco Rubio, Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross, Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper, and Canadian International Trade Minister Francois-Philippe Champagne Location: State Department, Washington, DC <http://www.as-coa.org/> [#2017WCA](https://twitter.com/ASCOA)

12:00 PM Anti-Defamation League Leadership Summit final day with keynote from GOP Sen. Marco Rubio Anti-Defamation League Washington DC Leadership Summit (aka Shana Amy Glass National Leadership Summit) concludes, with final day keynote from Republican Sen. Marco Rubio. Other speakers today include Acting Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights Tom Wheeler, former Secretary of Homeland

Security Jeh Johnson, Newseum CEO Jeffrey Herbst, The Washington Post Media Critic Erik Wemple, and ADL Senior VP of Policy and Programs Deborah Lauter Location: The Mayflower Hotel, Autograph Collection, 1127 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC <http://www.adl.org/>
https://twitter.com/ADL_National #ActionToImpact

Annual Humans to Mars Summit Annual Humans to Mars (H2M) Summit, with Explore Mars bringing together experts and space enthusiasts to discuss the possibility of putting the first humans on Mars and how to achieve this goal. Speakers include former astronaut Buzz Aldrin, NASA Acting Administrator Robert Lightfoot, former NASA Associate Administrator and astronaut John Grunsfeld, Explore Mars President Artemis Westenberg, Vector Space Systems CEO Jim Cantrell, NASA Planetary Science Director James Green, Janet Ivey (Janet's Planet), Space Aerojet Rocketdyne Executive Director Joe Cassady, and The Planetary Society Planetary Radio's Mat Kaplan Location: George Washington University, Washington, DC
<http://exploremars.org/> <https://twitter.com/exploremars>
 #HumansToMars

Last Laughs

Late Night Political Humor.

Jimmy Kimmel: "One week ago tonight, I made an emotional speech that was seen by millions, and as a result of my powerful words, on that night Republicans in Congress had second thoughts about repeal and replace. They realized that what is right is right. And I saved health insurance in the United States of America. Thank you. I didn't? I didn't save it? They voted against it anyway? I really need to pay more attention to the news."

Jimmy Kimmel: "Gee, I wonder why we're so angry. Maybe it has something to do with, I don't know, you. Listen, Newt Gingrich does know a lot about comedy. This is a man, this is the guy who helped lead the impeachment effort against Bill Clinton for trying to cover up his affair while he was having an affair."

James Corden: "France elected a new President, yeah. Centrist candidate Emmanuel Macron won the French presidential election, defeating the far-right candidate Marine Le Pen. Macron won by a large margin, easily getting more votes, which most Americans will be surprised to learn is how you win most

elections in almost all the countries."

James Corden: "House Republicans spent the weekend defending the bill they just passed to replace Obamacare. Now healthcare is incredibly important, so I'm sure these Republican congressmen read the new bill very closely, right?"

Trevor Noah: "So last Thursday, House Republicans passed their version of a healthcare bill to replace Obamacare, which would basically remove the Obama and the care part. And if you haven't read all the details yet, guess what? You're qualified to be a congressman."

Jimmy Fallon: "Yesterday, France elected 39-year-old Emmanuel Macron to be its new President. That's right, elected at 39. Trump said he's worried that at 39, the President may be a little immature. Then went back to tweeting insults at CNN."

Seth Meyers: "Centrist politician Emmanuel Macron won the French presidential election yesterday over far-right candidate Marine Le Pen, thanks to France's unusual practice of awarding the presidency to the person with the most votes."

Seth Meyers: "According to reports, a record number of French voters turned in blank ballots for the election yesterday. Apparently they couldn't find Le Pen."

Seth Meyers: "Former President Bill Clinton is teaming up with author James Patterson to write a new book called 'The President Is Missing.' It will be followed by the sequel, 'Never Mind, He's At The Golf Course.'"

Seth Meyers: "A Colorado teacher was suspended after hosting a Cinco De Mayo party during class last week, in which students hit a pinata with picture of President Trump on it. Even worse, the kids never got a turn."

Conan O'Brien: "This is huge in France this weekend. Far right-

wing candidate Marine Le Pen lost the presidential election by millions of votes. And here's the cool part: In France, if you lose by millions of votes, that means you don't get to be President. Those crazy French. Stuck in the old way of doing things."

Conan O'Brien: "In Colorado, a high school teacher has been put on leave after her class smashed a President Trump pinata. Yeah, when he heard this, Trump was especially furious that he'd been made into something that brings joy to Mexicans."

Conan O'Brien: "A new biography of President Obama is coming out and it claims that before Michelle, he had a fiancée whose parents didn't think much of Obama's job prospects. I think they had a point because now Obama is a 55-year-old unemployed man."

Conan O'Brien: "Former President Bill Clinton is collaborating on a novel about a US President who goes missing. Clinton is describing the novel as part fiction, part alibi."

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