

**From:** Ethan Lane  
**To:** [Ethan Lane](#)  
**Subject:** Public Lands Council - The Daily Roundup  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 05, 2017 12:22:41 PM

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All –

PLC sends the attached email out to our affiliates each morning, and have begun sending it to the Hill this week. I wanted to reach out to the folks on this list separately to make you aware of this new effort and provide opportunity to subscribe. If you are interested in receiving this each day please follow the link at the bottom of the email. Also, please keep us in mind if you or your agency has an item of interest that you'd like us to include in a future edition. Please also feel free to forward this on to anyone that might be interested.

Thank you!

-Ethan

Updates from the Public Lands Council

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# **THE DAILY ROUNDUP**

Tuesday, September 5, 2017

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**Welcome**



Welcome to the Daily Roundup! We here at the Public Lands Council sincerely hope you had a pleasant Labor Day Weekend and a restful August Recess. While our members and leadership have been receiving this daily email for a few months now, for Hill staff, administration officials, and other denizens of Washington DC, this may be your first time joining us. As the only national association dedicated solely to advocating for ranchers operating on federal lands, the Public Lands Council has created this daily email as a way to deliver the most important stories from across the world of public lands to your inbox each morning. We hope this service is as useful to federal lands policymakers here in Washington as it has become for our state affiliates around the country. If you have any feedback, suggestions, or items to include, please send them our way. Thank you and enjoy!

-Ethan Lane, Executive Director

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## Today in DC

*All times listed are in Eastern Daylight Time*

### [White House](#)

- The President will be briefed by the National Security Council at 10:00 a.m.
- The National Economic Council will brief the President at 1:30 p.m.
- The President is meeting with the "Big Six" to discuss tax reform legislation. Big Six members include Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin, National Economic Council director Gary Cohn, House Speaker Paul Ryan, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady, and Senate Finance Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch.
- The President will speak by phone with Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull at 5:45 p.m.

### [Senate](#)

- The Senate will convene at 3:00 p.m. for morning business. At 5:00 p.m.

they will proceed to executive session to consider the nomination of Timothy J. Kelly to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

#### [House of Representatives](#)

- The House will convene for legislative business at 2:00 p.m. Four bills will be considered under suspension of the rules. Votes are expected Wednesday on a Hurricane Harvey relief package.

#### [Department of Agriculture](#)

- No announcements expected today.

#### [Department of the Interior](#)

- No announcements expected today.

#### [Environmental Protection Agency](#)

- No announcements expected today.

## Issues Update



### **Ag Groups Warn Trump KORUS Withdrawal Misguided**

[Feedstuffs](#) - "Reports indicate the Administration may issue on Tuesday a notice of intent to withdraw from the Korea-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (KORUS). Agricultural groups were quick in issuing a stern warning that withdrawal from the pact, and the larger strategy of brinkmanship with regard to trade agreements by the White House, could have disastrous consequences for the nation's farmers. South Korea walked away from talks with the United States on updating the deal on Aug. 21, saying it needs further "investigation, analysis and evaluation" before making any decision. Many agricultural groups have been trying to relay the benefits of the South Korea deal to U.S. agriculture and how harmful it would be if the United States withdraws." Click [here](#) to continue reading. Click [here](#) to read about the successes of the beef industry under KORUS from the [National Cattlemen's Beef Association](#).

### **Bishop Selects New Federal Lands Staff Director**

[E&E News](#) - House Natural Resources Chairman Rob Bishop



(R-Utah-1) has selected Steven Petersen, currently on his personal staff, to direct the Subcommittee on Federal Lands. Previously, Petersen has served as Bishop's military advisor and rules associate. He has previously served with the Committee as Deputy Chief Counsel and is a graduate of Georgetown Law. Read more [here](#) (sub req'd).



### **How Wild Horses Became the West's New Pest**

[OZY Magazine](#) - "...However, stewardship of wild horses on private property is only a fraction of what it will take to solve the nation's most pressing pest problem. There are more than 70,000 horses on the range — nearly three times the number that regulators say can be managed while preserving the land. An additional 45,000 horses are in federal holding pens, which are at capacity. And while the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971 allows agencies to euthanize horses that cannot be housed, adopted or sold, a series of actions in Washington, D.C., have made it illegal for administrators to cull the herd through humane killing. That poses a problem for wildlife management, especially as conditions on the range deteriorate due to overgrazing. 'It's not as if these horses thrive,' says Wyoming Gov. Matt Mead, who sued the BLM in hopes of forcing the federal agency to remove wild horses from public lands (a federal appeals court ultimately threw out the lawsuit)." Click [here](#) to for full article.



### **WDFW Eliminates Sherman Pack Wolf**

[The Capital Press](#) - The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) announced Friday that one member of Ferry County's Sherman Pack was killed last week. The dead wolf was allegedly one of two responsible for multiple depredations in the area. Since June, over five attacks on cattle have been recorded by WDFW, with several more likely, though unconfirmed. The remaining wolf has not yet been located and WDFW officials have said there are no plans to kill it unless more attacks on livestock occur. The livestock attacks have occurred on both private and public land, even with the presence of range riders, and spurred the WDFW into taking action. Click [here](#) to read more.



### **California Wildfire Continues to Burn**

[National Public Radio](#) - Record-setting heat has been the cause of the La Tuna Fire, what is considered the largest wildfire in Los Angeles history. Over the weekend, temperatures soared to 107 and wind speeds made firefighting efforts extremely difficult. The fire has not yet been fully contained. In addition to this dangerous blaze, several other fires sparked all across the West during the holiday weekend, forcing evacuations in

Montana's Glacier National Park and Oregon's Columbia River Gorge. Click [here](#) to read more on this and [other wildfires](#) in the West.



**Trump Nominates Slew of Candidates to EPA, DOE, Others**  
[E&E News](#) - President Trump has nominated several individuals to key positions within his Administration. Showing signs of life after what has been a relatively slow nominations process, the White House has submitted a batch of ten nominees to posts at the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, as well as the Departments of Energy and Agriculture. At EPA, Wisconsin Department of Justice Environmental Protection Unit director David Ross has been selected to lead the Office of Water and Matt Leopold, a Tallahassee attorney, has been selected as the Agency's General Counsel. The number two position at NOAA has been awarded to Rear Adm. Timothy Gallaudet, a 32-year veteran of the Navy. At DOE, the Office of Fossil Energy will be headed up by Steven Winberg of the Battelle Memorial Institute and former energy executive. Also, at DOE, Bruce Walker has been tapped to be assistant secretary for Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability. USDA saw the most nominees in this batch, with three positions being filled. Iowa Director of Agriculture William Northey has been selected as undersecretary for farm and foreign agricultural services, Nebraska Director of Agriculture Greg Ibach was nominated as undersecretary for marketing and regulatory programs, and the role of general counsel will be filled by Tennessee native Stephen Alexander Vaden. Other picks include David Zatezalo, of West Virginia, to be the head of the Mine Safety and Health Administration and Rep. Jim Bridenstine (R-Okla.-1) to be the Administrator of NASA. Click [here](#) to read about each candidate in more detail (sub req'd).

## ICYMI

(In Case You Missed It)

### **Pressures on BLM's Wild Horse Budget Described in Just-Published Review**

[Horse Talk](#) - "The federal practice of keeping wild horses in captivity is swallowing ever-larger chunks of the annual budget allocated to the Bureau of Land Management to manage the animals across the western rangelands, a Government Accountability Office (GAO) review notes. The figures in the



34-page review requested by lawmakers paint a sober picture of the costs around the current program, which has long been criticized by wild horse advocates as being costly and inefficient. Advocates have argued for other on-range management options, with some believing greater use needed to be made of long-acting contraceptives. The GAO found there could be as many as 9.2 million domesticated equines — including horses, burros, and mules — in the US, and at least 200,000 free-roaming equines on federal and tribal lands." Click [here](#) to continue reading.

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## PLC in the News



### **Zinke Recommends Reduction of Three Monuments**

[The Washington Post](#) - Secretary Zinke has recommended that at least three national monuments be reduced in size, according to sources familiar with the recommendation. The Secretary's report was submitted on August 24, but the details have not yet been released to the public. The recommendation comes after a sixty day review of 27 national monuments by the Interior Department, spurred by President Trump's [Executive Order](#). The rumored monuments slated for reduction include Bears Ears and Grand Staircase Escalante in Utah and Cascade-Siskiyou in southern Oregon and northern California. Ethan Lane, executive director of the Public Lands Council spoke in favor of the move, saying, "quite frankly, previous administrations got a little too greedy." Click [here](#) to read more.

### **Cattlemen Pleased with Interior Dept. National Monument Report**

[Brownfield Ag News](#) - "The Public Lands Council and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association say they're pleased with the Interior Department's report that could result in reducing the size of some Western U.S. National Monuments. Ethan Lane at the Public Lands Council tells Brownfield National Monument



designations were done without consulting Western ranchers. The Interior Department's report comes after listening sessions and a public comment period. 'Simply undergoing a review process that takes their opinions and the impact to their operations into account is a huge step forward,' Lane told Brownfield Ag News Friday. Lane says presidents in the past have abused their authority under the Antiquities Act effectively locking out millions of acres of public lands. 'If those presidents felt like these areas were worthy of large-scale monument protection, there are other avenues to pursue that involve Congress, that involve public comment, that involve those local communities,' said Lane, 'but to circumvent those processes and use a pen-stroke designation with no review requirements is, in our opinion, a pretty clear abuse.' Lane says cattlemen will likely see benefits resulting from the Interior Department report, depending on how the president chooses to proceed." Click [here](#) to read the full article.

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## Contact Us

Have questions or comments about an issue you read about today? Want to hear Western ranchers' perspective on a current event? Give us a call or shoot us an email.

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