

To: Scott Hommel[scott_hommel@ios.doi.gov]; Nancy Guiden[nancy_guiden@ios.doi.gov]; Mashburn, Lori[lori_mashburn@ios.doi.gov]; Daniel Jorjani[daniel_jorjani@ios.doi.gov]; James Cason[james_cason@ios.doi.gov]; Megan Bloomgren[megan_bloomgren@ios.doi.gov]; Swift, Heather[heather_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Micah Chambers[micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov]; Magallanes, Downey[downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; Bauserman, Christine[christine_bauserman@ios.doi.gov]; Laura Rigas[laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov]; Caroline Boulton[caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov]
From: Domenech, Douglas
Sent: 2017-05-09T14:02:20-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Interior Cabinet Affairs Report for 5/9/17
Received: 2017-05-09T14:10:44-04:00
[DOI DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS 5-9-17.docx](#)

Attached and copied below.

DOI DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS – 5/9/17

Doug Domenech, Senior Advisor

Status of the Secretary

The Secretary is traveling in Utah having meetings on the President's EO on National Monuments.

TODAY: The Secretary will:

- tour The Nature Conservancy's Dugout Ranch
- HOLD: Media Access - Trailhead at Bears Ears National Monument
- Tour Monument via Horseback to Predetermined Sites

Upcoming SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, May 10, 2017

Breakfast Meeting with Kane and Garfield County Commissioners and Area Legislators
Driving Tour of Portions of Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
State Helicopter Tour of Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
HOLD: Media Access
Wheels Up Kanab, UT (KKNB) en route Salt Lake City, UT (SLC)
Holiday Inn Express & Suites Salt Lake City-Airport East

Thursday, May 11, 2017

POLITICAL EVENT: Keynote Remarks at the RNC Spring Meeting Dinner

-

Friday, May 12, 2017

Wheels down Billings, MT
VPOTUS lands at 1:00pm MDT
Arrive at Westmoreland Coal Company Tour of Westmoreland Coal Company Property on Horseback
Roundtable with Tribal Leaders & Absaloka Mine Energy Producers
POLITICAL EVENT: Rally for Greg Gianforte, Candidate for MT-AL
VPOTUS remarks at 6:35PM

Long Range: 5/25-5/28. The Secretary will participate in a CODEL sponsored by Senator Murkowski. Arctic Council. Norway, Greenland, Alaska. The Secretary is set to keynote the

Alaska Oil & Gas Association meeting in Anchorage 5/31.

Upcoming Media

Secretary Zinke Announces Reversal of Directive to Deny Atlantic Seismic G&G Permit Applications

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke today announced that, in accordance with Secretary' Order 3350 entitled, "America-First Offshore Energy Strategy," he directed the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management to rescind a directive to deny applications from six companies seeking geological and geophysical (G&G) permits to conduct seismic surveys in the Atlantic Ocean. The action reverses a January 5th directive requiring denial of the permit applications and paves the way for BOEM to continue processing the applications.

Speaking Invitations

Accepted

5/16 DOI Annual Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Ceremony (DC)

5/31 Alaska Oil and Gas Association Conference remarks in Anchorage

Regretted

5/10 Association of California Water Agencies 2017 Spring Conference (Monterey, CA)

5/11 Ball on the Mall (DC) (I forgot to add this one last week)

5/11 Safari Club International Lobby Day (Crystal City, VA)

5/12 Heritage Foundation's Edwin Meese III Center for Legal and Judicial Studies' 2017 Spring Legal Strategy Forum (Colorado Springs, CO)

5/16 Western Growers' Board of Directors Meeting (DC)

5/16 BLM's Agent of the Year and Ranger of the Year Award Ceremony (DC)

5/19 Montana Logging Association Annual Meeting (Bozeman, MT)

5/20 Zoar Maifest National Historic Landmark Designation (Zoar, OH)

5/23 7th Annual Massachusetts Fallen Heroes Dinner (Boston, MA)

6/3 Ducks Unlimited National Convention (San Antonio, TX)

Outstanding Invitations in Process

5/23 Southwest Border Forum (Phoenix, AZ)

5/24 Virginia Chamber of Commerce Energy Conference

5/24 National Wildlife Refuge Association (DC)

5/25 US Oil & Gas Association Board of Directors Meeting (DC)

6/5 Society of American Indian Government Employees Annual Training Program (Scottsdale, AZ)

6/6 Recreation Vehicle Industry Association Joint Committee Lunch (DC)

Emergency Management

USGS continues to deploy crews in response to flooding in Missouri, Illinois, and Idaho. Flooding in Missouri and Illinois is largely along the Mississippi River, while flooding in Idaho is affecting many rivers and river basins, including surrounding communities, at this time.

A severe hail storm caused roof damage and subsequent flooding to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Region 6 Office in Lakewood, Colorado. The office will be closed until further notice.

In Arizona, the Mulberry Fire, which began on May 6 on state and BLM lands in Pima County, has burned 1,755 acres and is 80-percent contained. The fire is managed by a Type-3 Incident Management Team (IMT) with 290 personnel assigned, including 20 DOI personnel. There are 2 structures threatened, and 75 residents have been evacuated. Full containment is expected on May 9.

In Georgia, the West Mims Fire in the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge has burned 133,747 (+3,983) acres. The fire is 12 (no change)-percent contained and managed by a Type-1 IMT with 691 (+67) personnel assigned, including 99 (-3) DOI personnel. There are 502 (no change) residences and 7 (no change) commercial structures threatened. Evacuations have been lifted. Extreme conditions led to the fire crossing containment lines in multiple locations on the southeast corner. There have been 4 (+1) responder injuries to date. The containment date remains November 1.

Media of Interest

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.”

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.”

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.”

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.

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.”

White House Communications Report

No report was sent on Monday.

-

Federal Register Listings

There were no items cleared for the FR yesterday.

Doug Domenech

Senior Advisor

US Department of the Interior

DOI DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS – 5/9/17

Doug Domenech, Senior Advisor

Status of the Secretary

The Secretary is traveling in Utah having meetings on the President's EO on National Monuments.

TODAY: The Secretary will:

- tour The Nature Conservancy's Dugout Ranch
- HOLD: Media Access - Trailhead at Bears Ears National Monument
- Tour Monument via Horseback to Predetermined Sites

Upcoming SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, May 10, 2017

Breakfast Meeting with Kane and Garfield County Commissioners and Area Legislators

Driving Tour of Portions of Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument

State Helicopter Tour of Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument

HOLD: Media Access

Wheels Up Kanab, UT (KKNB) en route Salt Lake City, UT (SLC)

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Salt Lake City-Airport East

Thursday, May 11, 2017

POLITICAL EVENT: Keynote Remarks at the RNC Spring Meeting Dinner

Friday, May 12, 2017

Wheels down Billings, MT

VPOTUS lands at 1:00pm MDT

Arrive at Westmoreland Coal Company Tour of Westmoreland Coal Company Property on Horseback

Roundtable with Tribal Leaders & Absaloka Mine Energy Producers

POLITICAL EVENT: Rally for Greg Gianforte, Candidate for MT-AL

VPOTUS remarks at 6:35PM

Long Range: 5/25-5/28. The Secretary will participate in a CODEL sponsored by Senator Murkowski.

Arctic Council. Norway, Greenland, Alaska. The Secretary is set to keynote the Alaska Oil & Gas Association meeting in Anchorage 5/31.

Upcoming Media

Secretary Zinke Announces Reversal of Directive to Deny Atlantic Seismic G&G Permit Applications

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke today announced that, in accordance with Secretary' Order 3350 entitled, "America-First Offshore Energy Strategy," he directed the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management to rescind a directive to deny applications from six companies seeking geological and geophysical (G&G) permits to conduct seismic surveys in the Atlantic Ocean. The action reverses a January 5th directive requiring denial of the permit applications and paves the way for BOEM to continue processing the applications.

Speaking Invitations

Accepted

5/16 DOI Annual Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Ceremony (DC)

5/31 Alaska Oil and Gas Association Conference remarks in Anchorage

Regretted

5/10 Association of California Water Agencies 2017 Spring Conference (Monterey, CA)
5/11 Ball on the Mall (DC) (I forgot to add this one last week)
5/11 Safari Club International Lobby Day (Crystal City, VA)
5/12 Heritage Foundation's Edwin Meese III Center for Legal and Judicial Studies' 2017 Spring Legal Strategy Forum (Colorado Springs, CO)
5/16 Western Growers' Board of Directors Meeting (DC)
5/16 BLM's Agent of the Year and Ranger of the Year Award Ceremony (DC)
5/19 Montana Logging Association Annual Meeting (Bozeman, MT)
5/20 Zoar Maifest National Historic Landmark Designation (Zoar, OH)
5/23 7th Annual Massachusetts Fallen Heroes Dinner (Boston, MA)
6/3 Ducks Unlimited National Convention (San Antonio, TX)

Outstanding Invitations in Process

5/23 Southwest Border Forum (Phoenix, AZ)
5/24 Virginia Chamber of Commerce Energy Conference
5/24 National Wildlife Refuge Association (DC)
5/25 US Oil & Gas Association Board of Directors Meeting (DC)
6/5 Society of American Indian Government Employees Annual Training Program (Scottsdale, AZ)
6/6 Recreation Vehicle Industry Association Joint Committee Lunch (DC)

Emergency Management

USGS continues to deploy crews in response to flooding in Missouri, Illinois, and Idaho. Flooding in Missouri and Illinois is largely along the Mississippi River, while flooding in Idaho is affecting many rivers and river basins, including surrounding communities, at this time.

A severe hail storm caused roof damage and subsequent flooding to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Region 6 Office in Lakewood, Colorado. The office will be closed until further notice.

In Arizona, the Mulberry Fire, which began on May 6 on state and BLM lands in Pima County, has burned 1,755 acres and is 80-percent contained. The fire is managed by a Type-3 Incident Management Team (IMT) with 290 personnel assigned, including 20 DOI personnel. There are 2 structures threatened, and 75 residents have been evacuated. Full containment is expected on May 9.

In Georgia, the West Mims Fire in the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge has burned 133,747 (+3,983) acres. The fire is 12 (no change)-percent contained and managed by a Type-1 IMT with 691 (+67) personnel assigned, including 99 (-3) DOI personnel. There are 502 (no change) residences and 7 (no change) commercial structures threatened. Evacuations have been lifted. Extreme conditions led to the fire crossing containment lines in multiple locations on the southeast corner. There have been 4 (+1) responder injuries to date. The containment date remains November 1.

Media of Interest

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.”

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.”

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.”

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.

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.”

White House Communications Report

No report was sent on Monday.

Federal Register Listings

There were no items cleared for the FR yesterday.