

**From:** Domenech, Douglas  
**To:** [Scott Hommel](#); [Nancy Guiden](#); [Mashburn, Lori](#); [Daniel Jorjani](#); [James Cason](#); [Megan Bloomgren](#); [Swift, Heather](#); [Micah Chambers](#); [Magallanes, Downey](#); [Bauserman, Christine](#); [Laura Rigas](#)  
**Subject:** Interior Cabinet Affairs Report for 4/28/17  
**Date:** Friday, April 28, 2017 1:11:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [DOI DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS 4-28-17.docx](#)

---

Attached and copied below.

## **DOI DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS – 4/28/17**

Doug Domenech, Senior Advisor

### **Status of the Secretary**

TODAY: The Secretary will participate the Offshore Energy EO signing in the Oval.

TODAY: The Secretary will travel with the President to Atlanta to address the NRA.

5/1: Secretary will travel to Houston to address the Consumer Energy Alliance Offshore Technology Conference.

5/1: Secretary will sign Secretarial Orders on offshore energy and establishing a new Energy Advisor position.

5/2: Secretary will meet speak at the National Tribal Energy Summit (DC), meet with San Juan County Commissioners. Meeting with Meeting with California Assembly Members. Meeting with Partnership of Rangeland Trust Meeting.

5/3: Address the Land Trust Alliance meeting in Washington.

5/4: Secretary will meet with Meeting with Secretary Perdue.

5/5: DOGGY DAY at DOI. Travel to Montana.

5/6: Secretary will address MSU-Northern Commencement Address in Montana.

Long Range: 5/25-5/28. The Secretary will participate in a CODEL sponsored by Senator Murkowski. Arctic Council. Norway, Greenland, Alaska. Various AK events 5/29-5/31.

### **Upcoming Media**

## **Secretary Zinke Applauds Nomination of David Bernhardt as Deputy Secretary of the Interior**

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY - 4/28/2017 - Last edited 4/28/2017

WASHINGTON – President Donald Trump today announced the nomination of Department of the Interior veteran David Bernhardt as the Interior’s Deputy Secretary.

“I am excited to announce the President and I have selected Dave Bernhardt to help me lead the Interior Department,” said Secretary Zinke. “Bernhardt’s extensive experience serving under Secretary Norton and his legal career is exactly what is needed to help streamline government and make the Interior and our public lands work for the American economy.”

## **Secretary Zinke Commends President Trump’s Offshore Executive Order**

### **Executive Orders**

Secretary will participate in the EO on offshore energy signing today.

### **Speaking Invitations**

#### **Accepted**

4/28 NRA Leadership Forum, Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, GA.

5/1 Offshore Technology Conference (Houston, TX)

5/2 National Tribal Energy Summit (DC)

5/3 Public Lands Trust, Washington, DC

5/6 Montana State University-Northern Commencement Address (Havre, MT)

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

#### **Regretted**

5/1 Ducks Unlimited at the Canadian Embassy regretted

5/3 Tribal Leaders Economic Growth and Fair Taxation Summit (DC)

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

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

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

#### Outstanding Invitations in Process

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

**NEED CABINET AFFAIRS ASSISTANCE ON THIS ITEM: Sportsmen's Event with POTUS/VP:** NOTE: The Department is starting to make plans to move forward on this on our own. Formal request submitted to Cabinet Affairs outlining a proposed "Sportsmen's" announcement of \$1.1 billion in funding for hunting and fishing activities. NOTE: the Department will need to announce this soon. The President's trip to PA this weekend likely means we would do the announcement elsewhere.

#### Emergency Management

In Arizona, the Sawmill Fire has burned 46,954 (+6,598) acres and is 40 (+20)-percent contained. The fire has transitioned to a Type-1 Incident Management Team (IMT) with 799 (+193) personnel assigned, which includes 140 (+35) DOI personnel. There are 300 (no change) residential structures threatened and 412 (no change) evacuees. The containment date has been set for May 3.

The Cowbell Fire in Florida, at 21,840 acres burned and 75-percent containment, has transitioned to a Type-3 IMT with 156 (-92) personnel assigned, which includes 75 (-11) DOI personnel. One unspecified responder injury has been reported. The containment date remains April 30.

In Georgia, the West Mims Fire in the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge has burned 80,768 (+6,792) acres. The fire is 8 (no change)-percent contained and managed by a Type-2 IMT with 529 (+24) personnel, including 91 (-2) DOI personnel. There are 79 (no change) residences and 3 (no change) commercial structures threatened. The containment date is November 1. Two refuge entrance closures have been reported.

The USGS has deployed several crews in response to flooding in Missouri and Arkansas, and expects flooding impacts and crew deployments to continue through Saturday, possibly into early next week.

## **Media of Interest**

### **Trump Will Move To Expand Arctic, Atlantic Drilling.**

The New York Times (4/27, Davenport) reports that according to Interior Secretary Zinke, President Trump “is scheduled on Friday to sign an executive order aimed at rolling back the Obama administration’s attempts to ban oil drilling off the southeastern Atlantic and Alaskan coasts.” Trump’s order “would also erase or narrow the boundaries of some federally-protected marine sanctuaries, opening them up to commercial fishing and oil drilling” and Interior Secretary Zinke told reporters it would “direct the Interior Department to ‘reconsider’ several recent regulations on offshore drilling to ease more oil exploration.” Zinke will be directed “to review an Obama administration plan that delineated where offshore drilling could and could not take place between 2017 to 2022” that “put the entire southeast Atlantic coast and large portions of the Arctic Ocean off limits to drilling.” Zinke said, “There’s no set goal [to the review]. But if there’s areas that are acceptable, that have resources, and local communities are for it and states are for it we could include it in next five-year plan.”

### **Continuing Coverage Of Trump Order To Review National Monuments.**

In continuing coverage, The Hill (4/27, Cama) reports, “President Trump initiated a major review this week of his predecessors’ use of the Antiquities Act to protect land and water,” with the review “focused primarily on the controversial Bears Ears National Monument in Utah.” For years congressional Republicans have sought “to restrict the president’s ability to create monuments,” and “both parties see Trump’s order as a step toward Antiquities Act changes, since it allows [Interior Secretary] Zinke to identify changes either in the executive branch or Congress.” In an analysis, Bloomberg News (4/27, Deprez, Natter) reports, “Trump’s order is at least a tacit acknowledgment of the legal and political challenges in revoking national monument status” and “delays the court fight” over Bears Ears.

### **Zinke Meets With Utah Congressional Delegation On Bears Ears.**

The Deseret (UT) News (4/27, O’Donoghue) reports Interior Secretary Zinke met with Utah Gov. Gary Herbert and members of the state’s congressional delegation “to lay out the next steps in the review of monument status for” Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante. Rep. Chris Stewart said that Zinke “understands the issues and the enormous impact it has had on my district.” While Zinke said he will visit Utah to meet with a variety of people on the review of the Bears Ears designation, “a Native American tribal coalition that pushed for the new monument said they have heard nothing from the new interior secretary.”

### **Zinke Announces Historic Preservation Grants.**

The Virgin Islands Daily News (4/28, Carlson) reports Secretary of the Interior Zinke joined the National Park Service in announcing “\$26.9 million in historic preservation grants to every state, territory, and partnering nation.” He said, “Through valuable partnerships we are able to assist communities and tribes in ensuring the diverse historic places, culture and traditions that

make our country unique are protected for future generations.”

### **Alaska Town Hopes To Build Road In National Wildlife Refuge.**

Alaska Dispatch News (4/27, Martinson) reports residents of King Cove, Alaska “are cautiously optimistic” that, under the Trump Administration, the Interior Department will allow them “to build an 11-mile road through the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge to the huge, World War II-era airport in Cold Bay.” Interior Department spokeswoman Heather Swift said, “Given the significant interest of the King Cove community, the department is reviewing the issues there and determining its best ability to address them.” Meanwhile, “Izembek road advocates are trying several avenues for a do-over: pushing legislation through the all-Republican Congress and getting [Interior Secretary] Zinke to make the change himself.”

### **BP Discovers Oil Underneath Salt Dome In Gulf Of Mexico.**

The AP (4/27) reports BP used advanced imaging of geological formations to discover 200 million barrels of oil in a hidden cache in the Gulf of Mexico. The reserves were discovered through the use of a new supercomputer and mathematical algorithm to interpret seismic data. The advancements let scientists see beyond a salt dome, which traditionally distorts seismic waves. The Houston Chronicle (4/27, Hunn) reports the find is worth a potential \$2 billion and is located in 7,000 feet of water in the Atlantis field about 150 miles from new Orleans.

### **Interior Removes Almost All Mentions Of Climate Change From Its Webpage On The Topic.**

Talking Points Memo (4/27, Shuham) reports, “The Department of the Interior scrubbed nearly any mention of climate change from its webpage on the topic,” removing “a vigorous endorsement of the scientific consensus that the Earth is warming as a result of human activity.” Motherboard (4/27, Emerson) reports that the Interior Department said, in a statement: “As is standard with a change in administration, the Department’s website has been updated periodically.”

### **White House Communications Report** (sent to WH Comms, Thursday.)

No COMMS report was done.

### **Federal Register Listings.**

Sent to the FR on Thursday.

REG0006967 BLM Public Land Order No. 7861; Transfer of Administrative Jurisdiction, Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Range; California. The BLM announces Public Land Order No. 7861, which transfers administrative jurisdiction of approximately 225,651 acres of public lands from the Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary of the Navy for use as part of the Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Range (CMAGR) in Imperial and Riverside Counties, California. This Notice includes the legal description of the transferred public lands. Notice 04/26/2017.

REG0006968 FWS Migratory Bird Hunting; Final Frameworks for Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations. This is the final rule for the 2017-18 hunting seasons for certain migratory game birds. States will use this rule to select their migratory game bird hunting seasons within the frameworks provided by the rule. Final Rule 04/27/2017 to go to OIRA for review.

REG0006970 ONRR Royalty Policy Committee Federal Register Notice of Extension of Nomination Period. The Department is seeking nominations for the Royalty Policy Committee. This notice extends the nomination period. Notice 04/27/2017

Doug Domenech  
Senior Advisor  
US Department of the Interior

## **DOI DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS – 4/28/17**

Doug Domenech, Senior Advisor

### **Status of the Secretary**

TODAY: The Secretary will participate the Offshore Energy EO signing in the Oval.

TODAY: The Secretary will travel with the President to Atlanta to address the NRA.

5/1: Secretary will travel to Houston to address the Consumer Energy Alliance Offshore Technology Conference.

5/1: Secretary will sign Secretarial Orders on offshore energy and establishing a new Energy Advisor position.

5/2: Secretary will meet speak at the National Tribal Energy Summit (DC), meet with San Juan County Commissioners. Meeting with Meeting with California Assembly Members. Meeting with Partnership of Rangeland Trust Meeting.

5/3: Address the Land Trust Alliance meeting in Washington.

5/4: Secretary will meet with Meeting with Secretary Perdue.

5/5: DOGGY DAY at DOI. Travel to Montana.

5/6: Secretary will address MSU-Northern Commencement Address in Montana.

Long Range: 5/25-5/28. The Secretary will participate in a CODEL sponsored by Senator Murkowski. Arctic Council. Norway, Greenland, Alaska. Various AK events 5/29-5/31.

### **Upcoming Media**

#### **Secretary Zinke Applauds Nomination of David Bernhardt as Deputy Secretary of the Interior**

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY - 4/28/2017 - Last edited 4/28/2017

WASHINGTON – President Donald Trump today announced the nomination of Department of the Interior veteran David Bernhardt as the Interior’s Deputy Secretary.

“I am excited to announce the President and I have selected Dave Bernhardt to help me lead the Interior Department,” said Secretary Zinke. “Bernhardt’s extensive experience serving under Secretary Norton and his legal career is exactly what is needed to help streamline government and make the Interior and our public lands work for the American economy.”

#### **Secretary Zinke Commends President Trump’s Offshore Executive Order**

### **Executive Orders**

Secretary will participate in the EO on offshore energy signing today.

### **Speaking Invitations**

#### **Accepted**

4/28 NRA Leadership Forum, Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, GA.

5/1 Offshore Technology Conference (Houston, TX)

5/2 National Tribal Energy Summit (DC)

5/3 Public Lands Trust, Washington, DC

5/6 Montana State University-Northern Commencement Address (Havre, MT)

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

### Regretted

5/1 Ducks Unlimited at the Canadian Embassy regretted

5/3 Tribal Leaders Economic Growth and Fair Taxation Summit (DC)

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

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

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

### Outstanding Invitations in Process

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

**NEED CABINET AFFAIRS ASSISTANCE ON THIS ITEM: Sportsmen's Event with POTUS/VP:** NOTE: The Department is starting to make plans to move forward on this on our own. Formal request submitted to Cabinet Affairs outlining a proposed "Sportsmen's" announcement of \$1.1 billion in funding for hunting and fishing activities. NOTE: the Department will need to announce this soon. The President's trip to PA this weekend likely means we would do the announcement elsewhere.

### Emergency Management

In Arizona, the Sawmill Fire has burned 46,954 (+6,598) acres and is 40 (+20)-percent contained. The fire has transitioned to a Type-1 Incident Management Team (IMT) with 799 (+193) personnel assigned, which includes 140 (+35) DOI personnel. There are 300 (no change) residential structures threatened and 412 (no change) evacuees. The containment date has been set for May 3.

The Cowbell Fire in Florida, at 21,840 acres burned and 75-percent containment, has transitioned to a Type-3 IMT with 156 (-92) personnel assigned, which includes 75 (-11) DOI personnel. One unspecified responder injury has been reported. The containment date remains April 30.

In Georgia, the West Mims Fire in the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge has burned 80,768 (+6,792) acres. The fire is 8 (no change)-percent contained and managed by a Type-2 IMT with 529 (+24) personnel, including 91 (-2) DOI personnel. There are 79 (no change) residences and 3 (no change) commercial structures threatened. The containment date is November 1. Two refuge entrance closures have been reported.

The USGS has deployed several crews in response to flooding in Missouri and Arkansas, and expects flooding impacts and crew deployments to continue through Saturday, possibly into early next week.

### Media of Interest

#### **Trump Will Move To Expand Arctic, Atlantic Drilling.**

The New York Times (4/27, Davenport) reports that according to Interior Secretary Zinke, President Trump "is scheduled on Friday to sign an executive order aimed at rolling back the Obama administration's attempts to ban oil drilling off the southeastern Atlantic and Alaskan coasts." Trump's order "would also erase or narrow the boundaries of some federally-protected marine sanctuaries, opening them up to commercial fishing and oil drilling" and Interior Secretary Zinke told reporters it would "direct the Interior Department to 'reconsider' several recent regulations on offshore drilling to ease more oil exploration." Zinke will be directed "to review an Obama administration plan that delineated where offshore drilling could and could not take place between 2017 to 2022" that "put the entire southeast Atlantic coast and large portions of the Arctic Ocean off limits to drilling." Zinke said,



“There’s no set goal [to the review]. But if there’s areas that are acceptable, that have resources, and local communities are for it and states are for it we could include it in next five-year plan.”

#### **Continuing Coverage Of Trump Order To Review National Monuments.**

In continuing coverage, The Hill (4/27, Cama) reports, “President Trump initiated a major review this week of his predecessors’ use of the Antiquities Act to protect land and water,” with the review “focused primarily on the controversial Bears Ears National Monument in Utah.” For years congressional Republicans have sought “to restrict the president’s ability to create monuments,” and “both parties see Trump’s order as a step toward Antiquities Act changes, since it allows [Interior Secretary] Zinke to identify changes either in the executive branch or Congress.” In an analysis, Bloomberg News (4/27, Deprez, Natter) reports, “Trump’s order is at least a tacit acknowledgment of the legal and political challenges in revoking national monument status” and “delays the court fight” over Bears Ears.

#### **Zinke Meets With Utah Congressional Delegation On Bears Ears.**

The Deseret (UT) News (4/27, O'Donoghue) reports Interior Secretary Zinke met with Utah Gov. Gary Herbert and members of the state’s congressional delegation “to lay out the next steps in the review of monument status for” Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante. Rep. Chris Stewart said that Zinke “understands the issues and the enormous impact it has had on my district.” While Zinke said he will visit Utah to meet with a variety of people on the review of the Bears Ears designation, “a Native American tribal coalition that pushed for the new monument said they have heard nothing from the new interior secretary.”

#### **Zinke Announces Historic Preservation Grants.**

The Virgin Islands Daily News (4/28, Carlson) reports Secretary of the Interior Zinke joined the National Park Service in announcing “\$26.9 million in historic preservation grants to every state, territory, and partnering nation.” He said, “Through valuable partnerships we are able to assist communities and tribes in ensuring the diverse historic places, culture and traditions that make our country unique are protected for future generations.”

#### **Alaska Town Hopes To Build Road In National Wildlife Refuge.**

Alaska Dispatch News (4/27, Martinson) reports residents of King Cove, Alaska “are cautiously optimistic” that, under the Trump Administration, the Interior Department will allow them “to build an 11-mile road through the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge to the huge, World War II-era airport in Cold Bay.” Interior Department spokeswoman Heather Swift said, “Given the significant interest of the King Cove community, the department is reviewing the issues there and determining its best ability to address them.” Meanwhile, “Izembek road advocates are trying several avenues for a do-over: pushing legislation through the all-Republican Congress and getting [Interior Secretary] Zinke to make the change himself.”

#### **BP Discovers Oil Underneath Salt Dome In Gulf Of Mexico.**

The AP (4/27) reports BP used advanced imaging of geological formations to discover 200 million barrels of oil in a hidden cache in the Gulf of Mexico. The reserves were discovered through the use of a new supercomputer and mathematical algorithm to interpret seismic data. The advancements let scientists see beyond a salt dome, which traditionally distorts seismic waves. The Houston Chronicle (4/27, Hunn) reports the find is worth a potential \$2 billion and is located in 7,000 feet of water in the Atlantis field about 150 miles from new Orleans.

#### **Interior Removes Almost All Mentions Of Climate Change From Its Webpage On The Topic.**

Talking Points Memo (4/27, Shuham) reports, “The Department of the Interior scrubbed nearly any mention of climate change from its webpage on the topic,” removing “a vigorous endorsement of the scientific consensus that the Earth is warming as a result of human activity.” Motherboard (4/27, Emerson) reports that the Interior Department said, in a statement: “As is standard with a change in administration, the Department’s website has been updated periodically.”

**White House Communications Report** (sent to WH Comms, Thursday.)

No COMMS report was done.

**Federal Register Listings.**

Sent to the FR on Thursday.

REG0006967 BLM Public Land Order No. 7861; Transfer of Administrative Jurisdiction, Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Range; California. The BLM announces Public Land Order No. 7861, which transfers administrative jurisdiction of approximately 225,651 acres of public lands from the Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary of the Navy for use as part of the Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Range (CMAGR) in Imperial and Riverside Counties, California. This Notice includes the legal description of the transferred public lands. Notice 04/26/2017.

REG0006968 FWS Migratory Bird Hunting; Final Frameworks for Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations. This is the final rule for the 2017-18 hunting seasons for certain migratory game birds. States will use this rule to select their migratory game bird hunting seasons within the frameworks provided by the rule. Final Rule 04/27/2017 to go to OIRA for review.

REG0006970 ONRR Royalty Policy Committee Federal Register Notice of Extension of Nomination Period. The Department is seeking nominations for the Royalty Policy Committee. This notice extends the nomination period. Notice 04/27/2017