

Conversation Contents

Interior Cabinet Affairs Report for 6/6/17

Attachments:

/112. Interior Cabinet Affairs Report for 6/6/17/1.1 DOI DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS 6-6-17.docx

"Domenech, Douglas" <douglas_domenech@ios.doi.gov>

From: "Domenech, Douglas" <douglas_domenech@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Tue Jun 06 2017 14:07:31 GMT-0600 (MDT)
Scott Hommel <scott_hommel@ios.doi.gov>, "Magallanes, Downey" <downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov>, Caroline Boulton <caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov>, "Swift, Heather" <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>, Laura Rigas <laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov>, James Cason <james_cason@ios.doi.gov>, Daniel Jorjani <daniel_jorjani@ios.doi.gov>, "Mashburn, Lori" <lori_mashburn@ios.doi.gov>, Micah Chambers <micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov>, "Bauserman, Christine" <christine_bauserman@ios.doi.gov>
To:
Subject: Interior Cabinet Affairs Report for 6/6/17
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Attached and copied below.

DOI DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS – 6/6/17

Doug Domenech, Senior Advisor

Lori Mashburn, White House Liaison

NOTE: The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee voted today 14 to 9 to recommend the Senate confirm the President's nominee for Deputy Secretary, David Bernhardt.

Status of the Secretary

TODAY: The Secretary will:

Address Recreation Vehicle Industry Association Luncheon, Washington, DC.

Meet with EPA Admin. Pruitt.

Meet with Rep. Rouzer (R-NC-7th).

Meet with Repsol Energy.

Meet with Congressional Sportsman's Caucus Executive Director, Jeff Crane.

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THIS WEEK

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June 8: House Interior Appropriations Hearing; HOLD: White House Infrastructure Summit with Governors and Mayors

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June 13: Secretary will speak at the National Congress of American Indians.

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APPROPRIATIONS HEARINGS:

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June 20: Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Hearing

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June 22: House Natural Resources Committee Hearing

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USVI Governor Meets with Interior Officials | Receives Grants for the U.S. Virgin Islands to Study Potential for Food and Agricultural Manufacturing, Improve Water Repair and Distribution Services and Increase Safety in Prisons

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met with U.S. Virgin Islands Governor Kenneth Mapp to discuss issues facing the territory. The Governor's trip coincided with the release of \$704,000 in technical and maintenance assistance funding from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) which will support the Governor and his administration in several important ways. Funds will be used to explore potential manufacturing and production in food and agricultural products and to save costs and improve the provision of public services in water distribution and maintenance and correctional safety.

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6/13 National Conference of American Indians (Mohegan Sun, CT)

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6/21 Congressional Travel & Tourism Summit (DC)

6/23 US Conference of Mayors (Miami, FL)

6/24 Outdoor Writers Association of America Annual Conference (Duluth, MN)

6/24 Huntley Project Museum of Irrigated Agriculture Anniversary (Huntley, MT)

6/26 Rocky Mountain Coal Mining Institute Conference and Annual Meeting (Colorado Springs, CO)

6/28 Aspen Ideas Festival for Climate (Aspen, CO)

6/28 Intertribal Timber Council's 41st Annual National Indian Timber Symposium (Yakima, WA)

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Outstanding Invitations in Process

None

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Emergency Management

On June 2, an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) Response Level 2 was declared by the Bureau of Reclamation at Anchor Dam, indicating some minor flooding may be experienced in the area. The dam is located on the South Fork of Owl Creek, approximately 40 miles west of Thermopolis, Wyoming. As of June 5, the flow in Owl Creek downstream from the dam was 530 cubic feet per second (cfs), exceeding the trigger for Response Level 2 of 400 cfs. These flows are being generated by runoff from snow-melt on the non-regulated tributaries downstream of the dam. The dam is operating well at this time, and there are no concerns with dam safety.

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The AP (6/5, Whitehurst) reports that Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke on Monday “tapped the head of Utah’s wildlife management division as deputy director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, a newly created position where the appointee will serve as acting head of the agency until a director is named and confirmed.” Utah Division of Wildlife Resources Director Greg Sheehan was “named to the post a month after Zinke visited newly designated Bears Ears National Monument, which was opposed by the Utah Wildlife Board and other Utah leaders.” Sheehan “said he didn’t speak with Zinke during his visit, and the monument doesn’t contain land managed by Fish and Wildlife.”

Trump’s Interior Secretary Spoke To Oil Trade Group At Trump Hotel.

The Huffington Post (6/5, D’angelo) reports that Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke’s appearance at a American Petroleum Institute board of directors meeting on March 23 is raising eyebrows. The article says that “the speech was held at Trump International Hotel in Washington, which has been at the center of conflict-of-interest concerns.” According to the nonprofit watchdog group Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, “of all Zinke’s meetings with energy industry representatives, the API event was the only one held at a location that financially benefits President Donald Trump.”

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Trump Admin Proposes Seismic Surveys For Atlantic Drilling.

The AP (6/5, Daly) reports the Trump Administration is looking to use seismic air guns to look for oil and gas formations underneath the Atlantic Ocean floor. The National Marine Fisheries Service said it is trying to get permits under the Marine Mammal Protection Act for five companies to use the air guns for seismic surveys in the Atlantic. Environmental groups and East Coast lawmakers have opposed the surveys, saying that the air guns can injure marine mammals and harm commercial fishing and tourism. The Hill (6/5, Henry) reports the Southern Environmental Law Center said the testing would “pave the way for offshore drilling, which would be a direct hit to our economy, environment, communities and way of life.” Michael Jasny, director of the Marine Mammal Protection Project for the Natural Resources Defense Council, said, “The American people own these Atlantic waters. This is the first step towards drilling them.” The Washington Examiner (6/5, Siciliano) reports that the Commerce Department is accepting comments on the proposal for permit authorization for 30 days, but warned that comments submitted to the agency in support of, or opposition to, oil and natural gas drilling will not be accepted. The notice said, “Comments indicating general support for or opposition to hydrocarbon exploration or any comments relating to hydrocarbon development (e.g., leasing, drilling) are not relevant to this request for comments and will not be considered.”

Federal Register Listings

Items cleared for Federal Register on Monday.

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Free tickets available in the Secretary's box for White House staff to the following shows.

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Doug Domenech
Senior Advisor
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