

To: Webster, Sarah[swebster@blm.gov]
From: Maciel, Martha
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good to go. thanks

Martha Maciel

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On Fri, Jun 23, 2017 at 8:06 AM, Webster, Sarah <swebster@blm.gov> wrote:

CALIFORNIA

[House passes bill to speed permitting for dams, reservoirs](#)

The Hill, June 22

The House passed a bill on Thursday that supporters say will speed up permitting decisions for water-storage projects such as dams and reservoirs in drought-stricken areas of the United States.

GOP supporters of the bill say it's a necessary step toward alleviating droughts and overhauling the federal permitting process. But most Democrats opposed the legislation, calling it a "sham infrastructure bill" that takes aim at federal environmental rules. The legislation, from Rep. Tom McClintock (R-Calif.), passed on a 233-180 vote.

[BLM Pit River Campground opens](#)

Herald and News, BLM Press Release, June 23

Campsites, river access and picnic areas have opened for the summer season at the Bureau of Land Management Pit River Campground in northeast California, according to a news release.

[BLM Initiates Fire Restrictions for Public Lands Managed by the Mother Lode Field Office Including Mariposa County](#)

Gold Rush Cam, BLM Press Release, June 23

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will initiate fire restrictions for public lands managed by the Mother Lode Field Office effective June 23. The fire restrictions will remain in effect until further notice.

NATIONAL

[Zinke wants more entrance fees to fill budget gap](#)

GREENWIRE, June 22

Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke wants the National Park Service to increase entrance fees at some of its sites in an effort to address the agency's more than \$11 billion in deferred maintenance needs, he told lawmakers this week. In testimony before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee this week to discuss his agency's fiscal 2018 budget request, Zinke lamented the fact that less than a third of NPS units charge entrance fees. "The best funds for the parks are through the door: tickets to the door. We've had 330 million visitors through our parks last year. Half our parks didn't charge," Zinke said Tuesday. *See PDF for full story.*

[Sexual harassment may plague entire department — Zinke](#)

GREENWIRE, June 22

Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke said today that sexual harassment might be a departmentwide problem, not just within the National Park Service. "It's not just the Park Service," Zinke said in response to a question from Rep. Niki Tsongas (D-Mass.) during a House Natural Resources Committee hearing on the administration's fiscal 2018 budget proposal. When Tsongas followed up and asked if he was suggesting sexual harassment was a "broader issue" through the department, Zinke agreed. "It may be departmentwide, I think that is a fair assessment," he said, specifically mentioning the Bureau of Land Management as another trouble spot. *See PDF for full story.*

[Lawmakers urge Zinke to crack down on sexual harassment at Interior](#)

The Hill, June 22

Lawmakers on Thursday urged Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke to crack down on sexual assault in his agency and pressed him on the steps he is taking to address the issue. Zinke was testifying before the House Committee on Natural Resources on the department's fiscal 2018 budget request, but faced tough questions from Democrats on protecting agency employees from harassment and assault.

[Not every review is a 'deep dive' — Zinke](#)

E&E News, June 22

Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke revealed today that his agency's review of dozens of national monuments is now focused "on just a few" sites, although he did not detail which, if any, have completed assessments. During testimony today before the House Natural Resources Committee on the fiscal 2018 budget, Zinke reiterated his assertion that the review of 27 national monuments is not aimed at "settled" sites but those he believes either failed to gather sufficient public input or remain areas of contention for local communities. "My intent on the monument review is to ensure that the — some of them monuments are settled — my intent was not, and I've said before, to rip off Band-Aids and then create wounds where there [are] none," Zinke said. *See PDF for full story.*

Trump Administration Outlines Strategy To Rescind Or Revise BLM Venting/Flaring Rules

Natural Gas Intel, June 22

The Trump administration has outlined its plans in federal court to ultimately rescind or revise a rule promulgated by the Department of Interior's (DOI) Bureau of Land Management (BLM) governing flaring and venting of associated natural gas on public and tribal lands. Attorneys with the Justice Department on Tuesday filed a motion in U.S. District Court for the District of Wyoming. They requested a 90-day extension of the deadline to file briefs in a lawsuit filed by four states over the BLM's Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation Rule -- also known as the venting and flaring rule.

Bears Ears advocate gets felony charges over cattle dispute

GREENWIRE, June 22

Prominent conservationist Rose Chilcoat and Mark Franklin, her husband, face new felony charges over a face-off with two Utah ranchers who claim the couple endangered their cattle by shutting a gate. In addition to charges of misdemeanor, trespassing on state trust land and providing false information, Chilcoat now faces two new felony counts of "retaliating against a witness" and "attempted wanton destruction of livestock." Chilcoat reportedly asked the Bureau of Land Management to reconsider the ranchers' grazing licenses, spurring the new charges. Chilcoat and her husband call the felony counts politically motivated. Local residents blame Chilcoat and her group for the designation of the Bears Ears National Monument last year and restricted public land access for motorized vehicles. The charges stem from an incident where Chilcoat closed a gate, preventing a cattle herd from reaching a water source (Brian Maffly, Salt Lake Tribune, June 21). — NB

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