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From: Domenech, Douglas
Sent: 2017-05-26T13:07:05-04:00
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Subject: Interior Cabinet Affairs Report for 5/26/17
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[DOI DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS 5-26-17.docx](#)

Attached and copied below.

DOI DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS – 5/26/17

Doug Domenech, Senior Advisor
Lori Mashburn, White House Liaison

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Status of the Secretary

TODAY: The Secretary will be on a Senate CODEL:

Melkøya, Norway
Hammerfest Government Officials & Ceremony for Royal and Ancient Polar Bear Society
Trondheim, Norway>Erkebispegården (The Archbishop's Palace Garden), Trondheim
Dinner Hosted by Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Saturday, May 27, 2017

Værnes Garrison // Breakfast with Marine Rotational Force-Europe (MRF-E)
Travel to Thule Air Base, Greenland
Welcome Briefing, Board Surreys, Windshield Tour of Installation & Control Tower, Military Meet & Greet
Travel to Deadhorse, AK, Tour of Pump Station One, Tour ConocoPhillips CD5 Drill Site
Travel to Fairbanks, AK, Media Availability at Airport, Dinner with Senator Murkowski & Delegation. CODEL ends.

Sunday/Monday, May 28-29, 2017

Arrive Byers Lake Memorial Day Events: Greet Rolling Thunder Bikers with Senator Lisa Murkowski;
Memorial Day Ceremony, Denali National Park & Preserve; Training Dog Sled Simulation & Volunteer Dog Walk & Visit Statewide NPS. Dinner with Governor Bill Walker.

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Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke Tours the Arctic, Travels to Norway, Greenland and Alaska

(WASHINGTON) Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke will kick off a nearly week-long trip around the Arctic Circle, beginning with a CODEL to Norway, Greenland and Alaska led by Chairman Lisa Murkowski (AK) and continuing through several Interior holdings through the the holiday weekend and into the following week.

U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke to Attend NCAI's 2017 Mid Year Conference & Marketplace at Mohegan Sun. WASHINGTON, D.C. | U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke is confirmed to attend the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) 2017 Mid Year Conference & Marketplace (Mid Year) at Mohegan Sun in Uncasville, Connecticut held from Monday, June 12 to Thursday, June 15, 2017.

Interior Announces 18 New Hires (I am copying the full release below.)

(WASHINGTON) Today the Department of the Interior announced the addition of 18 individuals to lead and assist the Department during the Trump administration. Hires include key positions including the Chief of Staff to the Secretary, Associate Deputy Secretary, Principal Deputy Solicitor, and two Principal Deputy Assistant Secretaries among others.

“I’m incredibly honored to have so many experienced, capable and energetic individuals on the team at Interior,” said Secretary Ryan Zinke. “Whether on a football team, SEAL team, or the Department of the Interior team, I’ve always said, everyone’s job is just as mission-critical as my own in order for the team to operate at it’s full potential. Together we will work toward modernizing the department and delivering better services and experiences to the taxpayer while cutting costs and protecting our most treasured places. I’m excited to continue the work we’ve already started.”

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Scott Hommel is a decorated Marine veteran who served in the Gulf War. He has two decades of experience in state and federal government as well as work on behalf of military organizations like the National Guard Association of the United States. Most recently, Mr. Hommel served as then-Congressman Zinke’s Chief of Staff in the House.

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Russell Roddy is a veteran of the federal government, bringing with him three decades of experience working under Presidents Reagan, H.W. Bush, and W. Bush. In addition to work with the U.S. Departments of Energy and the Interior, Mr. Roddy also worked at the Office of National Drug Control Policy and the White House.

Amanda Kaster-Averill – Advisor

For the past two years, Mrs. Kaster-Averill served as then-Congressman Ryan Zinke’s energy and natural resources Legislative Assistant, managing all House Committee on Natural Resources matters. Previously, she worked for the Bipartisan Policy Center and the office of U.S. Senator Olympia J. Snowe (R-ME). Mrs. Kaster-Averill graduated summa cum laude from Wilkes University.

Aaron Thiele - Advance Representative

Before joining Interior, Mr. Thiele worked for then-Congressman Ryan Zinke as his Military Legislative Assistant in the House. From 2012 to 2015, he worked in Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy’s office. Born and raised on the Central Coast of California, Mr. Thiele earned a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

Caroline Boulton - Special Assistant to the Secretary

Caroline Boulton previously served as the scheduler in then-Congressman Zinke's Montana Congressional office handling DC and district scheduling. She previously served as his Legislative Correspondent in the House office. She is a graduate of Colgate University.

Natalie Davis - Special Assistant to the Secretary

Natalie Davis was born and raised in Northern California where she was a student at U.C. Berkeley. Before joining the Administration, Ms. Davis worked on the Presidential Inaugural Committee, held various jobs on the Donald J. Trump for President campaign including Director of Ohio's Sportsmen for Trump coalition, and worked for California Assemblyman Brian Dahle.

Office of the Deputy Secretary

James (Jim) Cason - Associate Deputy Secretary

James Cason is a seasoned Department of the Interior professional who previously served as the Associate Deputy Secretary, (acting) Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, and the (acting) Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget under President George W. Bush. In addition, Mr. Cason served as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Land and Minerals Management under Reagan and in various positions with the Bureau of Land Management. Mr. Cason also has extensive experience with the Department of Agriculture and in independent consulting.

Office of the Solicitor

Daniel Jorjani - Principal Deputy Solicitor

Dan Jorjani is a veteran Department of the Interior official who served as the Counselor to the Deputy Secretary and Counselor and Chief of Staff to the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget in the George W. Bush Administration. In addition, Jorjani brings with him nearly three decades of corporate, nonprofit and legal experience. He received his undergraduate degree from Vanderbilt University, his Master's degree from Columbia University, and his Juris Doctor from Cornell Law School. He is a member of the New York and District of Columbia bars.

Joshua Campbell - Advisor, Office of the Solicitor

Josh Campbell has been a civil and criminal trial litigator in state and federal courts for the past ten years. He earned his Juris Doctorate from the Cumberland School of Law in 2007, and has a B.S. in Communications from Liberty University. Mr. Campbell has won oral arguments before the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, has published legal articles on the trial court process, has represented clients before the Supreme Court of the United States, and worked with Congressman Buddy Carter, a member of the Energy & Commerce Committee, before joining the National Advance and Election Law teams for now President Trump.

Office of External Affairs

Timothy Williams - Deputy Director, Office of External Affairs

Tim Williams joins the Department from Nevada, where he served as Deputy Director of the Donald J. Trump for President campaign. Prior to that, he was a partner at a political consulting firm, managing local, state and Congressional races, and he served on the Policy and By-laws committees for the Greater Las Vegas Association of Realtor and the Nevada Association of Realtors. A lifelong Nevada resident, Tim is an avid sportsman and accomplished hunter and fisherman.

Steven Smith - Advisor, Intergovernmental Affairs

Steven Smith joined the Department after almost a decade working in government and campaigns. Most recently, Mr. Smith served as a Special Assistant to the Co-Chair of the Republican National Committee. He also spent three years as a legislative aide in the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government. A native of Kentucky, Mr. Smith graduated from the University of Kentucky with a Bachelor of Arts in political science.

Jason Funes - Assistant, Office of External Affairs

Immediately prior to joining the Department, Jason Funes worked in the Florida office of Donald J. Trump for President. He has also worked in a Sarasota area emergency room as an EMT, was a teaching assistant for Hispanic migrant workers, and also did medical sales. He attended the University of South Florida, and comes from 3 generations of ranchers/cattle runners from Central America. Mr. Funes was born in New York, and raised in Sarasota, Florida.

Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs

Micah Chambers - Deputy Director

Prior to joining Interior, Micah Chambers [MLK1] served in Secretary Zinke's congressional office as his Legislative Director and Deputy Chief of Staff. He is originally from Ohio, but lived overseas in Africa and Asia. He is a graduate of Cedarville University.

Office of the Assistant Secretary – Fish and Wildlife, and Parks

Virginia Johnson - Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary

Virginia Johnson is an attorney with more than 30 years of experience including private practice, nonprofit and public service. She has most recently served as Director of Federal Relations for North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory. She has served as a Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Executive Director of the American Red Cross National Headquarters, and Counsel to the House Armed Services Committee, the House Natural Resources Committee and the House Ethics Committee. Ms. Johnson earned a Bachelor of Arts from Duke University, graduating cum laude, and a Juris Doctor from Wake Forest University School of Law.

Marshall Critchfield – Advisor

Marshall Critchfield comes to Interior with nearly twenty years of experience in project management and public affairs and is a lifelong sportsman - growing up on the edge of the game-rich Florida Everglades. He has worked with many non-profits over the years to conserve habitat and educate young people about the value of conservation and the thrill of the chase. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Florida Atlantic University in History and a Master in Business Administration from Palm Beach Atlantic University.

Brian Pavlik - Special Assistant, National Park Service

Prior to joining the National Park Service, Brian Pavlik served as Concession Program Manager for Indiana State Parks and General Manager of the Washington Sailing Marina, a NPS concessionaire. Mr. Pavlik received his Bachelor of Science degree in Communications at George Mason University in 2004.

Office of the Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management, and Budget

Scott Cameron - Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary

Scott Cameron has more than 30 years of experience working on natural resource policy from the perspectives of federal and state government, conservation organizations, and the private sector. With twenty years of federal government experience as both a political appointee and career civil servant, as well as service as a Congressional staffer, he has developed exceptional expertise in the federal budget process.

Office of the Assistant Secretary - Water and Science

Andrea Travnicek Ph.D. - Deputy Assistant Secretary

Andrea Travnicek is an experienced professional with fifteen years of experience in state and federal government, academia, and natural resources and conservation policy. Before joining the Interior Department, Travnicek spent six years as the North Dakota Governor's Senior Policy Advisor on issues relating to energy, natural resources and environmental issues. Ms. Travnicek is a three-time graduate from North Dakota State University, earning a Bachelor of Science, Master of Science, and Doctor of Philosophy, all in Natural Resources Management.

Speaking Invitations

Accepted

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

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

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

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Regretted

5/28 Rolling Thunder Demonstration Run (DC)

5/29 Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund Memorial Day Event (DC)

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

6/4 Annual Native American Economic Development Conference (Las Vegas, NV)

6/4 Montana American Legion Boys State Session (Helena, MT)

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

6/12 Association of American State Geologists Annual Meeting (Branson, MO)

6/13 National Marine Sanctuary Foundations' Ocean Awards Gala (DC)

6/14 Western Farm Bureaus Meeting (Coeur d'Alene, ID)

6/16 Corps Day of Service (DC)

6/20 Conservation Fund's National Summit on Infrastructure and the Environment (DC)

6/21 Independent Petroleum Association of America (Laguna Niguel, CA)

6/21 Energy Exposition (Loveland, CO)

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)

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Outstanding Invitations in Process

None

-

Situational Awareness for the Weekend

The National Capital Region will host multiple events for Memorial Day weekend from 26 to 29 May. The largest gatherings include the Rolling Thunder Ride for Freedom, the Memorial Day Concert, and the National Memorial Day Parade. Rolling Thunder's Thunder Alley and the Memorial Day Parade were assigned Special Event Assessment Ratings.

Rolling Thunder activities are expected to attract approximately 900,000 participants. The Blessing of the Bikes at the National Cathedral starts the weekend's activities at 1700 ET, 26 May. The Ride for Freedom will begin at 1200 ET, 28 May in the parking lots at the Pentagon, proceed along the National Mall, and conclude at West Potomac Park. Thunder Alley, where merchandise and food vendors will be set up, will be open from 27 to 29 May at 22d St and Constitution Ave NW.

The Memorial Day Concert, on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol, is expected to attract approximately 300,000 attendees to the National Mall area and will begin at 2000 ET, 28 May. Multiple wreath laying ceremonies are scheduled throughout the weekend at various sites. The National Memorial Day Parade, beginning at 1400 ET, 29 May at the corner of Constitution Ave NW and 7th St NW, will proceed past the White House and end at 17th St NW. The parade is the largest of its kind in the U.S. with an expected crowd of 250,000 attendees.

Numerous street closures are in effect throughout the weekend. The National Weather Service forecast for Memorial Day weekend is for mostly cloudy conditions with up to a 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms each afternoon. High temperatures will be in the upper 70s with light winds.

Emergency Management

Damage assessments at the Fort Pulaski National Monument continued yesterday following the severe weather that caused damage to portions of the park on May 23. The park will likely remain closed through the weekend, as debris removal and structural repairs continue. An Incident Management Team has been established. On May 24, the National Weather Service (NWS) sent personnel to the park to observe the damage caused by the storm. Based on their initial ground observations, the damage was likely caused by an EF1 tornado, but this has not yet been confirmed. The NPS reports that 3 structures were impacted by the severe weather, including the park's restroom facilities, visitor's center, and the fort itself.

Over the past few weeks, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Tribal Assistance Coordination Group (TAC-G) have been assisting Tribes in Nevada prepare for potential flooding as a result of the excessive mountain snowpack. Due to warmer weather in the region, the excessive snowmelt may impact area rivers and waterways, threatening the lives and property of Tribal members, as well as roads, bridges, emergency response capabilities, and Tribal infrastructure. BIA and the TAC-G have worked together on efforts in the northern Nevada area to provide disaster response planning and pre-flood technical assistance to the Yerington Paiute, Walker River Paiute, and Fallon/Shoshone Paiute Tribes. Each Tribe is threatened with moderate to major flooding, as predicted by forecast and weather modeling.

In Georgia, the West Mims Fire in the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge has burned 152,478

(no change) acres. The fire is 65-percent (no change) contained and managed by a Type-1 Incident Management Team with 777 (-15) personnel, including 119 (-9) DOI personnel. There have been 6 (no change) responder injuries reported, and portions of the refuge remain closed to the public. A drying trend commenced yesterday, as the weather system that brought widespread rainfall across Wednesday moved east of the fire area. The containment date is November 1.

Media of Interest

Top House, Senate Dems Ask Interior Not To Eliminate National Monuments.

The Hill (5/25, Manchester) reports that “top Democrats in the House and Senate urged Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke in a letter Thursday to not eliminate national monuments, warning that many national monuments across the country currently ‘face an unprecedented threat.’” The Democrats said in the letter, “We are deeply troubled by the president’s April 26 executive order establishing a process that could lead to the diminishment or outright repeal of national monuments designated by his predecessors.” The Democrats wrote, “It is unconscionable to think that this administration would sell out America’s outdoor heritage to benefit corporate interests in the oil, gas, and mining industries.”

Bears Ears Monument Designation Draws Thousands Of Comments. ...

Latest Polling Shows Overwhelming Support For Bears Ears....

Utah Law Professors Challenge President Trump’s Right To Rescind Bears Ears....

Op-Ed: The Unintended Consequences Of Bears Ears National Monument. ...

Time To Modernize The Antiquities Act....

Secretary Zinke Headed To National Congress Of American Indians In June.

The Nation Sun News (5/25) reports that Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke will “address the mid-year conference of the National Congress of American Indians” next month. Zinke said in a press release on Thursday, “It is a great honor to accept the invitation to speak at NCAI’s Mid Year Conference. This will give tribal leaders and I an opportunity to discuss ways to empower the front lines of tribal communities. I am a supporter of building a stronger government-to-government relationship that will reaffirm tribal sovereignty, self-determination and self-governance in Indian Country.”

Tribes Bash Proposed Trump Budget Cuts To Native Americans.

The AP (5/25, Flaccus) reports that “dozens of Native American tribes in six Western states expressed outrage Thursday at President Trump’s proposed budget cuts to American Indian programs, saying they would erase significant progress on child welfare and climate change and gut social services and education on reservations across the U.S.” According to the article, “members from tribes in Oregon, Washington, California, Montana, Idaho and Alaska called on Congress to restore funding to tribes during budget negotiations.” They claimed that “the cuts ignore the treaty responsibilities to federally recognized tribes...and put a stranglehold on programs that have been chronically underfunded.”

Deepwater, US Wind Accept Maryland Terms For Offshore Wind Farms.

The Baltimore Sun (5/25, Dance) reports that “the developers of two wind farms planned off the coast of Ocean City are moving forward with their projects, accepting terms Maryland regulators laid out earlier this month in allowing them to collect subsidies from the state’s electricity customers.” The Sun adds, “Deepwater Wind and U.S. Wind have both notified the Public

Service Commission that they have agreed to invest a collective \$115 million in manufacturing facilities and port upgrades around Sparrows Point in southeastern Baltimore County, and to contribute \$6 million to a state offshore wind business development fund.” The article also states that “the decisions mean Maryland is one step closer to being home to what would be the nation’s second – and by far its largest – array of offshore wind turbines.”

Enviros Add Endangered Species Claim To Keystone Suit.

Law360 (5/25, Sieniuc) reports that “environmental organizations on Wednesday added new claims against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in their suit against the U.S. Department of State and other agencies over the approval of the Keystone XL pipeline, telling a Montana federal court the service hasn’t seriously considered the project’s threat to whooping cranes and other endangered species.” According to the article, “in an amended complaint adding the FWS to the dispute, the environmental groups alleged the service’s finding that the pipeline would not likely harm certain endangered and threatened species.”

Time To Fix Our National Parks.

For the “Congress” blog of The Hill (5/25, Pierno, Contributor), Theresa Pierno, President and CEO of the National Parks Conservation Association, writes that “national parks are more popular than ever, welcoming a record-breaking 331 million visitors last year, and they pump more than \$18 billion into local economies across the country.” However, “despite their enormous popularity and importance to our nation, our parks face many challenges, including \$11.3 billion in needed repairs.” Pierno urges support for the National Park Service Legacy Act, “the House companion to an identical Senate bill introduced by Sens .Mark Warner (D-Va.) and Rob Portman (R-Ohio) earlier this year,” which “would allocate up to \$500 million annually, through 2047, to the Park Service from existing revenues the government receives for oil and natural gas royalties.”

White House Communications Report

WEEK AHEAD May 24 thru May 31, 2017

Announcements/Releases/Events

June 2: Office of Wildland Fire (OWF)—DOI and USDA at the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise: 2017 Direction to Wildland Fire Leadership - Interior and Agriculture will improve the way that both agencies manage wildfires by ensuring that all of our firefighting assets are utilized in the most efficient way possible.

June 2: Wildfire suppression costs Forecast Report May 2017 - The Federal Land Assistance Management and Enhancement (FLAME) Act of 2009 (Title V of Division A of P.L. 111-88) requires the Secretary of the Interior to submit an estimate of anticipated wildfire suppression costs for each fiscal year during the first weeks of March, May, and July.

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Federal Register Listings

Items cleared for the FR on Thursday.

REG0006973 BLM Notice of Realty Action: Direct Sale of Public Land in Clark County, Nevada. The BLM is proposing a non-competitive (direct) sale of 3.75 acres of public land in Clark County, Nevada, to the Tabernacle of Praise Church, Inc. (Church) pursuant to the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998, as amended (SNPLMA), to resolve an unauthorized use of public lands. This Notice requests public comments on the proposed sale for 45 days. Notice 05/25/2017.

REG0006999 FWS Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permit. This is a weekly batched notice announcing the receipt of applications received by FWS for Endangered Species Act permits. Notice 05/25/2017.

REG0007041 FWS Marine Mammals; Incidental Take During Specified Activities; Proposed Incidental Harassment Authorization for Pacific Walruses and Polar Bears in Alaska and Associated Federal Waters. In response to a request from Quintillion Subsea Operation, LLC (Quintillion), FWS proposes to authorize the incidental taking by harassment of small numbers of Pacific walruses and polar bears from July 1, 2017, through November 15, 2017, under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Notice 05/25/2017.

REG0006979 NPS Notice of Intent to Repatriate - Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Society, Fort Wayne, IN N2779. Pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), this is a notice of intent to repatriate 30 cultural items under the control of the Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Society in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Notice 05/25/2017.

REG0006985 NPS Notice of Intent to Repatriate - U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Ocmulgee National Monument, Macon, GA N2785. This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the intent to repatriate 436 cultural items under the control of the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Ocmulgee National Monument, in Macon, Georgia. The items were removed from sites in Bibb County, Georgia, between 1933 and 1938. Notice 05/25/2017.

REG0006986 NPS Notice of Intent to Repatriate - U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Ocmulgee National Monument, Macon, GA N2784. This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the intent to repatriate 25,127 cultural items under the control of the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Ocmulgee National Monument, in Macon, Georgia. The items were removed from the Trading Post area of the Macon Plateau in Bibb County, Georgia, between 1933 and 1958. Notice 05/25/2017.

REG0007014 NPS National Register of Historic Places, April 22, 2017. The NPS is soliciting comments on the significance of properties nominated before Apr. 22, 2017, for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or related actions. Notice 05/25/2017.

Doug Domenech
Senior Advisor
US Department of the Interior

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For the past two years, Mrs. Kaster-Averill served as then-Congressman Ryan Zinke's energy and natural resources Legislative Assistant, managing all House Committee on Natural Resources matters. Previously, she worked for the Bipartisan Policy Center and the office of U.S. Senator Olympia J. Snowe (R-ME). Mrs. Kaster-Averill graduated summa cum laude from Wilkes University.

Aaron Thiele - Advance Representative

Before joining Interior, Mr. Thiele worked for then-Congressman Ryan Zinke as his Military Legislative Assistant in the House. From 2012 to 2015, he worked in Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy's office. Born and raised on the Central Coast of California, Mr. Thiele earned a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

Caroline Boulton - Special Assistant to the Secretary

Caroline Boulton previously served as the scheduler in then-Congressman Zinke's Montana Congressional office handling DC and district scheduling. She previously served as his Legislative Correspondent in the House office. She is a graduate of Colgate University.

Natalie Davis - Special Assistant to the Secretary

Natalie Davis was born and raised in Northern California where she was a student at U.C. Berkeley. Before joining the Administration, Ms. Davis worked on the Presidential Inaugural Committee, held various jobs on the Donald J. Trump for President campaign including Director of Ohio's Sportsmen for Trump coalition, and worked for California Assemblyman Brian Dahle.

Office of the Deputy Secretary

James (Jim) Cason - Associate Deputy Secretary

James Cason is a seasoned Department of the Interior professional who previously served as the Associate Deputy Secretary, (acting) Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, and the (acting) Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget under President George W. Bush. In addition, Mr. Cason served as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Land and Minerals Management under Reagan and

in various positions with the Bureau of Land Management. Mr. Cason also has extensive experience with the Department of Agriculture and in independent consulting.

Office of the Solicitor

Daniel Jorjani - Principal Deputy Solicitor

Dan Jorjani is a veteran Department of the Interior official who served as the Counselor to the Deputy Secretary and Counselor and Chief of Staff to the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget in the George W. Bush Administration. In addition, Jorjani brings with him nearly three decades of corporate, nonprofit and legal experience. He received his undergraduate degree from Vanderbilt University, his Master's degree from Columbia University, and his Juris Doctor from Cornell Law School. He is a member of the New York and District of Columbia bars.

Joshua Campbell - Advisor, Office of the Solicitor

Josh Campbell has been a civil and criminal trial litigator in state and federal courts for the past ten years. He earned his Juris Doctorate from the Cumberland School of Law in 2007, and has a B.S. in Communications from Liberty University. Mr. Campbell has won oral arguments before the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, has published legal articles on the trial court process, has represented clients before the Supreme Court of the United States, and worked with Congressman Buddy Carter, a member of the Energy & Commerce Committee, before joining the National Advance and Election Law teams for now President Trump.

Office of External Affairs

Timothy Williams - Deputy Director, Office of External Affairs

Tim Williams joins the Department from Nevada, where he served as Deputy Director of the Donald J. Trump for President campaign. Prior to that, he was a partner at a political consulting firm, managing local, state and Congressional races, and he served on the Policy and By-laws committees for the Greater Las Vegas Association of Realtor and the Nevada Association of Realtors. A lifelong Nevada resident, Tim is an avid sportsman and accomplished hunter and fisherman.

Steven Smith - Advisor, Intergovernmental Affairs

Steven Smith joined the Department after almost a decade working in government and campaigns. Most recently, Mr. Smith served as a Special Assistant to the Co-Chair of the Republican National Committee. He also spent three years as a legislative aide in the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government. A native of Kentucky, Mr. Smith graduated from the University of Kentucky with a Bachelor of Arts in political science.

Jason Funes - Assistant, Office of External Affairs

Immediately prior to joining the Department, Jason Funes worked in the Florida office of Donald J. Trump for President. He has also worked in a Sarasota area emergency room as an EMT, was a teaching assistant for Hispanic migrant workers, and also did medical sales. He attended the University of South Florida, and comes from 3 generations of ranchers/cattle runners from Central America. Mr. Funes was born in New York, and raised in Sarasota, Florida.

Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs

Micah Chambers - Deputy Director

Prior to joining Interior, Micah Chambers [MLK1] served in Secretary Zinke's congressional office as his Legislative Director and Deputy Chief of Staff. He is originally from Ohio, but lived overseas in Africa and Asia. He is a graduate of Cedarville University.

Office of the Assistant Secretary – Fish and Wildlife, and Parks

Virginia Johnson - Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary

Virginia Johnson is an attorney with more than 30 years of experience including private practice, nonprofit and public service. She has most recently served as Director of Federal Relations for North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory. She has served as a Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Executive Director of the American Red Cross National Headquarters, and Counsel to the House Armed Services Committee, the House Natural Resources Committee and the House Ethics Committee. Ms. Johnson earned a Bachelor of Arts from Duke University, graduating cum laude, and a Juris Doctor from Wake Forest University School of Law.

Marshall Critchfield – Advisor

Marshall Critchfield comes to Interior with nearly twenty years of experience in project management and public affairs and is a lifelong sportsman - growing up on the edge of the game-rich Florida Everglades. He has worked with many non-profits over the years to conserve habitat and educate young people about the value of conservation and the thrill of the chase. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Florida Atlantic University in History and a Master in Business Administration from Palm Beach Atlantic University.

Brian Pavlik - Special Assistant, National Park Service

Prior to joining the National Park Service, Brian Pavlik served as Concession Program Manager for Indiana State Parks and General Manager of the Washington Sailing Marina, a NPS concessionaire. Mr. Pavlik received his Bachelor of Science degree in Communications at George Mason University in 2004.

Office of the Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management, and Budget

Scott Cameron - Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary

Scott Cameron has more than 30 years of experience working on natural resource policy from the perspectives of federal and state government, conservation organizations, and the private sector. With twenty years of federal government experience as both a political appointee and career civil servant, as well as service as a Congressional staffer, he has developed exceptional expertise in the federal budget process.

Office of the Assistant Secretary - Water and Science

Andrea Travnicek Ph.D. - Deputy Assistant Secretary

Andrea Travnicek is an experienced professional with fifteen years of experience in state and federal government, academia, and natural resources and conservation policy. Before joining the Interior Department, Travnicek spent six years as the North Dakota Governor's Senior Policy Advisor on issues relating to energy, natural resources and environmental issues. Ms. Travnicek is a three-time graduate from North Dakota State University, earning a Bachelor of Science, Master of Science, and Doctor of Philosophy, all in Natural Resources Management.

Speaking Invitations

Accepted

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

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

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

Regretted

5/28 Rolling Thunder Demonstration Run (DC)
5/29 Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund Memorial Day Event (DC)
6/3 Ducks Unlimited National Convention (San Antonio, TX)
6/4 Annual Native American Economic Development Conference (Las Vegas, NV)
6/4 Montana American Legion Boys State Session (Helena, MT)
6/5 Society of American Indian Government Employees Annual Training Program (Scottsdale, AZ)
6/12 Association of American State Geologists Annual Meeting (Branson, MO)
6/13 National Marine Sanctuary Foundations' Ocean Awards Gala (DC)
6/14 Western Farm Bureaus Meeting (Coeur d'Alene, ID)
6/16 Corps Day of Service (DC)
6/20 Conservation Fund's National Summit on Infrastructure and the Environment (DC)
6/21 Independent Petroleum Association of America (Laguna Niguel, CA)
6/21 Energy Exposition (Loveland, CO)
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)

Outstanding Invitations in Process

None

Situational Awareness for the Weekend

The National Capital Region will host multiple events for Memorial Day weekend from 26 to 29 May. The largest gatherings include the Rolling Thunder Ride for Freedom, the Memorial Day Concert, and the National Memorial Day Parade. Rolling Thunder's Thunder Alley and the Memorial Day Parade were assigned Special Event Assessment Ratings.

Rolling Thunder activities are expected to attract approximately 900,000 participants. The Blessing of the Bikes at the National Cathedral starts the weekend's activities at 1700 ET, 26 May. The Ride for Freedom will begin at 1200 ET, 28 May in the parking lots at the Pentagon, proceed along the National Mall, and conclude at West Potomac Park. Thunder Alley, where merchandise and food vendors will be set up, will be open from 27 to 29 May at 22d St and Constitution Ave NW.

The Memorial Day Concert, on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol, is expected to attract approximately 300,000 attendees to the National Mall area and will begin at 2000 ET, 28 May. Multiple wreath laying ceremonies are scheduled throughout the weekend at various sites. The National Memorial Day Parade, beginning at 1400 ET, 29 May at the corner of Constitution Ave NW and 7th St NW, will proceed past the White House and end at 17th St NW. The parade is the largest of its kind in the U.S. with an expected crowd of 250,000 attendees.

Numerous street closures are in effect throughout the weekend. The National Weather Service forecast for Memorial Day weekend is for mostly cloudy conditions with up to a 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms each afternoon. High temperatures will be in the upper 70s with light winds.

Emergency Management

Damage assessments at the Fort Pulaski National Monument continued yesterday following the severe weather that caused damage to portions of the park on May 23. The park will likely remain closed through the weekend, as debris removal and structural repairs continue. An Incident Management Team has been established. On May 24, the National Weather Service (NWS) sent personnel to the park to observe the damage caused by the storm. Based on their initial ground observations, the damage was likely caused by an EF1 tornado, but this has not yet been confirmed. The NPS reports that 3 structures were impacted by the severe weather, including the park's restroom facilities, visitor's center, and the fort itself.

Over the past few weeks, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Tribal Assistance Coordination Group (TAC-G) have been assisting Tribes in Nevada prepare for potential flooding as a result of the excessive mountain snowpack. Due to warmer weather in the region, the excessive snowmelt may impact area rivers and waterways, threatening the lives and property of Tribal members, as well as roads, bridges, emergency response capabilities, and Tribal infrastructure. BIA and the TAC-G have worked together on efforts in the northern Nevada area to provide disaster response planning and pre-flood technical assistance to the Yerington Paiute, Walker River Paiute, and Fallon/Shoshone Paiute Tribes. Each Tribe is threatened with moderate to major flooding, as predicted by forecast and weather modeling.

In Georgia, the West Mims Fire in the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge has burned 152,478 (no change) acres. The fire is 65-percent (no change) contained and managed by a Type-1 Incident Management Team with 777 (-15) personnel, including 119 (-9) DOI personnel. There have been 6 (no change) responder injuries reported, and portions of the refuge remain closed to the public. A drying trend commenced yesterday, as the weather system that brought widespread rainfall across Wednesday moved east of the fire area. The containment date is November 1.

Media of Interest

Top House, Senate Dems Ask Interior Not To Eliminate National Monuments.

The Hill (5/25, Manchester) reports that "top Democrats in the House and Senate urged Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke in a letter Thursday to not eliminate national monuments, warning that many national monuments across the country currently 'face an unprecedented threat.'" The Democrats said in the letter, "We are deeply troubled by the president's April 26 executive order establishing a process that could lead to the diminishment or outright repeal of national monuments designated by his predecessors." The Democrats wrote, "It is unconscionable to think that this administration would sell out America's outdoor heritage to benefit corporate interests in the oil, gas, and mining industries."

Bears Ears Monument Designation Draws Thousands Of Comments. ...

Latest Polling Shows Overwhelming Support For Bears Ears....

Utah Law Professors Challenge President Trump's Right To Rescind Bears Ears....

Op-Ed: The Unintended Consequences Of Bears Ears National Monument. ...

Time To Modernize The Antiquities Act....

Secretary Zinke Headed To National Congress Of American Indians In June.

The Nation Sun News (5/25) reports that Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke will "address the mid-year conference of the National Congress of American Indians" next month. Zinke said in a press release on Thursday, "It is a great honor to accept the invitation to speak at NCAI's Mid Year Conference. This will give tribal leaders and I an opportunity to discuss ways to empower the front lines of tribal

communities. I am a supporter of building a stronger government-to-government relationship that will reaffirm tribal sovereignty, self-determination and self-governance in Indian Country.”

Tribes Bash Proposed Trump Budget Cuts To Native Americans.

The AP (5/25, Flaccus) reports that “dozens of Native American tribes in six Western states expressed outrage Thursday at President Trump’s proposed budget cuts to American Indian programs, saying they would erase significant progress on child welfare and climate change and gut social services and education on reservations across the U.S.” According to the article, “members from tribes in Oregon, Washington, California, Montana, Idaho and Alaska called on Congress to restore funding to tribes during budget negotiations.” They claimed that “the cuts ignore the treaty responsibilities to federally recognized tribes...and put a stranglehold on programs that have been chronically underfunded.”

Deepwater, US Wind Accept Maryland Terms For Offshore Wind Farms.

The Baltimore Sun (5/25, Dance) reports that “the developers of two wind farms planned off the coast of Ocean City are moving forward with their projects, accepting terms Maryland regulators laid out earlier this month in allowing them to collect subsidies from the state’s electricity customers.” The Sun adds, “Deepwater Wind and U.S. Wind have both notified the Public Service Commission that they have agreed to invest a collective \$115 million in manufacturing facilities and port upgrades around Sparrows Point in southeastern Baltimore County, and to contribute \$6 million to a state offshore wind business development fund.” The article also states that “the decisions mean Maryland is one step closer to being home to what would be the nation’s second – and by far its largest – array of offshore wind turbines.”

Enviros Add Endangered Species Claim To Keystone Suit.

Law360 (5/25, Sieniuc) reports that “environmental organizations on Wednesday added new claims against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in their suit against the U.S. Department of State and other agencies over the approval of the Keystone XL pipeline, telling a Montana federal court the service hasn’t seriously considered the project’s threat to whooping cranes and other endangered species.” According to the article, “in an amended complaint adding the FWS to the dispute, the environmental groups alleged the service’s finding that the pipeline would not likely harm certain endangered and threatened species.”

Time To Fix Our National Parks.

For the “Congress” blog of The Hill (5/25, Pierno, Contributor), Theresa Pierno, President and CEO of the National Parks Conservation Association, writes that “national parks are more popular than ever, welcoming a record-breaking 331 million visitors last year, and they pump more than \$18 billion into local economies across the country.” However, “despite their enormous popularity and importance to our nation, our parks face many challenges, including \$11.3 billion in needed repairs.” Pierno urges support for the National Park Service Legacy Act, “the House companion to an identical Senate bill introduced by Sens .Mark Warner (D-Va.) and Rob Portman (R-Ohio) earlier this year,” which “would allocate up to \$500 million annually, through 2047, to the Park Service from existing revenues the government receives for oil and natural gas royalties.”

White House Communications Report

WEEK AHEAD May 24 thru May 31, 2017

Announcements/Releases/Events

June 2: Office of Wildland Fire (OWF)—DOI and USDA at the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise: 2017 Direction to Wildland Fire Leadership - Interior and Agriculture will improve the way that both

agencies manage wildfires by ensuring that all of our firefighting assets are utilized in the most efficient way possible.

June 2: Wildfire suppression costs Forecast Report May 2017 - The Federal Land Assistance Management and Enhancement (FLAME) Act of 2009 (Title V of Division A of P.L. 111-88) requires the Secretary of the Interior to submit an estimate of anticipated wildfire suppression costs for each fiscal year during the first weeks of March, May, and July.

LONG RANGE: Interior Secretary Zinke to participate in an event on June 13 at the Bass Pro Shop in Hooksett, New Hampshire to announce \$1.1 billion in Pittman-Robertson funding to support wildlife conservation across the country.

Federal Register Listings

Items cleared for the FR on Thursday.

REG0006973 BLM Notice of Realty Action: Direct Sale of Public Land in Clark County, Nevada. The BLM is proposing a non-competitive (direct) sale of 3.75 acres of public land in Clark County, Nevada, to the Tabernacle of Praise Church, Inc. (Church) pursuant to the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998, as amended (SNPLMA), to resolve an unauthorized use of public lands. This Notice requests public comments on the proposed sale for 45 days. Notice 05/25/2017.

REG0006999 FWS Endangered Species; Receipt of Applications for Permit. This is a weekly batched notice announcing the receipt of applications received by FWS for Endangered Species Act permits. Notice 05/25/2017.

REG0007041 FWS Marine Mammals; Incidental Take During Specified Activities; Proposed Incidental Harassment Authorization for Pacific Walruses and Polar Bears in Alaska and Associated Federal Waters. In response to a request from Quintillion Subsea Operation, LLC (Quintillion), FWS proposes to authorize the incidental taking by harassment of small numbers of Pacific walruses and polar bears from July 1, 2017, through November 15, 2017, under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Notice 05/25/2017.

REG0006979 NPS Notice of Intent to Repatriate - Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Society, Fort Wayne, IN N2779. Pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), this is a notice of intent to repatriate 30 cultural items under the control of the Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Society in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Notice 05/25/2017.

REG0006985 NPS Notice of Intent to Repatriate - U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Ocmulgee National Monument, Macon, GA N2785. This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the intent to repatriate 436 cultural items under the control of the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Ocmulgee National Monument, in Macon, Georgia. The items were removed from sites in Bibb County, Georgia, between 1933 and 1938. Notice 05/25/2017.

REG0006986 NPS Notice of Intent to Repatriate - U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Ocmulgee National Monument, Macon, GA N2784. This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the intent to repatriate 25,127 cultural items under the control of the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Ocmulgee National Monument,

in Macon, Georgia. The items were removed from the Trading Post area of the Macon Plateau in Bibb County, Georgia, between 1933 and 1958. Notice 05/25/2017.

REG0007014 NPS National Register of Historic Places, April 22, 2017. The NPS is soliciting comments on the significance of properties nominated before Apr. 22, 2017, for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or related actions. Notice 05/25/2017.