

**From:** Domenech, Douglas  
**To:** [Scott Hommel](#); [Magallanes, Downey](#); [Laura Rigas](#); [Swift, Heather](#); [James Cason](#); [Micah Chambers](#); [Daniel Jorjani](#); [Mashburn, Lori](#); [Bauserman, Christine](#); [Caroline Boulton](#); [Thiele, Aaron](#); [Willens, Todd](#); [Getto, Leila](#); [David Bernhardt](#)  
**Subject:** Interior Cabinet Affairs Report for 8/28/17  
**Date:** Monday, August 28, 2017 1:44:21 PM  
**Attachments:** [DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS 08-28-17.docx](#)

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Attached and copied below.

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR DAILY UPDATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS – 8/28/17**

Doug Domenech, Senior Advisor  
Lori Mashburn, White House Liaison

NOTE: Friday 9/1 is Interior's second Doggy Day event.

### **Status of the Secretary**

TODAY: The Secretary is in Washington, DC.  
Meetings and briefings.  
Monitoring Hurricane Harvey response.  
Morning media hit on FOX news.  
Meeting with Hilcorp Energy Company.

#### **THIS WEEK:**

8/29: Meeting with Terry O'Sullivan, General President, Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA)  
8/30: Call with NC Governor regarding North Shore Road settlement issue; Call with Secretary Pacchiano (Mexico's Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources)  
8/31: Lunch with Sec. Mattis

#### **NEXT WEEK:**

The Secretary is scheduled to be in the office next week.

### **Status of the Deputy Secretary**

TODAY: The Deputy Secretary is in Washington, DC.  
Various meetings and briefings.

### **Media TODAY**

No planned media today.

### **White House Report** (Sent Friday) (new)

#### **Press Inquiries:**

- Many inquiries regarding the National Monument review.
- Many inquiries regarding interviews and logistics.

· MULTIPLE OUTLETS: Generic REQUEST-- I read the summary but there were no specifics. Are you telling me the specifics have to come from the White House? RESPONSE—The Secretary's draft report has been sent to the White House. The Secretary's summary has been released to the press. Please contact the White House with any questions about any action on the report.

## **Top Stories**

- Knoxville News Sentinel: Secretary of the Interior promises big effort to avoid another devastating fire in Gatlinburg
- Washington Post: Interior secretary recommends Trump alter at least three national monuments, including Bears Ears
- E&E News: Courts backed presidents in past Antiquities Act disputes
- Washington Examiner: Ryan Zinke recommends shrinking, not eliminating, some national monuments
- Washington Times: Interior's Ryan Zinke thankfully suggests shrinking national monuments

## **Top Issues and Accomplishments**

- Today, the NPS turns 101 years old. Secretary Zinke will be at the Great Smokey Mountains National Park for a speech on the historic anniversary, and will also visit the Blue Ridge Parkway. Press release can be seen [HERE](#).
- Interior is staying on top of anything related to Hurricane Harvey. USFWS has Hurricane info [HERE](#).

## **CONGRESSIONAL** (new)

Thursday, September 7, 2017

10:00am: Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Hearing to consider the nominations of Mr. Joseph Balash to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Land and Minerals Management and Ryan Douglas Nelson, Solicitor.

10:00am: Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations: Cutting Through the Red Tape: Oversight of Federal Infrastructure Permitting and the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council

Witness: Gary Frazer, Assistant Director, Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Political Appointee Update** (no change)

DOI politicals on board = 54

5 nominated awaiting confirmation:

Pending Senate floor vote: Susan Combs, Assistant Secretary Policy Management and Budget.

Pending Senate floor vote: Brenda Berman, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation.

Pending Senate floor vote: Doug Domenech, Assistant Secretary Insular Areas.

Pending Senate Committee Hearing 9/7: Joe Balash, Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals.

Pending Senate Committee Hearing 9/7: Ryan Douglas Nelson, Solicitor.

**Secretary Speaking Invitations** (no change)

**Accepted**

9/13 - Congressional Sportsmen Foundation reception (DC)

9/20-21 - Ribbon Cutting, Wonders of Wildlife Museum & Aquarium Bass Pro HQ  
(Springfield, MO)

9/22-24 - NRA Women's Leadership Forum Summit (Dallas, TX)

9/27-28 - Cohen Veterans Care Summit (DC)

**Outstanding Invitations in Process**

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9/23 - Southern Illinois Hunting & Fishing Days Inc. (Carterville, IL)

9/26 - GAO for international conference on extractive industries (DC)

9/28-30 - Council for National Policy

Open - Detroit Economic Club

Open - Jefferson's Islands Club Citizen of the Year Award (DC)

Open - Americans for Tax Reform (DC)

Open - Weyrich Lunch (DC)

**Declining**

8/30 - West Virginia Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting (White Sulphur Springs, WV)

9/5 - National Association of State Park Directors and Annual Meeting (Missoula, Montana)

9/6 - Montana Range Tour (Lewistown, MT)

9/6 - Edison Electric Institute Board of Directors Conference (Colorado Springs, CO)

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9/19-21 - Montana Wood Products Assn - Forest Resources Association Convention (Whitefish, MT)

9/23 - Buffalo Bill Centennial Ball (Cody, Wyoming)

9/23 - National Mining Hall of Fame (Denver, CO)

9/26 - Billings Chamber Annual Mtg (Billings, MT)

9/26 - S&P Annual Asia Pacific Petroleum Conference (Singapore)

10/1-3 - New Mexico Oil and Gas Association (Santa Fe)

#### **Emergency Management** (new)

As of 5:00 a.m. EDT, Tropical Storm Harvey is located 15 miles north-northwest of Port O'Connor, Texas, with maximum sustained winds of 40 miles per hour (mph). Harvey is drifting toward southeast near 3 mph, and a slow southeastward motion is expected today. On the forecast track, the center is forecast to move off the middle Texas coast this morning, remaining just offshore through Tuesday.

Harvey is expected to produce additional rain accumulations of 15 to 25 inches through Friday over the upper Texas coast and into southwestern Louisiana. Isolated storm totals may reach 50 inches over the upper Texas coast, including the Houston and Galveston metropolitan areas. These rains are currently producing catastrophic and life-threatening flooding, and flash flood emergencies are in effect for portions of southeastern Texas.

In response to impacts from Hurricane Harvey and subsequent catastrophic flooding, DOI has received 5 FEMA Mission Assignments spanning Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) support to search and rescue (SAR) operations, direct SAR operations, real-time flood measurements and 3 liaison positions within the National Response Coordination Center.

Within the interagency response effort, DOI is currently contributing the following:

For Emergency Support Function #5, Information and Planning, The USGS received a FEMA Mission Assignment to perform high water mark (HWM) flagging and surveying. The USGS is coordinating with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the National Weather Service, and the Harris County Flood Control District to prioritize discharge measurements and support partners' operational decisions.

For Emergency Support Function #9, Search and Rescue (SAR), DOI is providing 11 Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) pilots across 5 separate bureaus and offices (BLM, FWS, OAS, USGS, and NPS) in order to provide search and rescue support. Six personnel are expected to arrive today, with the remainder arriving by Wednesday afternoon. The Department has been asked to ensure all available nationwide assets be offered up to FEMA to address the need for more SAR resources. The IOC continues in the process of working with NPS to identify additional capabilities within other bureaus that are available both in the short term and long term to assist in the interagency SAR effort.

For Emergency Support Function #11, Agricultural and Natural Resources, both, NPS and USFWS, have identified personnel with applicable specialties for potential deployment, while OEPC maintains one staff member at the National Response Coordination Center and other staff members deployed to the Regional Response Coordination Center in Denton, Texas and the Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT) at the Texas State Operations Center.

For Emergency Support Function #13, Public Safety and Security, both, USFWS and NPS, expect to move law enforcement assets from Standby status to Deployment status, pending Mission Assignment finalization expected this morning.

With respect to bureau and office specific activities external to the interagency response:

NPS continues to assess damage to its facilities; however, no major damage has been noted thus far at any NPS facility. The Intermountain Region Incident Management Team (IMT) is ready to deploy, if needed.

USFWS has prepositioned resources and will potentially begin initial assessments as early as today. One boat team and two Special Operations Response Teams (SORT) have been rostered for availability, and a Hurricane Response Trailer is to be transitioned to Mississippi Sandhill Crane National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) today. USFWS also reports a Type-3 IMT rostered for availability to deploy to support the Southwest Region.

USGS deployed more than 15 crews from the Houston, San Antonio, and Austin offices to conduct discharge measurements on Sunday. Approximately 20 sites have been visited over the last two days. An additional 4 crews are in transition towards Texas to assist crews with the large number of high water marks and discharge measurements to be made. Discharge measurements have been made in the Colorado, Brazos, Lavaca, Guadalupe, San Antonio, Nueces, and San Jacinto River basins. An additional 10 inches of rain is predicted for the Houston area and other areas in south-central Texas, so field work is anticipated to continue until mid-week, as long as the crews can safely access the sites. It is anticipated that, as floodwaters move downstream, peaks of record will be recorded at mainstem sites on the Brazos, San Bernard, and Colorado rivers.

OCIO reports network service outages at eight DOI sites related to Harvey. There are no Telecommunication Service Priority site outages, and there are no known VIP site outages due to the storm.

The Office of Emergency Management's website has been updated to include DOI bureau-related Hurricane Harvey links as they become available. Please see: <https://www.doi.gov/emergency/hurricane-harvey-information>. This website will be updated as additional information becomes available.

In addition to Harvey operations, the nation remains at Preparedness Level (PL) 5 for wildland fire. The Bridge Creek Fire, located on the Colville Reservation in Washington state (BIA), has burned 3,440 (+770) acres and is 42 (+9)-percent contained. The fire is managed by a Type-2 IMT with 509 (-5) personnel, including 45 (-19) DOI personnel. Full containment is expected on September 20. The local Colville Tribe government is being affected, and cultural and natural resources remain threatened.

#### **Outside Media of Interest** (new)

##### **Trump's Monument Plan Remains "Shrouded In Secrecy."**

The Hill (8/26, Cama) reports that the Trump Administration's plans to possibly shrink some national monuments "remain shrouded in secrecy." Zinke "was expected to reveal his proposals publicly Thursday as well. But he did not, instead releasing a two-page summary of the process behind his considerations and telling the Associated Press that he's recommending reductions in the size of an unspecified 'handful' of national monuments." The Hill says that withholding the recommendations "spurred a new flurry of condemnation from Trump's opponents and charges that the administration is not living up to its promises of transparency in the monument review process."

##### **Oregon Girds For Lawsuit If Trump Shrinks National Monument.**

The Washington Times (8/25, Selsky) reported Oregon’s attorney general “said Friday she is ready to take legal action if the Trump administration tries to shrink a national monument in this Pacific Northwest state. Oregon Gov. Kate Brown and other political leaders were seeking a copy of a draft report Friday on 27 national monuments that Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke gave to President Donald Trump this week, the governor’s press secretary, Bryan Hockaday, said in a telephone interview. So far, no copy has been made available, he said.”

### **Tribes Call Interior Secretary’s Monument Recommendations ‘An Insult,’ Vow Lawsuits.**

The Washington Times (8/25, Wolfgang) reported tribal leaders on Friday “blasted Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, saying his plan to shrink Utah’s Bears Ears National Monument is ‘an insult’ and shows blatant disregard for their concerns.” In a statement, “the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition – a governing body established by the Obama administration to oversee the massive 1.5 million-acre Bears Ears site – said they plan to sue.” Carleton Bowekaty, Zuni councilman and Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition co-chair said, “Secretary Zinke’s recommendation is an insult to tribes. He has shown complete disregard for sovereign tribes with ancestral connections to the region, as well as to the hundreds of thousands of people who have expressed support for Bears Ears National Monument.”

### **Sage Grouse Proposal Draws Mixture Of Praise And Alarm.**

The Eugene (OR) Register-Guard (8/27) reports President Trump’s Administration “has opened the door to industry-friendly changes to a sweeping plan imposed by his predecessor to protect a ground-dwelling bird across vast areas of the U.S. West.” Wildlife advocates “warned that the proposed changes would undercut a hard-won struggle to protect the greater sage grouse.” However, “representatives of the ranching and energy industries cheered the policy shift as needed to give states flexibility.”

### **Report: Democrat Backs BLM Move West.**

Politico Morning Energy (8/25, Adragna) reported that Sen. Michael Bennet “became the latest Colorado politician to back moving three federal agencies – the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – to the Denver area, according to a report in Western Wire, a project of the Western Energy Alliance.” He is quoted saying, “I think anything we can get out of Washington, D.C. and into Colorado, I’m for.” Republican Sen. Cory Gardner and Gov. John Hickenlooper “are among the other proponents of the move west.”

### **Harvey Reduces Gulf Of Mexico Output.**

Reuters (8/27, Scheyder) reports the BSEE said about 22 percent of US Gulf of Mexico oil production is offline on Sunday because of Harvey. Output levels rose slightly from Saturday, when approximately 25 percent of production was offline. On Sunday, 378,633 barrels of the 1.75 million bpd produced in the Gulf was offline. Approximately 26 percent of the Gulf’s natural gas production is shuttered, about 828 million cubic feet per day. Around 105 platforms in the region have been

evacuated so far. The AP (8/27) reports the BSEE said it has been monitoring and working with offshore operators so that the storm does not threaten commercial activities in the Gulf. The Houston Chronicle (8/26, Eaton) reported BP slowed output from its Atlantis and Mad Dog Platforms in the Gulf, while Noble Energy evacuated non-essential personnel from its offshore and Eagle Ford operations. ConocoPhillips halted operations and production in the Eagle Ford and evacuated workers from the Magnolia platform, and BHP Billiton shut its upstream and midstream shale facilities. ExxonMobil evacuated all of its offshore workers that were in the path of the storm and shut its Hoover and Galveston 209 production platforms. Reuters (8/25, Scheyder) reported BP's Gulf production was affected by the shutdown of the Cameron Highway Oil Pipeline System, controlled by Genesis Energy LP, which was shut down because of the storm. The company said without the pipeline, Gulf operations could not pump crude out of its Atlantis and Mad Dog platforms.

### **Sen. Alexander Praises Interior Secretary For Working To Solve National Park Maintenance Problem.**

The Chattanooga (TN) (8/25) reported Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN) on Friday "hiked the Rainbow Falls Trail at the Great Smoky Mountains National Park with Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke, park volunteers, and young conservationists to mark the 101st anniversary of the U.S. National Park Service." Senator Alexander "praised the secretary for his efforts to address the growing maintenance needs in national parks and on public lands and the more than 2,200 Park volunteers who help reduce the maintenance backlog in the Smokies." He said, "Secretary Zinke is trying to solve a big problem – our national parks are struggling with a backlog of maintenance needs that are not being addressed. The maintenance backlog – which includes roads, buildings, campgrounds, trails, water systems and more – limits access to our national parks and diminishes visitor experiences."

### **Federal Register Listings:** (new)

Items cleared for the FR on Friday.

REG0007309 BLM Notice of Invitation to Participate; Coal Exploration License Application WYW185631, Wyoming. Bridger Coal Company has applied to the BLM for a coal exploration license on 1,560.85 acres of public land in Sweetwater County, Wyoming. This Notice invites interested parties to participate with the Company on a pro rata cost-sharing basis in its program for the exploration of Federal coal deposits on the land. Notice 08/25/2017.

REG0007265 BOE Negotiated Noncompetitive Agreements for the Use of Sand, Gravel, and/or Shell Resources on the Outer Continental Shelf. BOEM is promulgating new regulations at 30 CFR part 583 (Part 583) to address the use of Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) sand, gravel and shell resources for its marine minerals program. Part 583 describes and codifies the negotiated noncompetitive agreement process, including procedures for applicants to use when requesting an agreement and procedures for BOEM to use when evaluating a qualifying project and negotiating, enforcing, and modifying an agreement. Final Rule 08/25/2017.



REG0007287 NPS Notice of Inventory Completion: U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement, Denver, CO N2814. This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the completion of an inventory of human remains and an associated funerary object under the control of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement in Denver, Colorado. The remains and object likely were removed from Ontario County, New York, on unknown dates. Notice 08/25/2017.

REG0007288 NPS Notice of Inventory Completion: U.S. DOI, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Washington, DC, and Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ; Correction N2829. This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the correction of an inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects under the control of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, in Washington, DC, and in the physical custody of the Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona, in Tucson, Arizona. The remains and objects were removed from the Fort Apache Indian Reservation in Navajo County, Arizona. Notice 08/25/2017.

REG0007289 NPS Notice of Inventory Completion: U.S. DOI, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Washington, DC, and Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ N2830. This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the completion of an inventory of human remains under the control of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, in Washington, DC, and in the physical custody of the Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona, in Tucson, Arizona. The remains and objects were removed from the Fort Apache Indian Reservation in Navajo County, Arizona. Notice 08/25/2017.

REG0007292 NPS Notice of Inventory Completion: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region, Anchorage, AK N2832. This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the completion of an inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects under the control of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region, in Anchorage, Alaska. The remains and objects were recovered from two sites on Kodiak Island, Alaska, in 1963. Notice 08/25/2017.

REG0007293 NPS Notice of Inventory Completion: Tennessee Valley Authority, Knoxville, TN N2834. This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the completion of an inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects under the control of the Tennessee Valley Authority in Knoxville, Tennessee. The remains and objects were recovered from archeological sites in Jackson and Marshall Counties, Alabama, in the 1930s. Notice

08/25/2017.

REG0007294 NPS Notice of Inventory Completion: Tennessee Valley Authority, Knoxville, TN N2835. This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the completion of an inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects under the control of the Tennessee Valley Authority in Knoxville, Tennessee. The remains and objects were recovered from archeological sites in Jackson and Marshall Counties, Alabama, in the 1930s. Notice 08/25/2017.

REG0007295 NPS Notice of Inventory Completion: New Jersey State Museum, Trenton, NJ N2807. This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the completion of an inventory of human remains under the control of the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton, NJ. Notice 08/25/2017.

REG0007335 NPS National Register of Historic Places, July 29, 2017. The NPS is soliciting comments on the significance of properties nominated before July 29, 2017, for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or related actions. Notice 08/25/2017.

REG0007336 NPS National Register of Historic Places, August 12, 2017. The NPS is soliciting comments on the significance of properties nominated before August 12, 2017, for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or related actions. Notice 08/25/2017.

Doug Domenech  
Senior Advisor  
US Department of the Interior

NOTE: *Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.*

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unspecified ‘handful’ of national monuments.” The Hill says that withholding the recommendations “spurred a new flurry of condemnation from Trump’s opponents and charges that the administration is not living up to its promises of transparency in the monument review process.”

#### **Oregon Girds For Lawsuit If Trump Shrinks National Monument.**

The Washington Times (8/25, Selsky) reported Oregon’s attorney general “said Friday she is ready to take legal action if the Trump administration tries to shrink a national monument in this Pacific Northwest state. Oregon Gov. Kate Brown and other political leaders were seeking a copy of a draft report Friday on 27 national monuments that Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke gave to President Donald Trump this week, the governor’s press secretary, Bryan Hockaday, said in a telephone interview. So far, no copy has been made available, he said.”

#### **Tribes Call Interior Secretary’s Monument Recommendations ‘An Insult,’ Vow Lawsuits.**

The Washington Times (8/25, Wolfgang) reported tribal leaders on Friday “blasted Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, saying his plan to shrink Utah’s Bears Ears National Monument is ‘an insult’ and shows blatant disregard for their concerns.” In a statement, “the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition – a governing body established by the Obama administration to oversee the massive 1.5 million-acre Bears Ears site – said they plan to sue.” Carleton Bowekaty, Zuni councilman and Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition co-chair said, “Secretary Zinke’s recommendation is an insult to tribes. He has shown complete disregard for sovereign tribes with ancestral connections to the region, as well as to the hundreds of thousands of people who have expressed support for Bears Ears National Monument.”

#### **Sage Grouse Proposal Draws Mixture Of Praise And Alarm.**

The Eugene (OR) Register-Guard (8/27) reports President Trump’s Administration “has opened the door to industry-friendly changes to a sweeping plan imposed by his predecessor to protect a ground-dwelling bird across vast areas of the U.S. West.” Wildlife advocates “warned that the proposed changes would undercut a hard-won struggle to protect the greater sage grouse.” However, “representatives of the ranching and energy industries cheered the policy shift as needed to give states flexibility.”

#### **Report: Democrat Backs BLM Move West.**

Politico Morning Energy (8/25, Adragna) reported that Sen. Michael Bennet “became the latest Colorado politician to back moving three federal agencies – the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – to the Denver area, according to a report in Western Wire, a project of the Western Energy Alliance.” He is quoted saying, “I think anything we can get out of Washington, D.C. and into Colorado, I’m for.” Republican Sen. Cory Gardner and Gov. John Hickenlooper “are among the other proponents of the move west.”

#### **Harvey Reduces Gulf Of Mexico Output.**

Reuters (8/27, Scheyder) reports the BSEE said about 22 percent of US Gulf of Mexico oil production is offline on Sunday because of Harvey. Output levels rose slightly from Saturday, when approximately 25 percent of production was offline. On Sunday, 378,633 barrels of the 1.75 million bpd produced in the Gulf was offline. Approximately 26 percent of the Gulf’s natural gas production is shuttered, about 828 million cubic feet per day. Around 105 platforms in the region have been evacuated so far. The AP (8/27) reports the BSEE said it has been monitoring and working with offshore operators so that the storm does not threaten commercial activities in the Gulf. The Houston Chronicle (8/26, Eaton) reported BP slowed output from its Atlantis and Mad Dog Platforms in the Gulf, while Noble Energy evacuated non-essential personnel from its offshore and Eagle Ford operations. ConocoPhillips halted operations and production in the Eagle Ford and evacuated workers from the Magnolia platform, and BHP Billiton shut

its upstream and midstream shale facilities. ExxonMobil evacuated all of its offshore workers that were in the path of the storm and shut its Hoover and Galveston 209 production platforms. Reuters (8/25, Scheyder) reported BP's Gulf production was affected by the shutdown of the Cameron Highway Oil Pipeline System, controlled by Genesis Energy LP, which was shut down because of the storm. The company said without the pipeline, Gulf operations could not pump crude out of its Atlantis and Mad Dog platforms.

**Sen. Alexander Praises Interior Secretary For Working To Solve National Park Maintenance Problem.**

The Chattanooga (TN) (8/25) reported Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN) on Friday "hiked the Rainbow Falls Trail at the Great Smoky Mountains National Park with Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke, park volunteers, and young conservationists to mark the 101st anniversary of the U.S. National Park Service." Senator Alexander "praised the secretary for his efforts to address the growing maintenance needs in national parks and on public lands and the more than 2,200 Park volunteers who help reduce the maintenance backlog in the Smokies." He said, "Secretary Zinke is trying to solve a big problem – our national parks are struggling with a backlog of maintenance needs that are not being addressed. The maintenance backlog – which includes roads, buildings, campgrounds, trails, water systems and more – limits access to our national parks and diminishes visitor experiences."

**Federal Register Listings: (new)**

Items cleared for the FR on Friday.

REG0007309 BLM Notice of Invitation to Participate; Coal Exploration License Application WYW185631, Wyoming. Bridger Coal Company has applied to the BLM for a coal exploration license on 1,560.85 acres of public land in Sweetwater County, Wyoming. This Notice invites interested parties to participate with the Company on a pro rata cost-sharing basis in its program for the exploration of Federal coal deposits on the land. Notice 08/25/2017.

REG0007265 BOE Negotiated Noncompetitive Agreements for the Use of Sand, Gravel, and/or Shell Resources on the Outer Continental Shelf. BOEM is promulgating new regulations at 30 CFR part 583 (Part 583) to address the use of Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) sand, gravel and shell resources for its marine minerals program. Part 583 describes and codifies the negotiated noncompetitive agreement process, including procedures for applicants to use when requesting an agreement and procedures for BOEM to use when evaluating a qualifying project and negotiating, enforcing, and modifying an agreement. Final Rule 08/25/2017.

REG0007287 NPS Notice of Inventory Completion: U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement, Denver, CO N2814. This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the completion of an inventory of human remains and an associated funerary object under the control of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement in Denver, Colorado. The remains and object likely were removed from Ontario County, New York, on unknown dates. Notice 08/25/2017.

REG0007288 NPS Notice of Inventory Completion: U.S. DOI, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Washington, DC, and Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ; Correction N2829. This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the correction of an inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects under the control of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, in Washington, DC, and in the physical custody of



the Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona, in Tucson, Arizona. The remains and objects were removed from the Fort Apache Indian Reservation in Navajo County, Arizona. Notice 08/25/2017.

REG0007289 NPS Notice of Inventory Completion: U.S. DOI, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Washington, DC, and Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ N2830. This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the completion of an inventory of human remains under the control of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, in Washington, DC, and in the physical custody of the Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona, in Tucson, Arizona. The remains and objects were removed from the Fort Apache Indian Reservation in Navajo County, Arizona. Notice 08/25/2017.

REG0007292 NPS Notice of Inventory Completion: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region, Anchorage, AK N2832. This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the completion of an inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects under the control of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region, in Anchorage, Alaska. The remains and objects were recovered from two sites on Kodiak Island, Alaska, in 1963. Notice 08/25/2017.

REG0007293 NPS Notice of Inventory Completion: Tennessee Valley Authority, Knoxville, TN N2834. This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the completion of an inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects under the control of the Tennessee Valley Authority in Knoxville, Tennessee. The remains and objects were recovered from archeological sites in Jackson and Marshall Counties, Alabama, in the 1930s. Notice 08/25/2017.

REG0007294 NPS Notice of Inventory Completion: Tennessee Valley Authority, Knoxville, TN N2835. This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the completion of an inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects under the control of the Tennessee Valley Authority in Knoxville, Tennessee. The remains and objects were recovered from archeological sites in Jackson and Marshall Counties, Alabama, in the 1930s. Notice 08/25/2017.

REG0007295 NPS Notice of Inventory Completion: New Jersey State Museum, Trenton, NJ N2807. This is a Notice pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of the completion of an inventory of human remains under the control of the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton, NJ. Notice 08/25/2017.

REG0007335 NPS National Register of Historic Places, July 29, 2017. The NPS is soliciting comments on the significance of properties nominated before July 29, 2017, for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or related actions. Notice 08/25/2017.

REG0007336 NPS National Register of Historic Places, August 12, 2017. The NPS is soliciting comments on the significance of properties nominated before August 12, 2017, for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or related actions. Notice 08/25/2017.