Fw: Dr. McNutt's availability on 6/14? (STEM event w/OSTP)

Janet N Arneson to: Marcia K McNutt 06/09/2011 02:27 PM

Marcia--The Secretary has recently moved his meeting to 11:45-12:15 (Internal No. Arizona uranium withdrawals), from 2:15. Do we need to now bow out of Shere's event?

Thanks,
Jan

****

----- Forwarded by Janet N Arneson/DO/USGS/DOI on 06/09/2011 02:25 PM -----

From: "Andersen, Lauren E." (b) (6)
To: 'Janet N Arneson' <jarneson@usgs.gov>
Date: 06/09/2011 02:08 PM
Subject: RE: Dr. McNutt's availability on 6/14?

Hi Jan,

Just wanted to confirm the details of this event. This US-International dialogue on Women and STEM will take place at 11am-12pm on June 14th in the EEOB room 430 B/C.

More information is attached including the agenda and proposed participants (no senior level WH participants have been confirmed to date). The goal of the event is to promote a conversation on best practices for overcoming obstacles to greater participation of women in STEM fields.

If you could please confirm Dr. McNutt's participation and let me know if you have any questions, that would be great!

Thanks and all the best,
Lauren

Lauren Andersen
Confidential Assistant to Associate Director Shere Abbott
Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)
Executive Office of the President
(b) (6)

From: Janet N Arneson [mailto:jarneson@usgs.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2011 11:12 AM
To: Andersen, Lauren E.
Subject: RE: Dr. McNutt's availability on 6/14?

Yes, we'll make it work.

****
Jan Arneson, Staff Assistant to the Director
U.S. Geological Survey
100 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
703-648-7411 703-648-4454 (Fax)
jarneson@usgs.gov
****

From: "Andersen, Lauren E." (b) (6)
To: 'Janet N Arneson' <jarneson@usgs.gov>
Date: 05/31/2011 11:08 AM
Subject: RE: Dr. McNutt's availability on 6/14?

Thanks Jan, I think we're narrowing in on somewhere in the 11am -1pm region – would that work too?

Best,
Lauren

From: Janet N Arneson [mailto:jarneson@usgs.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2011 11:08 AM
To: Andersen, Lauren E.
Subject: Re: Dr. McNutt's availability on 6/14?

Lauren--Marcia has an evening (7:40 pm) flight out of Dulles, but would be available all afternoon.
Thanks, Jan

****
Jan Arneson, Staff Assistant to the Director
U.S. Geological Survey
100 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
703-648-7411 703-648-4454 (Fax)
jarneson@usgs.gov
****

From: "Andersen, Lauren E." (b) (6)
To: 'Janet N Arneson' <jarneson@usgs.gov>
Date: 05/31/2011 10:08 AM
Subject: Dr. McNutt's availability on 6/14?

Hi Jan,

Hope you enjoyed the long weekend! I just wanted to touch base with you briefly to see if Dr. McNutt might have any availability on 6/14. We and the WH council on women and girls are thinking of putting together a brief event with a group of visiting women scientists from Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.

We're not too far along in the planning - at this point, I'm just trying to get a sense of whether or not high-level US Administration officials will be around and potentially available that day. Any insight you have as to Dr. McNutt's schedule on that day would be most appreciated.

Thanks!
Lauren

Lauren Andersen
Confidential Assistant to Associate Director Shere Abbott
Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)
Executive Office of the President
(b) (6)

Women and STEM WH_State Dept Event Participants and Agenda v2.doc

Re: Dr. McNutt's availability on 6/14? (STEM event w/OSTP)

Marcia McNutt to: Janet N Arneson 06/09/2011 06:12 PM

yes. I need to be at the Secretary's Grand Canyon meeting.

Sent from my iPad
Dr. Marcia K McNutt
Director
US Geological Survey MS 100
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20192
(b) (6) (cell)
(703) 648-7411 (office)
(571) 296-6730 (blackberry)

On Jun 9, 2011, at 1:27 PM, Janet N Arneson <jarneson@usgs.gov> wrote:

>
>
>
> Marcia--The Secretary has recently moved his meeting to 11:45-12:15
> (Internal No. Arizona uranium withdrawals), from 2:15. Do we need to now
> bow out of Shere's event?
>
> Thanks,
> Jan
>
> **********
> ----- Forwarded by Janet N Arneson/DO/USGS/DOI on 06/09/2011 02:25 PM -----
>
> From: "Andersen, Lauren E." (b) (6)
>
> To: 'Janet N Arneson' <jarneson@usgs.gov>
>
> Date: 06/09/2011 02:08 PM
>
> Subject: RE: Dr. McNutt's availability on 6/14?
>
>
>
>
>
>
> Hi Jan,
>
> Just wanted to confirm the details of this event. This US-International
> dialogue on Women and STEM will take place at 11am-12pm on June 14th in the
> EEOB room 430 B/C.
>
> More information is attached including the agenda and proposed participants
> (no senior level WH participants have been confirmed to date). The goal of
> the event is to promote a conversation on best practices for overcoming
> obstacles to greater participation of women in STEM fields.
>
> If you could please confirm Dr. McNutt's participation and let me know if
> you have any questions, that would be great!
>
> Thanks and all the best,

> Lauren
>
>
> Lauren Andersen
> Confidential Assistant to Associate Director Shere Abbott
> Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)
> Executive Office of the President
> (b) (6)
>
>
>
> From: Janet N Arneson [mailto:jarneson@usgs.gov]
> Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2011 11:12 AM
> To: Andersen, Lauren E.
> Subject: RE: Dr. McNutt's availability on 6/14?
>
>
> Yes, we'll make it work.
>
> **********
> Jan Arneson, Staff Assistant to the Director
> U.S. Geological Survey
> 100 National Center
> Reston, VA 20192
> 703-648-7411 703-648-4454 (Fax)
> jarneson@usgs.gov
> **********
>
>
>
>
> From: "Andersen, Lauren E." (b) (6)
>
> To: 'Janet N Arneson' <jarneson@usgs.gov>
>
> Date: 05/31/2011 11:08 AM
>
> Subject: RE: Dr. McNutt's availability on 6/14?
>
>
>
>
>
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>
>
> Thanks Jan, I think we're narrowing in on somewhere in the 11am -1pm region
> - would that work too?
>
> Best,
> Lauren
>
> From: Janet N Arneson [mailto:jarneson@usgs.gov]
> Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2011 11:08 AM
> To: Andersen, Lauren E.
> Subject: Re: Dr. McNutt's availability on 6/14?
>
>
> Lauren--Marcia has an evening (7:40 pm) flight out of Dulles, but would be
> available all afternoon. Thanks, Jan
>

> **********
> Jan Arneson, Staff Assistant to the Director
> U.S. Geological Survey
> 100 National Center
> Reston, VA 20192
> 703-648-7411 703-648-4454 (Fax)
> jarneson@usgs.gov
> **********
>
>
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> From: "Andersen, Lauren E." (b) (6)
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> To: 'Janet N Arneson' <jarneson@usgs.gov>
>
> Date: 05/31/2011 10:08 AM
>
> Subject: Dr. McNutt's availability on 6/14?
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> Hi Jan,
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> Hope you enjoyed the long weekend! I just wanted to touch base with you
> briefly to see if Dr. McNutt might have any availability on 6/14. We and
> the WH council on women and girls are thinking of putting together a brief
> event with a group of visiting women scientists from Africa, Asia, and the
> Middle East.
>
> We're not too far along in the planning - at this point, I'm just trying to
> get a sense of whether or not high-level US Administration officials will
> be around and potentially available that day. Any insight you have as to
> Dr. McNutt's schedule on that day would be most appreciated.
>
> Thanks!
> Lauren
>
>
> Lauren Andersen
> Confidential Assistant to Associate Director Shere Abbott
> Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)
> Executive Office of the President
> (b) (6)
>
> (See attached file: Women and STEM WH_State Dept Event Participants and
> Agenda v2.doc)
> <Women and STEM WH_State Dept Event Participants and Agenda v2.doc>

Fw: Invitation: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Update and Roll-Out (Oct 19 15:00 EDT in 6119)

Marcia K McNutt to: Janet N Arneson 10/14/2011 01:50 PM

History: This message has been forwarded.

Not sure if this is something that I should maybe do. Interferes with me getting back for Chili Cook-off and webex for Powell, which I suppose I could do from anywhere.

Marcia

****

Dr. Marcia McNutt
Director
US Geological Survey
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 100
Reston, VA 20192
(703) 648-7411
(703) 648-4454 (fax)
(b) (6) cell)
mcnutt@usgs.gov
www.usgs.gov
****

----- Forwarded by Marcia K McNutt/DO/USGS/DOI on 10/14/2011 01:50 PM -----

Invitation: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Update and Roll-Out

Wed 10/19/2011 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM

Attendance is **required** for Marcia K McNutt

Chair: **Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov**

Location: 6119

"Conklin, Meghan M" Meghan_Conklin has invited you to a meeting. You have not yet responded.

Required:	Janet H Lin/WO/BLM/DOI, Robert V Abbey/WO/BLM/DOI, Celia Boddington/WO/BLM/DOI, Marcilynn Burke, Jane Lyder, IMCEAEX-_O=DOI_OU=First+20Administrative+20Group_cn=Recipients_cn=D+5FM+5FAshe@doi.net, Betsy_Hildebrandt@fws.gov, Marcia K McNutt/DO/USGS/DOI, Matt Lee-Ashley, Katherine Kelly, Adam Fetcher, Christopher Mansour, Heather Urban, Jon Jarvis/WASO/NPS, Ted.Boling@sol.doi.gov, Aaron G Moody, Rachel Jacobson

Description

When: Wednesday, October 19, 2011 3:00 PM-3:45 PM (GMT-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: 6119

Note: The GMT offset above does not reflect daylight saving time adjustments.

~~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*

Re: Fw: Invitation: [CR#5071] - Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal Final EIS and Record of Decision (VTC/Audio with Arizona) (Sep 8 01:00 PM EDT in BLM_WO_MIB Conference Room 5071/BLM_WO_MIB@BLM)

Mark K Sogge to: Janet N Arneson 08/15/2011 04:58 PM

Thanks Jan. This is the first I have seen of the time, so very helpful.

Mark

Mark Sogge
Associate Regional Executive
USGS Pacific Southwest Area
2255 Gemini Drive, Flagstaff, AZ 86001
Mobile: 928-606-1286
FAX: 928-556-7266
mark_sogge@usgs.gov

Marcia K McNutt Mark--Captured from Marcia's in-box. Jan ******... 08/15/2011 11:12:09 AM

From: Marcia K McNutt/DO/USGS/DOI
To: Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS
Date: 08/15/2011 11:12 AM
Subject: Fw: Invitation: [CR#5071] - Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal Final EIS and Record of Decision (VTC/Audio with Arizona) (Sep 8 01:00 PM EDT in BLM_WO_MIB Conference Room 5071/BLM_WO_MIB@BLM)
Sent by: Janet N Arneson

Mark--Captured from Marcia's in-box. Jan

****
Dr. Marcia McNutt
Director
US Geological Survey
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 100
Reston, VA 20192
(703) 648-7411
(703) 648-4454 (fax)
(571) 296-6730 (cell)
mcnutt@usgs.gov
www.usgs.gov
****

---- Forwarded by Janet N Arneson/DO/USGS/DOI on 08/15/2011 02:11 PM ----

Invitation: [CR#5071] - Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal Final EIS and Record of Decision (VTC/Audio with Arizona)

Thu 09/08/2011 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Chair: **Janet H Lin/WO/BLM/DOI**
Sent By: **Lauren Luckey/WO/BLM/DOI**
Location: 5071 Rooms: BLM_WO_MIB Conference Room 5071/BLM_WO_MIB@BLM

Janet H Lin has invited you to a meeting. You have not yet responded.

Required:	Anne_Castle@ios.doi.gov, Benjamin Tuggle/RO/R2/FWS/DOI@FWS, Corbin Newman/R3/USDAFS@FSNOTES, Dan Ashe/ARL/R9/FWS/DOI@FWS, David_Hayes@ios.doi.gov, Doug Crandall/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES, Hilary.Tompkins@sol.doi.gov, James G Kenna/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, John P Hoffmann/WRD/USGS/DOI@USGS, John Wessels/DENVER/NPS@NPS, Jon Jarvis/WASO/NPS@NPS, Larry_Echo-Hawk@ios.doi.gov, Marcia K McNutt/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Marcilynn Burke, Martha Hahn/GRCA/NPS@NPS, Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov, Michael R Williams/R8/USDAFS@FSNOTES, Michael V Shulters/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Mike Pool, Rachel.Jacobson@sol.doi.gov, Raymond Suazo/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, Scott R Florence/ASFO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, Tom Tidwell/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES, William D Falsey/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM
Optional:	Barbara_Diehl@ios.doi.gov, Claudia B Walker/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, dianne_calhoun@ios.doi.gov, e2smith@blm.gov@BLM, Gareth C Rees/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, Gladys_Battle@ios.doi.gov, jacqueline.howerton@osec.usda.gov, Karla J Hawley/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES, Lauren Luckey/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, Lucille R Ontiveros/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, Margaret J Walker/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, Monique.Pickett@osec.usda.gov, rdash@blm.gov@BLM, Roslyn_Sellars@fws.gov, Tasha Robbins/WASO/NPS@NPS, Tracie_Lassiter@ios.doi.gov

Description:

Audio Bridge information is forthcoming - we just wanted to get the invite out to you. The audio line will be part of the video connection.

Stay tuned.....

Thanks.

Fw: Briefing - June 6, uranium withdrawal
Janet N Arneson to: Marcia K McNutt 06/01/2011 12:01 PM

Marcia--Do you still want to meet with Mark Sogge on Monday--see dialog below. Thanks, Jan

****

Jan Arneson, Staff Assistant to the Director
U.S. Geological Survey
100 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
703-648-7411 703-648-4454 (Fax)
jarneson@usgs.gov
****

----- Forwarded by Janet N Arneson/DO/USGS/DOI on 06/01/2011 12:01 PM -----

****

----- Forwarded by Georgia J Diersing/DO/USGS/DOI on 06/01/2011 11:49 AM -----

From: Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI
To: Georgia J Diersing/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS
Date: 06/01/2011 11:48 AM
Subject: Re: Fw: Briefing - June 6, uranium [redacted]

Hi Georgia,

Sounds good. Does this mean that the 3:00 briefing is totally off, or will I still be briefing Marcia at that time?

Mark

Mark Sogge
Associate Regional Executive
USGS Pacific Southwest Area
2255 Gemini Drive, Flagstaff, AZ 86001
Mobile: 928-606-1286
FAX: 928-556-7266
mark_sogge@usgs.gov

Georgia J Diersing Hi Mark. Suzette is no longer available for this... 06/01/2011 08:11:31 AM

From: Georgia J Diersing/DO/USGS/DOI
To: Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS
Date: 06/01/2011 08:11 AM
Subject: Fw: Briefing - June 6, uranium [redacted]

Hi Mark. Suzette is no longer available for this meeting that you requested for next Monday afternoon at 3:00. She feels comfortable with the information you shared on May 6 regarding uranium [redacted].

Thanks,
Georgia
****

Georgia Diersing (gjdiersi@usgs.gov)
Exec Staff Assistant to the Deputy Director
USGS

12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 101
Reston, VA 20192
Phone: 703-648-7412, Fax: 703-648-4454
****

---- Forwarded by Georgia J Diersing/DO/USGS/DOI on 06/01/2011 11:09 AM ----

From:	Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI
To:	Georgia J Diersing/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS
Date:	05/02/2011 01:08 PM
Subject:	Re: Briefing - June 6, uranium [redacted]

Excellent! Thank you very much.

Mark

Mark Sogge
Associate Regional Executive
USGS Pacific Southwest Area
2255 Gemini Drive, Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(b) (6) [redacted]
FAX: 928-556-7266
mark_sogge@usgs.gov

Georgia J Diersing	Good morning Mark. Jan and I have scheduled...	05/02/2011 05:46:12 AM
Mark K Sogge	Georgia, If it would be useful in your efforts to s...	04/29/2011 05:35:12 PM

Fwd: Briefing - June 6, uranium withdrawal
Marcia McNutt
to:
Mark K Sogge
06/01/2011 04:49 PM
Cc:
Janet N Arneson
Show Details

Mark -

Something else important downtown at 3 pm has come up, so I won't be able to get back out to Reston at all on Monday. Really sorry to miss you. I do agree with Suzette that you and the team have done a totally terrific job on the background material for this very high profile project. Good job.

Best,

Marcia

Sent from my iPad
Dr. Marcia K McNutt
Director
US Geological Survey MS 100
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20192
(b) (6) cell)
(703) 648-7411 (office)
(571) 296-6730 (blackberry)

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Janet N Arneson <jarneson@usgs.gov>
> **Date:** June 1, 2011 10:01:26 AM MDT
> **To:** Marcia K McNutt <mcnutt@usgs.gov>
> **Subject: Fw: Briefing - June 6, uranium withdrawal**

Marcia--Do you still want to meet with Mark Sogge on Monday--see dialog below. Thanks, Jan

****
Jan Arneson, Staff Assistant to the Director
U.S. Geological Survey
100 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
703-648-7411 703-648-4454 (Fax)
jarneson@usgs.gov
****
----- Forwarded by Janet N Arneson/DO/USGS/DOI on 06/01/2011 12:01 PM -----

****
----- Forwarded by Georgia J Diersing/DO/USGS/DOI on 06/01/2011 11:49 AM

From: Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI

To: Georgia J Diersing/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS

Date: 06/01/2011 11:48 AM

Subject: Re: Fw: Briefing - June 6, uranium withdrawal

Hi Georgia,

Sounds good. Does this mean that the 3:00 briefing is totally off, or will I still be briefing Marcia at that time?

Mark

Mark Sogge
Associate Regional Executive
USGS Pacific Southwest Area
2255 Gemini Drive, Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(b) (6) [redacted]
FAX: 928-556-7266
mark_sogge@usgs.gov

From: Georgia J Diersing/DO/USGS/DOI
To: Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS
Date: 06/01/2011 08:11 AM
Subject: Fw: Briefing - June 6, uranium withdrawal

Hi Mark. Suzette is no longer available for this meeting that you requested for next Monday afternoon at 3:00. She feels comfortable with the information you shared on May 6 regarding uranium withdrawal.

Thanks,
Georgia

****
Georgia Diersing (gjdiersi@usgs.gov)
Exec Staff Assistant to the Deputy Director
USGS
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 101
Reston, VA 20192
Phone: 703-648-7412, Fax: 703-648-4454
****

----- Forwarded by Georgia J Diersing/DO/USGS/DOI on 06/01/2011 11:09 AM -----

From: Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI

To: Georgia J Diersing/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS

Date: 05/02/2011 01:08 PM

Subject: Re: Briefing - June 6, uranium withdrawal

Excellent! Thank you very much.

Mark

Mark Sogge
Associate Regional Executive
USGS Pacific Southwest Area
2255 Gemini Drive, Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(b) (6) [redacted]
FAX: 928-556-7266
mark_sogge@usgs.gov

From: Georgia J Diersing/DO/USGS/DOI
To: Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS
Cc: Janet N Arneson/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS
Date: 05/02/2011 05:46 AM
Subject: Briefing - June 6, uranium withdrawal

Good morning Mark. Jan and I have scheduled you to brief Marcia and

Suzette on uranium withdrawal on Monday, June 6, 3:00-4:00 pm ET in the DSCR.

To confirm, on May 6, you have a meeting scheduled with Suzette at NCTC at 12:30 re uranium, EIS,and GCMRC.

Thanks,
Georgia
****
Georgia Diersing (gjdiersi@usgs.gov)
Exec Staff Assistant to the Deputy Director
USGS
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 101
Reston, VA 20192
Phone: 703-648-7412, Fax: 703-648-4454
****

From: Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI

To: Georgia J Diersing/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS

Date: 04/29/2011 05:35 PM

Subject: Fw: Monday?

Georgia,

If it would be useful in your efforts to schedule the briefing, I could prepare a short message that describes what the briefing is about.

Mark

Mark Sogge
Associate Regional Executive
USGS Pacific Southwest Area
2255 Gemini Drive, Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(b) (6) [redacted]
FAX: 928-556-7266
mark_sogge@usgs.gov

----- Forwarded by Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI on 04/29/2011 02:24 PM -----

From: Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI
To: "Georgia J Diersing" <gjdiersi@usgs.gov>
Date: 04/29/2011 02:11 PM
Subject: Re: Monday?

Correct.

Mark Sogge
(b) (6) [redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 29, 2011, at 1:52 PM, "Georgia J Diersing" <gjdiersi@usgs.gov> wrote:

> And we are talking about the week of June 6, correct?
> **********
> Georgia Diersing (gjdiersi@usgs.gov)
> Exec Staff Assistant to the Deputy Director
> USGS
> 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 101
> Reston, VA 20192
> Phone: 703-648-7412, Fax: 703-648-4454
> **********
> Mark K Sogge---04/29/2011 04:44:53 PM---Thanks Georgia. I don't know yet when the BLM will schedule the Assistant Secretary briefing that w

From: Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI

To: Georgia J Diersing/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS

Date: 04/29/2011 04:44 PM

Subject: Re: Monday?

> Thanks Georgia. I don't know yet when the BLM will schedule the Assistant Secretary briefing that week, but our internal briefing might also work on Tuesday morning - if Monday is problematic.
>
> Mark
>
> Mark Sogge

Associate Regional Executive
USGS Pacific Southwest Area
2255 Gemini Drive, Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(b) (6) [redacted]
FAX: 928-556-7266
mark_sogge@usgs.gov

Georgia J Diersing---04/29/2011 01:19:09 PM---Hi Mark. I'll work on scheduling your meeting request on uranium withdrawals for Marcia and Suzette

From: Georgia J Diersing/DO/USGS/DOI
To: Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS
Date: 04/29/2011 01:19 PM
Subject: Monday?

Hi Mark. I'll work on scheduling your meeting request on uranium withdrawals for Marcia and Suzette on Monday.

Thanks,
Georgia
****
Georgia Diersing (gjdiersi@usgs.gov)
Exec Staff Assistant to the Deputy Director
USGS
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 101
Reston, VA 20192
Phone: 703-648-7412, Fax: 703-648-4454
****

RE: Invitation: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Update and Roll-Out (Oct 19 15:00 EDT in 6119)
Conklin, Meghan M
to:
Arneson, Janet N
10/17/2011 01:42 PM
Cc:
"Calhoun, Dianne"
Show Details

History: This message has been replied to and forwarded.
Yes, she can call us at 202.208.7291.

Thanks
meghan

From: Janet N Arneson [mailto:jarneson@usgs.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2011 1:41 PM
To: Conklin, Meghan M
Subject: Fw: Invitation: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Update and Roll-Out (Oct 19 15:00 EDT in 6119)

Meghan--Is there a call in number for this meeting on Wednesday? Marcia McNutt cannot be there in person.
Thanks, Jan A.

****
Jan Arneson, Staff Assistant to the Director
U.S. Geological Survey
100 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
703-648-7411 703-648-4454 (Fax)
jarneson@usgs.gov
****

----- Forwarded by Janet N Arneson/DO/USGS/DOI on 10/17/2011 01:39 PM -----

****

----- Forwarded by Marcia K McNutt/DO/USGS/DOI on 10/14/2011 01:50 PM -----

Invitation: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Update and Roll-Out
Wed 10/19/2011 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM

Attendance is **required** for Marcia K McNutt

Chair: **Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov**

Location: 6119

"Conklin, Meghan_Conklin has invited you to a meeting. You have not yet responded.

Meghan

M"

Required: Janet H Lin/WO/BLM/DOI, Robert V Abbey/WO/BLM/DOI, Celia Boddington/WO/BLM/DOI, Marcilynn Burke, Jane Lyder, IMCEAEX-_O=DOI_OU=First+20Administrative+20Group_cn=Recipients_cn=D+5FM+5FAshe@doi.net, Betsy_Hildebrandt@fws.gov, Marcia K McNutt/DO/USGS/DOI, Matt Lee-Ashley, Katherine Kelly, Adam Fetcher, Christopher Mansour, Heather Urban, Jon Jarvis/WASO/NPS, Ted.Boling@sol.doi.gov, Aaron G Moody, Rachel Jacobson

When: Wednesday, October 19, 2011 3:00 PM-3:45 PM (GMT-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
Where: 6119

Note: The GMT offset above does not reflect daylight saving time adjustments.

~~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*

Tuesday
Janet N Arneson to: Marcia K McNutt 06/13/2011 09:36 AM

Marcia--You may have noticed that the Secretary's meeting on Arizona withdrawals has moved for a 3rd time, to 9:30. Do you want to try to make Shere Abbott's meeting on US-International dialogue on women and STEM from 11-12 at EEOB? We had cancelled your participation because the Secty's meeting had been at 11:15.

Also, your 9am call with Will Shafroth could be face to face if you leave here at the usual 745 time.

Thx. Jan

Re: Fw: Invitation: [CR#5071] - Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal Final EIS and Record of Decision (VTC/Audio with Arizona) (Sep 8 01:00 PM EDT in BLM_WO_MIB Conference Room 5071/BLM_WO_MIB@BLM)

Mark K Sogge to: Janet N Arneson 08/15/2011 06:09 PM

Great. Did she also receive a similar invitation for Aug 30?

Mark

Mark Sogge
Associate Regional Executive
USGS Pacific Southwest Area
2255 Gemini Drive, Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(b) (6) [redacted]
FAX: 928-556-7266
mark_sogge@usgs.gov

Janet N Arneson	Correct, Eastern. **********...	08/15/2011 02:01:29 PM

From: Janet N Arneson/DO/USGS/DOI
To: Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS
Date: 08/15/2011 02:01 PM
Subject: Re: Fw: Invitation: [CR#5071] - Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal Final EIS and Record of Decision (VTC/Audio with Arizona) (Sep 8 01:00 PM EDT in BLM_WO_MIB Conference Room 5071/BLM_WO_MIB@BLM)

Correct, Eastern.

****
Jan Arneson, Staff Assistant to the Director
U.S. Geological Survey
100 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
703-648-7411 703-648-4454 (Fax)
jarneson@usgs.gov
****

Mark K Sogge	Just to be sure... this is 1:00 - 3:00 Eastern, corr...	08/15/2011 04:58:52 PM
Marcia K McNutt	Mark--Captured from Marcia's in-box. Jan ******...	08/15/2011 11:12:09 AM

Re: Grand Canyon/Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS: potential briefings in August/September

Judy J Nowakowski to: Mark K Sogge 08/12/2011 06:20 PM
Cc: John P Hoffmann, Janet N Arneson, Georgia J Diersing

History: This message has been replied to.

sounds like a plan...

will you please coordinate with Jan/Georgia to see if Marcia/Suzette can participate in the Aug 30 and Sept 8 video briefings? (realizing the precise time isn't yet known, but if the days are open Jan/Georgia could perhaps keep this in mind and be judicious in scheduling other things those days...)

Mark K Sogge Hi Judy, During the Interagency Executive Over... 08/12/2011 05:42:46 PM

From: Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI
To: jnowakowski@usgs.gov
Cc: John P Hoffmann/WRD/USGS/DOI
Date: 08/12/2011 05:42 PM
Subject: Grand Canyon/Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS: potential briefings in August/September

Hi Judy,

During the Interagency Executive Oversight Team call today, we discussed the memo you forwarded and the related table of events. I wanted to bring a couple of them to your attention.

Aug 30 and Sept 8 video briefings. Per Jim Kenna (BLM AZ State Director), the Department is expecting the same type of Bureau participation as the September 2010 and June 7, 2011 D.C. briefings. Suzette, John Hoffmann, and I took part in both of those, and Marcia was present in June. John and I are planning to be on the upcoming video briefings, and I suspect that Suzette or Marcia may want to as well. Unfortunately, the precise time is not yet known.

Possible September 8-15 briefings. This is the period during which Executive Team members (me, for USGS) are to conduct briefings to the Bureau leadership and to the appropriate Assistant Secretary - if desired. John and I are happy to do is desired. Given that there are two video briefings in the preceding two weeks, I am not sure that Marcia, Suzette or Anne Castle will want another briefing. I suggest that we ask for interest AFTER the September 8 briefing, at which point we will know more about issues, uncertainties, etc.

Your thoughts?

Mark

Mark Sogge
Associate Regional Executive
USGS Pacific Southwest Area
2255 Gemini Drive, Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(b) (6) [redacted]

FAX: 928-556-7266
mark_sogge@usgs.gov

From: Judy J Nowakowski/DO/USGS/DOI

To: Chris Horyza/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM

Cc: Marcia K McNutt/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Suzette M Kimball/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, John P Hoffmann/WRD/USGS/DOI@USGS, Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, "Lin, Janet H." <jhlin@blm.gov>, "Caramanian, Lori" <Lori_Caramanian@ios.doi.gov>, "Weedman, Suzanne D" <Suzanne_D_Weedman@ios.doi.gov>

Date: 08/12/2011 01:16 PM

Subject: USGS POC for review of Grand Canyon/Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS

Hi Chris,

John Hoffman (jphoffma@usgs.gov; 928.556.7194) will be the USGS point of contact for coordination of the last review of the preliminary Final EIS for the proposed Grand Canyon land Withdrawal.

Also, with respect to membership on the Interagency Executive Oversight Team, please update the roster to reflect that Mark Sogge is the USGS representative. Mike Shulters has retired from Government service.

Thanks!

----- Forwarded by Judy J Nowakowski/DO/USGS/DOI on 08/12/2011 04:08 PM -----

From: Janet H Lin/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM

To: Janet H Lin/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, Aaron.Moody@exchange.sol.doi.gov, Anne_Castle@ios.doi.gov, Benjamin Tuggle/RO/R2/FWS/DOI@FWS, Bert Frost/WASO/NPS@NPS, Betsy_Hildebrandt@fws.gov, Brian_Screnar@ios.doi.gov, Chris Horyza/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI, Christopher_Mansour@ios.doi.gov, Claudia B Walker/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, Corbin Newman/R3/USDAFS@FSNOTES, Dan Ashe/ARL/R9/FWS/DOI@FWS, del_Laverdure@ios.doi.gov, Edward_A_Boling@ios.doi.gov, Heather_Urban@ios.doi.gov, Jane M Lyder/GRCA/NPS@NPS, Jenna Whitlock/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, Jim_Kenna@blm.gov, John Wessels/DENVER/NPS@NPS, Jon Jarvis/WASO/NPS@NPS, Judy J Nowakowski/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, KAREN.HAWBECKER@exchange.sol.doi.gov, Kenneth_Lane@ios.doi.gov, kevin.haugrud@sol.doi.gov, Larry_Echo-Hawk@ios.doi.gov, lauren_luckey@blm.gov, Lori_Faeth@ios.doi.gov, Marcilynn A Burke/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, Martha Hahn/GRCA/NPS@NPS, Maureen Foster/WASO/NPS@NPS, Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov, Michael V Shulters/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Mike R Williams/R3/USDAFS@FSNOTES, Mike_Nedd@blm.gov, Mike_Pool@blm.gov, Paul.Tsosie@bia.gov, Peggy O'Dell/WASO/NPS@NPS, Rachel.Jacobson@exchange.sol.doi.gov, Richard_Cardinale@ex.ios.doi.gov, Robert_Abbey@blm.gov, Scott Florence/ASFO/AZ/BLM/DOI, Suzanne D Weedman/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Suzette M Kimball/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Sylvia_Baca@ios.doi.gov, Tim DeCoster/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES, Tom Tidwell/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES, Doug Crandall/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES, Marcilynn A Burke/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, Laura_Davis@ios.doi.gov, Matt_Lee-Ashley@ios.doi.gov, Kate_Kelly@ios.doi.gov, Mike_Nedd@blm.gov@BLM, Mitchell Leverette/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, Raymond Suazo/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, celia_boddington@blm.gov@BLM, Craig Leff/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, Chris Horyza/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI

Date: 08/12/2011 01:12 PM

Subject: Schedule for Grand Canyon/Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS

All -

Attached is a memo from BLM Director Bob Abbey outlining the schedule for completing the EIS and ROD for the Grand Canyon/Northern-Arizona Proposed Withdrawal. As outlined in the memo, please send your agency point of contact to Chris Horyza by August 16 (Chris_Horyza@blm.gov).

[attachment "NorthernArizona-Grand Canyon.doc (Schedule, final, signed 8-12-11).pdf" deleted by Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI]

Thank you.

- Janet

Janet H. Lin
Chief of Staff, Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-3801
(202) 208-5242 (f)

Thank you.

Grand Canyon/Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal

SCHEDULE:
June 6, 2011 - Director-level briefings

Who will schedule: Agencies should schedule separate briefings for each of their Directors

June 6, 2011 – Director's meeting with BLM, NPS, and FS

Who will schedule: Scheduled by Lauren Luckey (BLM) or Claudia Walker (BLM)

Attendees: Director Abbey, Director Jarvis, and Chief Tidwell

June 7, 2011 – Interagency Assistant Secretaries Briefing – 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Who will schedule: Lauren Luckey or Claudia Walker
Attendees:

Regional:

Project Manager: BLM: Chris Horyza

Interagency Executive Committee:
BLM: Jim Kenna
NPS: John Wessels
FWS: Benjamin Tuggle
USGS: Michael Shulters
FS: Corbin Newman

Management Team:
BLM: Scott Florence
FS: Mike R. Williams
NPS: Martha Hahn
USGS: John Hoffman

DC:

DS/ASPMB: Meghan Conklin, Lori Faeth, Brian Screnar
Assistant Secretary Water and Science: Anne Castle
USGS: Suzette, Kimball,Suzanne Weedman, Judy Nowakowski
Assistant Secretary Land and Minerals Management: Wilma Lewis, Sylvia Baca, Rich Cardinale, Jenna Whitlock
BLM: Bob Abbey, Marcilynn Burke, Mike Pool, Mike Nedd, Janet Lin
Assistant Secretary Fish, Wildlife and Parks: Jane Lyder, Rachel Jacobson, Ken Lane
NPS: Jon Jarvis, Peggy Odell, Bert Frost, Maureen Foster
FWS: Dan Ashe, Betsy Hildebrandt
ASIA: Larry Ecohawk, Del Laverdure
BIA: Paul Tsosie
USDA: Jay Jensen
FS: Tom Tidwell, Tony Ferguson, Tim DeCoster
Solicitor's Office: Karen Hawbecker, Aaron Moody, Ted Boling Jack Haugrud
OCL: Christopher Mansour, Heather Urban

June 8, 2011 – Briefing for the Deputy Secretary/Undersecretary

Who will schedule: Barb Diehl for Meghan Conklin

June 10, 2011 – Departmental selection of a preferred alternative

SCOPE AND PURPOSE:

To receive feedback from the Department by June 10 on the following issues:

- A decision on the approach to be used in the FEIS/ROD given comments received and time requirements
- A preliminary determination on a preferred alternative for use in preparing the FEIS
- A decision on future steps with cooperators

MATERIALS – to be prepared by the Interagency Executive Team:

- Public Comments
  - Public Comment Summary that includes sections that specifically address Cooperator input
  - Breakdown with total number of comments received and what they said (i.e. x # in support of Alternative A; x # in support of Alternative B etc.)
  - Public Comment Chart summarizing substantive comments that are expected to lead to changes in the FEIS and that display the expected treatment of the comments
- Tribal Consultation Results
  - List of Tribes consulted
  - Description of views of Tribes

- Major Issues and Effects Summary – a short paper relating Public Comments and DEIS content
- Information Summary - a paper that summarizes knowns and unknowns
-

Relevant existing materials such as the USGS Fact Sheet summarizing the peer-reviewed science publication and the impact summary table from the DEIS.

- Janet

Janet H. Lin
Chief of Staff, Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-3801
(202) 208-5242 (f)

Re: Fw: Invitation: [CR#5071] - Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal Final EIS and Record of Decision (VTC/Audio with Arizona) (Sep 8 01:00 PM EDT in BLM_WO_MIB Conference Room 5071/BLM_WO_MIB@BLM)

Mark K Sogge to: Janet N Arneson 08/15/2011 04:58 PM

History: This message has been replied to.

Just to be sure... this is 1:00 - 3:00 Eastern, correct?

Mark

Mark Sogge
Associate Regional Executive
USGS Pacific Southwest Area
2255 Gemini Drive, Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(b) (6) [redacted]
FAX: 928-556-7266
mark_sogge@usgs.gov

Marcia K McNutt Mark--Captured from Marcia's in-box. Jan ****** ... 08/15/2011 11:12:09 AM

From: Marcia K McNutt/DO/USGS/DOI
To: Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS
Date: 08/15/2011 11:12 AM
Subject: Fw: Invitation: [CR#5071] - Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal Final EIS and Record of Decision (VTC/Audio with Arizona) (Sep 8 01:00 PM EDT in BLM_WO_MIB Conference Room 5071/BLM_WO_MIB@BLM)
Sent by: Janet N Arneson

Mark--Captured from Marcia's in-box. Jan

****

Dr. Marcia McNutt
Director
US Geological Survey
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 100
Reston, VA 20192
(703) 648-7411
(703) 648-4454 (fax)
(571) 296-6730 (cell)
mcnutt@usgs.gov
www.usgs.gov
****

---- Forwarded by Janet N Arneson/DO/USGS/DOI on 08/15/2011 02:11 PM ----

Invitation: [CR#5071] - Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal Final EIS and Record of Decision (VTC/Audio with Arizona)

Thu 09/08/2011 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Chair: **Janet H Lin/WO/BLM/DOI**
Sent By: **Lauren Luckey/WO/BLM/DOI**
Location: 5071 Rooms: BLM_WO_MIB Conference Room 5071/BLM_WO_MIB@BLM

Janet H Lin has invited you to a meeting. You have not yet responded.

Required:	Anne_Castle@ios.doi.gov, Benjamin Tuggle/RO/R2/FWS/DOI@FWS, Corbin Newman/R3/USDAFS@FSNOTES, Dan Ashe/ARL/R9/FWS/DOI@FWS, David_Hayes@ios.doi.gov, Doug Crandall/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES, Hilary.Tompkins@sol.doi.gov, James G Kenna/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, John P Hoffmann/WRD/USGS/DOI@USGS, John Wessels/DENVER/NPS@NPS, Jon Jarvis/WASO/NPS@NPS, Larry_Echo-Hawk@ios.doi.gov, Marcia K McNutt/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Marcilynn Burke, Martha Hahn/GRCA/NPS@NPS, Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov, Michael R Williams/R8/USDAFS@FSNOTES, Michael V Shulters/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Mike Pool, Rachel.Jacobson@sol.doi.gov, Raymond Suazo/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, Scott R Florence/ASFO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, Tom Tidwell/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES, William D Falsey/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM
Optional:	Barbara_Diehl@ios.doi.gov, Claudia B Walker/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, dianne_calhoun@ios.doi.gov, e2smith@blm.gov@BLM, Gareth C Rees/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, Gladys_Battle@ios.doi.gov, jacqueline.howerton@osec.usda.gov, Karla J Hawley/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES, Lauren Luckey/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, Lucille R Ontiveros/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, Margaret J Walker/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, Monique.Pickett@osec.usda.gov, rdash@blm.gov@BLM, Roslyn_Sellars@fws.gov, Tasha Robbins/WASO/NPS@NPS, Tracie_Lassiter@ios.doi.gov

Description

Audio Bridge information is forthcoming - we just wanted to get the invite out to you. The audio line will be part of the video connection.

Stay tuned.....

Thanks.

Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona): anticipated topics

Mark K Sogge to: mcnutt 08/30/2011 11:25 AM
Cc: Janet N Arneson

Hi Marcia,

This call will focus on the (b) (5) [redacted] The EIS team does not think they can address all of the comments and still keep to the current schedule. So they will likely ask the Department for a one week extension.

There will also be discussion about the (b) (5) [redacted] Keith Long, one of our minerals economists, reviewed the analysis and provided helpful comments on (b) (5) [redacted] Keith told me he feels the revised analysis was very solid and state of the art.

We do not expect any (b) (5) [redacted] to come up, but I will be on the call. John Hoffmann may join as well, but was feeling ill earlier this morning. We have some (b) (5) [redacted] in our back pocket if anyone asks, but we don't think that will occur.

Mark

Mark Sogge
Associate Regional Executive
USGS Pacific Southwest Area
2255 Gemini Drive, Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(b) (6) [redacted]
FAX: 928-556-7266
mark_sogge@usgs.gov

Marcia K McNutt Not sure who needs to be phoning in. **********... 08/30/2011 08:14:59 AM

From: Marcia K McNutt/DO/USGS/DOI
To: Mark K Sogge/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS
Date: 08/30/2011 08:14 AM
Subject: Fw: Information Update - There are multiple changes: [CR#5071] - Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Sent by: Janet N Arneson

Not sure who needs to be phoning in.
****

----- Forwarded by Janet N Arneson/DO/USGS/DOI on 08/30/2011 11:14 AM -----

Information Update - There are multiple changes: [CR#5071] - Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Bridge Line: 1 (b) (5) [redacted] **pc#** (b) (5) [redacted]
Tue 08/30/2011 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Attendance is **required** for Marcia K McNutt
Chair: **Janet H Lin/WO/BLM/DOI**
Sent By: **Lauren Luckey/WO/BLM/DOI**

Location: 5071 Rooms: BLM_WO_MIB Conference Room 5071/BLM_WO_MIB@BLM

Janet H Lin has sent updated information; there are multiple changes

Required:	Anne_Castle@ios.doi.gov, Benjamin Tuggle/RO/R2/FWS/DOI@FWS, Corbin Newman/R3/USDAFS@FSNOTES, Dan Ashe/ARL/R9/FWS/DOI@FWS, David_Hayes@ios.doi.gov, Doug Crandall/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES, Hilary.Tompkins@sol.doi.gov, James G Kenna/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, John P Hoffmann/WRD/USGS/DOI@USGS, John Wessels/DENVER/NPS@NPS, Jon Jarvis/WASO/NPS@NPS, Larry_Echo-Hawk@ios.doi.gov, Lori_Caramanian@ios.doi.gov, Marcia K McNutt/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Marcilynn Burke, Martha Hahn/GRCA/NPS@NPS, Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov, Michael R Williams/R8/USDAFS@FSNOTES, Michael V Shulters/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Mike Pool, Rachel.Jacobson@sol.doi.gov, Raymond Suazo/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, Scott R Florence/ASFO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, Tom Tidwell/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES, William D Falsey/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM
Optional:	Barbara_Diehl@ios.doi.gov, Claudia B Walker/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, dianne_calhoun@ios.doi.gov, e2smith@blm.gov@BLM, Gareth C Rees/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, Gladys_Battle@ios.doi.gov, jacqueline.howerton@osec.usda.gov, Karla J Hawley/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES, Lauren Luckey/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, Lucille R Ontiveros/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, Margaret J Walker/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, Monique.Pickett@osec.usda.gov, rdash@blm.gov@BLM, Roslyn_Sellars@fws.gov, Tasha Robbins/WASO/NPS@NPS, Tracie_Lassiter@ios.doi.gov

Description

Bridge Line: (b) (5) [redacted] **passcode#** (b) (5) [redacted]

Thanks.

Fw: Actual Media Advisory for Monday/Secretary Salazar to Make Announcement Regarding Conservation of the Grand Canyon

Clarice E Ransom to: Janet N Arneson 01/06/2012 05:01 PM

FYI -- should have copied you on this revision too.

Sincerely,

Clarice Nassif Ransom
Congressional Affairs (Detail)
Office of Communications and Publishing
U.S. Geological Survey
703-648-4299
cransom@usgs.gov
www.usgs.gov

----- Forwarded by Clarice E Ransom/DO/USGS/DOI on 01/06/2012 05:01 PM -----

From:	Clarice E Ransom/DO/USGS/DOI
To:	GS-DO-OCAP-OC-Cong <cong_liaison@usgs.gov>
Cc:	Barbara W Wainman/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Anne-Berry Wade/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Justin C Pressfield/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Kara L Capelli/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Judy J Nowakowski/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Joanne C Taylor/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Marcia K McNutt/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Suzette M Kimball/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Jerad D Bales/WRD/USGS/DOI@USGS, William H Werkheiser/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, Daniel K Cavanaugh/WRD/USGS/DOI@USGS, Leslie W Jones/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS, John P Hoffmann/WRD/USGS/DOI@USGS, Leslie C Gordon/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS
Date:	01/06/2012 05:01 PM
Subject:	Actual Media Advisory for Monday/Secretary Salazar to Make Announcement Regarding Conservation of the Grand Canyon

Please disregard previous email -- the actual media advisory is enclosed below about the event on Monday.

All:

Here is background from John Hoffman, Director of the USGS Arizona Water Science Center, on USGS science conducted in the Grand Canyon region of Arizona that may be a topic for the upcoming DOI news conference that Dr. McNutt has been invited to and confirmed to attend on Monday (I just spoke to Jan). We are in the process of planning Congressional visits for John for Jan. 17 and 19 -- and he appraised me of this topic. See below for an overview paragraph and a link to the USGS report.

About 1 million acres of Federal land in the Grand Canyon region of Arizona were temporarily withdrawn from new mining claims in July 2009 by the Secretary of the Interior because of concern that increased uranium mining could have negative impacts on the land, water, people, and wildlife. During a 2-year interval, a Federal team led by the Bureau of Land Management evaluated the effects of withdrawing these lands for extended periods. As part of this team, the USGS Arizona Water Science Center conducted a series of short-term studies to examine the potential effects of breccia-pipe uranium mining in the region. These studies provided estimates of uranium resources affected by the possible land withdrawal, examined the effects of previous breccia-pipe mining, summarized water-chemistry data for streams and springs, and investigated potential biological pathways of exposure to uranium and associated contaminants. Here is a link to the report: http://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2010/3050/

Sincerely,

Clarice Nassif Ransom
Congressional Affairs (Detail)
Office of Communications and Publishing
U.S. Geological Survey
703-648-4299
cransom@usgs.gov
www.usgs.gov

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
U.S. Department of the Interior

www.doi.gov

Media Advisory

Date: January 6, 2012
Contact: Adam Fetcher (DOI) 202-208-6416

Secretary Salazar to Make Announcement Regarding Conservation of the Grand Canyon

WASHINGTON—On Monday, Jan. 9, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar will host the premiere of a new short film produced by the National Park Service for viewing by visitors to the Grand Canyon National Park. As part of this event, Secretary Salazar will make an announcement regarding conservation of the Grand Canyon.

WHO: Ken Salazar, Secretary of the Interior

WHAT: Event to premiere new Grand Canyon National Park film and secretarial announcement regarding Grand Canyon conservation

WHEN: 1:00 pm (Eastern Time) Monday, Jan. 9, 2012

WHERE: National Geographic Grosvenor Auditorium
1600 M Street NW, Washington, DC

MEDIA: The event is open to credentialed media. Reporters wishing to attend, should contact Brian Tsai at interior_news@ios.doi.gov no later than 9 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 9, to RSVP. Media should arrive at the entrance at 1600 M Street NW.

###

Ha, Richard W

From: Walker, Claudia B on behalf of Abbey, Robert V
Sent: Friday, February 04, 2011 7:42 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Accepted: 2:30-3:00pm EST riefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS; Dial: (b) (5) Leader (b) (5) Participant: (b) (5) (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk... staff continued...

c054243.ics

Ha, Richard W

From: Robert V Abbey/WO/BLM/DOI [RVAbbey@blm.gov]
Subject: 2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS; Dial: (b) (5) ; Leader: (b) (5) Participant: (b) (5) (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyd Wenk... staff continued in Notes)

Ha, Richard W

From: Walker, Claudia B on behalf of Abbey, Robert V
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 12:40 PM
To: Straitt, Iris; Petrillo, Thomas E; Padilla, Joan; Fink, Jason M
Subject: Accepted: 2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk, Bob Abbey, Mike Pool, Janet Lin, Wilma Lewis, Matt Lee-Ashley... staff continu...

c104037.ics

Ha, Richard W

From: Robert V Abbey/WO/BLM/DOI [RVAbbey@blm.gov]
Subject: 2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk, Bob Abbey, Mike Pool, Janet Lin, Wilma Lewis, Matt Lee-Ashley... staff continued in Notes)

Ha, Richard W

From: Walker, Claudia B on behalf of Abbey, Robert V
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 12:40 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Accepted: 2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk, Bob Abbey, Mike Pool, Janet Lin, Wilma Lewis, Matt Lee-Ashley... staff continu...

c104037.ics

Ha, Richard W

From: Robert V Abbey/WO/BLM/DOI [RVAbbey@blm.gov]
Subject: 2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk, Bob Abbey, Mike Pool, Janet Lin, Wilma Lewis, Matt Lee-Ashley... staff continued in Notes)

Ha, Richard W

From: Walker, Claudia B on behalf of Abbey, Robert V
Sent: Friday, February 04, 2011 7:43 AM
To: Straitt, Iris; Petrillo, Thomas E; Padilla, Joan; Fink, Jason M
Subject: Accepted: 2:30-3:00pm EST riefing on Grand Canvon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS; Dial:(b) (5) Leader(b) (5) Participant: (b) (5) (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk... staff continued...

c054243.ics

Ha, Richard W

From: Robert V Abbey/WO/BLM/DOI [RVAbbey@blm.gov]
Subject: 2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS; Dial: (b) (5) Leader (b) (5) Participant: (b) (5) Staff: David Hayes, Meghan a Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk... staff continued in Notes)

From: Walker, Claudia B on behalf of Abbey, Robert V
To: Conklin, Meghan M
Subject: Accepted: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Update and Roll-Out

From: Walker, Claudia B on behalf of Abbey, Robert V
To: Calhoun, Dianne
Subject: Accepted: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Update and Roll-Out

From: Walker, Claudia B on behalf of Abbey, Robert V
To: Conklin, Meghan M
Subject: Accepted: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Update and Roll-Out

From: Walker, Claudia B on behalf of Abbey, Robert V
To: Calhoun, Dianne
Subject: Accepted: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Update and Roll-Out

From:	Abbey, Robert V
To:	Lewis, Wilma
Cc:	Baca, Sylvia; Pool, Michael J; Burke, Marcilynn A
Subject:	Grand Canyon Withdrawal and David Hayes
Date:	Thursday, March 11, 2010 2:20:59 PM

Wilma;

I met with David and I gave him a quick summary of our briefing. I also handed him the handout materials that were shared with us. He said he would look over the materials and make a determination as to whether he believes a personal briefing is necessary. (b) (5)

Bob

From:	Abbey, Robert V
To:	Black, Steve
Cc:	Scott, Janea; Kornze, Neil G; Hildebrandt, Betsy
Subject:	Re: For tomorrow"s meeting with David: Briefing Paper on the Steens Project
Date:	Tuesday, July 26, 2011 7:41:27 AM

Steve;

I agree. Today's meeting seems redundant. We welcome open and frank communications between strike team members and this is the reason we routinely remind team members to bring forward important information to these meetings, including any concerns about proposed projects. While we had a hiccup a couple of weeks ago with West Butte, we took to heart Betsy's suggestion that we remind local agency personnel and strike team members of their obligations to raise issues early on so that we have the best chance of working through these issues rather than waiting to the last minute and elevating concerns to senior leadership. I know we have done this with BLM personnel and I hope that other bureaus have done so with their appropriate personnel.

While all projects are somewhat controversial, some are more problematic than others. We all know this. It is likely that some proposals will need to be significantly altered or denied due to impacts which cannot be successfully mitigated. None of us would be serving the Secretary well if we fail to raise these issues to his level should we find ourselves at such an impasse. We demonstrated our ability to work across bureau administrative boundaries with the Grand Canyon withdrawal question and so far we have worked fairly well with renewable projects. To add more meetings so that we can discuss "stuff" we are already discussing among ourselves is not the best use of our time.

Bob

"Black, Steve"
<steve_black@ios.
doi.gov>
07/26/2011 06:54
AM

To
"Scott, Janea"
<Janea_Scott@ios.doi.gov>
cc
"Abbey, Robert V"
<RVAbbey@blm.gov>, "Kornze, Neil G"
<nkornze@blm.gov>
Subject
Re: For tomorrow's meeting with
David: Briefing Paper on the Steens
Project

This sounds like a duplication of our effort on the strike team. Or am I missing something?

From: Scott, Janea
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2011 11:42 PM
To: Black, Steve
Subject: For tomorrow's meeting with David: Briefing Paper on the Steens Project

Hi Steve,

For tomorrow's meeting with David, Liz indicates that he would like to talk through the 2011 priority projects, with the concerns like Betsy raised at last week's strike team meeting, in mind. i.e. some of these projects are controversial, how do we make sure the Secretary has all of the information he needs? Here's the briefing paper from BLM on the Steens project, in preparation for the conversation.

Have a good night!
Janea

From: Klein, Elizabeth A
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2011 5:32 PM
To: Scott, Janea
Subject: FW: Briefing Paper on the Steens Project

Fyi.

From: nkornze@blm.gov [mailto:nkornze@blm.gov]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2011 5:26 PM
To: Lewis, Courtenay; Klein, Elizabeth A; Brown, Caitlin F
Subject: Briefing Paper on the Steens Project

The briefing paper is attached.

Neil

From:	Abbey, Robert V
To:	Fetcher, Adam K; Conklin, Meghan M; Lin, Janet H; Boddington, Celia; Burke, Marcilynn; Lyder, Jane; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Kelly, Kate P; Mansour, Christopher; Urban, Heather; Boling, Ted; Moody, Aaron
Cc:	Leff, Craig S; Carrillo, Francisco; Krauss, Jeff; Falsey, William D
Subject:	RE: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Press Materials
Date:	Tuesday, October 25, 2011 5:39:39 PM

Adam;

Great quote. I am fine with this version.

Bob

From: Fetcher, Adam K
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2011 5:28 PM
To: Conklin, Meghan M; Lin, Janet H; Abbey, Robert V; Boddington, Celia; Burke, Marcilynn; Lyder, Jane; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Kelly, Kate P; Mansour, Christopher; Urban, Heather; Boling, Ted; Moody, Aaron
Cc: Leff, Craig S; Carrillo, Francisco; Krauss, Jeff; Falsey, William D
Subject: RE: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Press Materials

Folks – attached is the latest press release with all edits received today incorporated. Bob, you'll notice we added a quote from you in an effort to help us insert some messaging. We hope this will be final; at this point, please only raise critical substantive concerns.

Thanks.

From: Fetcher, Adam K
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2011 10:58 AM
To: Conklin, Meghan M; Lin, Janet H; Abbey, Robert V; Boddington, Celia; Burke, Marcilynn; Lyder, Jane; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Kelly, Kate P; Mansour, Christopher; Urban, Heather; Boling, Ted; Moody, Aaron
Cc: Leff, Craig S; Carrillo, Francisco; Krauss, Jeff; Falsey, William D
Subject: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Press Materials

All – sorry for the delay in getting these around and thanks to Celia, Craig and Jeff and their team for drafting the initial press materials. I am attaching a version of the press release and talking points for tomorrow's Grand Canyon Final EIS announcement, as well as the rollout schedule and an economic analysis highlights document from BLM. This includes some edits from OCO to the press release.

One note on the rollout schedule: (b) (5)

Please send further edits/feedback by 3 p.m. today if possible. Many thanks,

Adam

From: Abbey, Robert V
To: Lane, Kenneth
Subject: Re: Pending action items
Date: Friday, November 05, 2010 12:31:05 PM

Ken;

The release of the Grand Canyon Withdrawal draft EIS is on hold pending a decision by David Hayes. (b) (5)

Bob

"Lane, Kenneth" <Kenneth_Lane@ios.doi.gov>
11/05/2010 09:53 AM

To
"Abbey, Robert V" <Robert_Abbey@blm.gov>, "Bromwich, Michael R" <Michael.Bromwich@boemre.gov>, "Haze, Pam K" <Pam_Haze@ios.doi.gov>, "Farquhar, Ned" <Ned_Farquhar@ios.doi.gov>, "Pizarchik, Joseph G" <JPizarchik@osmre.gov>, "Belin, Letty" <Letty_Belin@ios.doi.gov>, "Davis, Laura" <Laura_Davis@ios.doi.gov>

cc
"Falsey, William D" <William_Falsey@blm.gov>, "Schwartz, Melissa" <Melissa.Schwartz@boemre.gov>

Subject
Pending action items

Hello all, just trying to get an update on the status of these pending action items

Protecting America's Treasured Landscapes & Wildlife

Action Date

1. Grand Canyon Area Lands Withdrawal (Uranium Mining)
   · Draft EIS being finalized for release
   November

Action Date

Developing Renewable Energy & Oversight of
Action Date
Energy Production

1. OCS Development
   · NTL re CEO certification requirement & containment
   enforceability mechanism being developed for issuance--
   (T) Week of November 2
   to be followed by interim final rule incorporating such--
   (T) By end of November

2. Interior Appropriations Report
   · OMB promises to clear report
   Fri, October 29

3. Onshore Royalty Rate Reform
   · Cost-benefit and economic impact analysis completion

4. OSM Reissued and Revised Oversight Directive
   · OSM to release for public review and comment a revised
   oversight November
   directive that clarifies procedures for addressing permit defects,
   among
   other things. (b) (5)

Empowering Native Americans, Alaska Natives & Island Communities
Action Date

1. Indian Water Rights
   · DOI Indian water rights team preparing draft letter of
   support for White
   Mtn Apache Tribe water settlement legislation. (b) (5)

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

From: Abbey, Robert V
To: Lane, Kenneth
Subject: Re: Pending action items
Date: Friday, November 05, 2010 12:31:05 PM

Ken;

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Bob

"Lane, Kenneth" <Kenneth_Lane@ios.doi.gov>
11/05/2010 09:53 AM

To
"Abbey, Robert V" <Robert_Abbey@blm.gov>, "Bromwich, Michael R" <Michael.Bromwich@boemre.gov>, "Haze, Pam K" <Pam_Haze@ios.doi.gov>, "Farquhar, Ned" <Ned_Farquhar@ios.doi.gov>, "Pizarchik, Joseph G" <JPizarchik@osmre.gov>, "Belin, Letty" <Letty_Belin@ios.doi.gov>, "Davis, Laura" <Laura_Davis@ios.doi.gov>

cc
"Falsey, William D" <William_Falsey@blm.gov>, "Schwartz, Melissa" <Melissa.Schwartz@boemre.gov>

Subject
Pending action items

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   enforceability mechanism being developed for issuance--
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   to be followed by interim final rule incorporating such--
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   oversight November
   directive that clarifies procedures for addressing permit defects,
   among
   other things. (b) (5)

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   support for White
   Mtn Apache Tribe water settlement legislation. (b) (5)

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
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202-208-7351 phone
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From:	Abbey_Robert V
To:	Fetcher_Adam K; Davis_Laura; Mansour_Christopher; Hayes_David; Lee-Ashley_Matt; Urban_Heather; Buckner_Jason L; Kelly_Kate P; Burke_Marcilynn; Conklin_Meghan M; Falsey_William D
Subject:	Re: SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN INTRODUCE THE NORTHERN ARIZONA MINING CONTINUITY ACT
Date:	Wednesday, October 12, 2011 7:00:20 PM
Attachments:	image001.wmz image002.png

I saw the announcement. This is a rather disappointing position they have taken but not surprising. We are on the right side in this debate.

Bob

From: Fetcher, Adam K
Sent: Wednesday, October 12, 2011 03:58 PM
To: Davis, Laura; Mansour, Christopher; Hayes, David; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Urban, Heather; Buckner, Jason L; Kelly, Kate P; Abbey, Robert V; Burke, Marcilynn; Conklin, Meghan M; Falsey, William D
Subject: RE: SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN INTRODUCE THE NORTHERN ARIZONA MINING CONTINUITY ACT

This didn't get much pick-up at all today but here's the AP story

GOP-Led Bill Opens Up Grand Canyon Area to Mining

Updated: Wednesday, 12 Oct 2011, 3:55 PM CDT
Published : Wednesday, 12 Oct 2011, 3 55 PM CDT

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) - A group of Republican lawmakers is renewing an effort to open up 1 million acres near the Grand Canyon to new mining claims.

Legislation announced Wednesday would prevent the Interior Department from extending a temporary ban on the filing of new mining claims that expires in December. The group said Interior Secretary Ken Salazar's intention to set aside the land for 20 years would eliminate hundreds of potential jobs, create a de-facto wilderness area and unravel decades of responsible resource development.

"At a time when we are desperate for jobs and economic growth, this administration continues to do everything in its power to implement the job-killing policies of fringe environmental groups," said Arizona Rep. David Schweikert. "This withdrawal is not so much a protection of the Grand Canyon but a governmental land grab of economically fertile mining land."

Salazar enacted a two-year ban in July 2009 but extended it by six months earlier this year to give the U.S. Bureau of Land Management more time to study the economic and environmental effects of mining. Interior officials said Wednesday that any claims about jobs losses are false.

Should any of the land be withdrawn, mining companies would need to prove they have valid existing rights to those claims before mining could occur. According to the BLM's draft environmental study, 11 mines could open over the next 20 years under Salazar's proposal. Without a withdrawal, up to 30 mines could be developed. The difference in the number of jobs under the two scenarios would be 71, the BLM said.

Other proposals include withdrawing either 300,000 or 650,000 acres from any new claims. The final study is due out later this month.

"Interior is considering many factors in evaluating the issue, including the economic benefits of Grand Canyon National Park and the potential impacts on the park of expanding mining nearby," said Interior spokesman Adam Fetcher.

Efforts in Congress to prohibit or allow mining on the same acreage have made little headway. Rep. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., added a rider to an Interior appropriations bill earlier this year to end the ban, and Rep. Trent Franks, R-Ariz., introduced legislation last year to keep Interior from withdrawing any land. The two were joined by the rest of Arizona's Republican delegation, and lawmakers from other Western states in supporting the latest effort.

In a letter to Salazar, the lawmakers said they share in a desire to protect the Grand Canyon from adverse environmental impacts but don't believe shutting out mining companies is the answer, particularly in an area known for high-grade uranium ore. They said a federal law that designated wilderness areas near the Grand Canyon provides a good balance for mining and resource protection.

McCain said a full withdrawal of the 1 million acres of federal land "will raise significant questions for future wilderness bills if agreements to accommodate responsible land uses are neither genuine nor enduring."

Rep. Raul Grijalva, D-Ariz., has been on the opposite side of the lawmakers, advocating for a permanent withdrawal of the land from new mining claims. A bill he sponsored to do just that routinely has stalled.

"Selling this as a jobs bill for the future and brushing the environmental damage under the rug isn't going to fly with voters," he said of the Republicans' move. "The public overwhelmingly supported Secretary Salazar's announcement during the comment period, and the public supports it today. This bill is a waste of taxpayers' time, and I join them in looking forward to its defeat."

Read more: http://www.myfoxhouston.com/dpps/news/gop-led-bill-opens-up-grand-canyon-area-to-mining-dpgapx-20111012-to_15448801#ixzz1abhzHIHI

From: Davis, Laura
Sent: Wednesday, October 12, 2011 1:41 PM
To: Fetcher, Adam K; Mansour, Christopher; Hayes, David; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Urban, Heather; Buckner, Jason L; Kelly, Kate P;

Abbey, Robert V; Burke, Marcilynn; Conklin, Meghan M
Subject: RE: SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN INTRODUCE THE NORTHERN ARIZONA MINING CONTINUITY ACT

Looks good. Thanks

From: Fetcher, Adam K
Sent: Wednesday, October 12, 2011 1:24 PM
To: Mansour, Christopher; Hayes, David; Davis, Laura; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Urban, Heather; Buckner, Jason L; Kelly, Kate P; Abbey, Robert V; Burke, Marcilynn; Conklin, Meghan M
Subject: RE: SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN INTRODUCE THE NORTHERN ARIZONA MINING CONTINUITY ACT

I've been asked for a comment by AP, CQ and a few others. Here's what we worked up to provide reporters. Let me know in the next 20 minutes if there are any edits or concerns – sorry for the tight turnaround.

On the record:

"The Grand Canyon is an iconic place for all Americans and visitors from around the world. The Colorado River that runs through the Grand Canyon is the lifeblood of many urban and rural communities throughout the Southwest and into Southern California. It is entirely appropriate to pause, identify what the predicted level of mining and its impacts would be, and decide what level of risk is acceptable to take with resources of this importance. The preferred alternative would allow for cautious, continued development with strong oversight that could help us answer critical gaps in our knowledge about water quality and environmental impacts of uranium mining in the area. Interior is considering many factors in evaluating the issue, including the economic benefits of Grand Canyon National Park and the potential impacts on the park of expanding mining nearby."

On background:

Interior expects to complete the environmental analysis and publish a final EIS by the end of the year.

To be clear, no one is proposing to stop the development of valid existing mining claims within the proposed withdrawal area. A withdrawal, if that is the ultimate decision, would only prohibit the location of new mining claims. Over the past 20 years, there have been 8 mines developed in the study area. If the preferred alternative is selected, BLM estimates there may be 11 mines over the next 20 years. If there is no withdrawal, the analysis predicts up to 30 mines over that time period, an unprecedented level of mining in the area.

BLM's analysis of reasonably foreseeable development shows direct employment resulting from no withdrawal (the "no action" alternative) would lead to an increase by an annual average of 112 jobs. With a full withdrawal, that increase would be 41 jobs annually, so the area would still see an increase in jobs.

See the Secretary's remarks and linked fact sheet from June 2011 for more:
http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/Secretary-Salazars-Remarks-from-Mather-Point-at-the-Rim-of-the-Grand-Canyon.cfm

---

From: Mansour, Christopher
Sent: Wednesday, October 12, 2011 1:16 PM
To: Hayes, David; Davis, Laura; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Urban, Heather; Buckner, Jason L; Kelly, Kate P; Fetcher, Adam K; Abbey, Robert V; Burke, Marcilynn
Subject: FW: SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN INTRODUCE THE NORTHERN ARIZONA MINING CONTINUITY ACT

From: Matiella, Nick (McCain) [mailto:Nick_Matiella@mccain.senate.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 12, 2011 11:45 AM
To: Mansour, Christopher
Subject: FW: SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN INTRODUCE THE NORTHERN ARIZONA MINING CONTINUITY ACT

Attached is the letter the Salazar re: uranium mining.

From: Rogers, Brian (McCain)

Sent: Wednesday, October 12, 2011 11:40 AM
To: Rogers, Brian (McCain)
Subject: SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN INTRODUCE THE NORTHERN ARIZONA MINING CONTINUITY ACT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Contact: Brian Rogers (McCain) 202-224-7130
Kate Middleton (Franks) 202-525-9471
Matthew Harakal (Hatch) 202- 224-5251
Melissa Subbotin (Bishop) 202-225-0453
Emily Bennion (Lee) 202-224-3904
Apryl Marie Fogel (Gosar) 202-225-2315
Genevieve Frye Rozansky (Flake) 202-225-2635
Rachel Semmel (Schweikert) 202-225-1941
Richard Cullen (Quayle) 202-225-3361

SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN INTRODUCE THE NORTHERN ARIZONA MINING CONTINUITY ACT

***Washington, D.C.* –** U.S. Senators John McCain (R-AZ), Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Mike Lee (R-UT) and U.S. Congressmen Trent Franks (AZ-02), Rob Bishop (UT-01), Jeff Flake (AZ-06), Paul Gosar (AZ-01), David Schweikert (AZ-05) and Ben Quayle (AZ-03) today introduced the *Northern Arizona Mining Continuity Act of 2011*. This legislation will stop the U.S. Department of the Interior from banning mining in a vast area of Arizona, and killing jobs in the uranium mining industry.

In a recent letter to Department of Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, several members of Congress wrote in protest of the Secretary's proposed a one million acre withdrawal of mining rights. The members stated the withdrawal has nothing to do with protecting the Grand Canyon environment but is actually 'de facto wilderness' for a region that conservationists previously agreed would remain accessible to the mining industry. The Interior Department's own environmental study on the proposed withdrawal found 'no conclusive evidence' that modern-day mining operations in this area are harming the Grand Canyon watershed.

The *Northern Arizona Mining Continuity Act of 2011* would uphold the historic agreement embodied by the Arizona Wilderness Act of 1984 (AWA) that designated parts of the Arizona Strip as Wilderness and restored other lands to reasonable and safe uranium mining uses. The letter points out that the AWA "expressly refrained from banning mining on the Arizona Strip."

"The Department's proposed mining withdrawal would kill hundreds of potential jobs to 'save' the Grand Canyon from the same form of uranium mining that conservation groups once supported," **said Senator McCain.** "It also threatens to unravel the spirit of the Arizona Wilderness Act and will raise significant questions for future Wilderness bills if agreements to accommodate responsible land uses are neither genuine nor enduring."

"Despite the fact that uranium mining efforts have for decades operated without impacting the environment or the beauty of our national parks, President Obama is nonetheless seeking to make 326-375 million pounds of the best quality uranium in the entire country off-limits, thus putting the desires of a handful of rabid environmentalists above America's long-term energy independence and national security," **said Congressman Franks.**

"The Obama Administration continues to push policies that stifle American energy exploration and job creation," **Senator Hatch said.** "Through Utah and the West, there's an abundance of energy that would help fuel the economic recovery we so desperately need. This legislation ensures that these vital public lands are accessible to domestic energy producers so we can harness the nation's second largest domestic source of uranium ore."

"This Department of Interior's decision to halt mining in this region is nothing more than a thinly veiled attempt to circumvent congress in order to create new de-facto wilderness areas. Blocking access to more than a third of the known U.S. uranium deposits would have a devastating impact on job creation and would increase our

reliance on foreign sources of uranium. As it stands, we already depend on other countries for more than 90% of our uranium needs," **said Congressman Rob Bishop.** "This legislation will block yet another federal land grab and help ensure that we have access to our abundant domestic energy resources, which are essential to the future of this country."

"After having his 'wild lands' policy resoundingly rejected by Utahns and other state and local officials, Secretary Salazar appears intent upon using whatever authority he can claim to lock up lands in the western states," **said Senator Lee.** "The withdrawal of one million acres of mining rights also reneges on a compromise between the federal government and the mining industry negotiated in good faith almost thirty years ago, setting an unwelcome precedent that could have future negative consequences. This legislation will stand as yet another rebuke of the administration's relentless pursuit of federal land grabs and reinforce the message that the people, not federal bureaucrats, should be the final authority on what happens to land within their state's borders."

"Uranium mining in northern Arizona can create jobs and stimulate the region's economy without jeopardizing the splendor and natural beauty of the area, and that's why Arizona's federal, state, and local officials oppose a moratorium on such mining," **said Congressman Flake.**

"It is important we focus on the facts surrounding mining in the Northern Arizona Mining district," **said Congressman Gosar.** "It is simply false and misleading to assert that if the Administration's withdrawal is not enacted, uranium mining will take place 'in' the canyon or 'in' the park. However without a doubt, if the Administration's proposed withdrawal is enacted, the potential for nearly $30 billion dollars of economic growth opportunities – nearly $700 million annually and over a thousand well paying jobs – will be eliminated. I am proud to cosponsor this important legislation, and I strongly support environmentally responsible development of our country's vast energy and mineral resources that will expand our domestic energy supply, create new American jobs, and lessen our dependence on foreign sources of energy and minerals."

"At a time when we are desperate for jobs and economic growth, this Administration continues to do everything in its power to implement the job-killing policies of fringe environmental groups. This withdrawal is not so much a protection of the Grand Canyon, but a government land grab of economically fertile mining land," **said Congressman Schweikert.**

"It is remarkable that we need legislation to force the Administration to stop such an unwarranted ban," **said Congressman Quayle.** "A study conducted by the same department that is proposing the mining withdrawal found 'no conclusive evidence' that modern-day mining will cause any harm to the Grand Canyon region. Despite these findings, the Department of Interior is still pushing forward even though the ban will prevent the creation of thousands of potential Arizona jobs and economic growth for the state. The Administration is once again putting special interests ahead of job creation."

Letter and bill attached.

###

U.S. SENATOR • ARIZONA

JOHN McCAIN

http://mccain.senate.gov

PRESS RELEASE

From:	Abbey, Robert V
To:	Lin, Janet H; Lane, Kenneth
Cc:	Hayes, David; Conklin, Meghan M; Pool, Michael J; Ned_Farquhar@blm.gov; Cardinale, Richard
Subject:	Re: Timelines requested from BLM
Date:	Thursday, January 13, 2011 4:39:36 PM

Ken: As Janet indicated, our schedule is dependent on whether the OMB deems the rule significant. My feedback is they have determined the rule to be significant. If OMB wishes to reconsider and then finds this action as not significant, we could have the rule in place much sooner.

Bob

----- Original Message -----
From: Janet H Lin
Sent: 01/13/2011 04:30 PM EST
To: "Lane, Kenneth" <Kenneth_Lane@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Hayes, David" <David_Hayes@ios.doi.gov>; "Conklin, Meghan M" <Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov>; Mike Pool; "Ned_Farquhar@blm.gov" <Ned_Farquhar@blm.gov>; "Cardinale, Richard" <Richard_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov>; Robert Abbey
Subject: RE: Timelines requested from BLM
Ken:

The Interim Final will go out along with the Proposed Rule, so the timeline is for both.

- Janet

Janet H. Lin
Chief of Staff, Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-3801
(202) 208-5242 (f)

"Lane, Kenneth" <Kenneth_Lane@ios.doi.gov>
01/13/2011 04:14 PM

To
"Janet_Lin@blm.gov" <Janet_Lin@blm.gov>, "Hayes, David" <David_Hayes@ios.doi.gov>

cc
"Cardinale, Richard" <Richard_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov>, "Ned_Farquhar@blm.gov" <Ned_Farquhar@blm.gov>, "Robert_Abbey@blm.gov" <Robert_Abbey@blm.gov>, "Mike_Pool@blm.gov" <Mike_Pool@blm.gov>, "Conklin,

Meghan M"
<Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov>
Subject
RE: Timelines requested from BLM

Clarifying question on the wind and solar energy zone mineral withdrawal rule. There was some issue as to whether to proceed with an interim or a final rule and the Secretary determined both should be pursued in the interests of time.

The below timeline is for which process?

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

From: Janet_Lin@blm.gov [mailto:Janet_Lin@blm.gov]
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2011 3:47 PM
To: Lane, Kenneth; Hayes, David
Cc: Cardinale, Richard; Ned_Farquhar@blm.gov; Robert_Abbey@blm.gov; Mike_Pool@blm.gov; Conklin, Meghan M
Subject: Timelines requested from BLM

Ken and David - Per your request to Bob Abbey, attached is the timeline information on the items below:

(1)the wind and solar energy zone mineral withdrawal rule
(2) Grand Canyon area lands withdrawal EIS
(3) Whether the onshore royalty rate reform cost-benefit and economic analysis is still on track for January completion

1. Timeline for Segregation/Withdrawal Rule - We expect feedback from the Solicitor's review today - this could affect timelines depending on the scope of changes that arise out of that review. Also affecting timelines is the scope of OMB review - we understand that the Department may be discussing this issue with OMB.

12/21/11 - Draft provided to SOL, awaiting SOL comments

1/21/11 - BLM surname package complete

1/29/11 - Rule package ready for ASLM review

2/2/11 - Rule package ready for Departmental review

2/4/11 - Rule package ready for OMB review

5/5/11 - OMB clears the rule (if deemed significant)

5/5/11 - Send Rule to the Federal Register

2. Timeline for Grand Canyon EIS:

Task	Date Beginning	Date Completed
Advanced Copies sent to Tribes, EPA, and OEPC	February 8, 2011	February 10, 2011
Publication of NOA, Release to Public	February 18, 2011	February 18, 2011
Public Comment Period	February 18, 2011	April 4, 2011
Tribal Meetings (still in discussion with the 7 tribes for specific dates)	February 21, 2011	March 11, 2011
Public Meetings (Executive Team will be deciding whether to reschedule to week of 3/7 or 3/21 on conference call today)	March 14, 2011	March 18, 2011

3. Onshore royalty rate reform cost-benefit and economic analysis:

The contractor is on track to provide to the BLM a report by the end of January.

Let me know if you need anything else.

- Janet

Janet H. Lin
Chief of Staff, Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior

1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-3801
(202) 208-5242 (f)

From: Abbey, Robert V
To: Black, Steve
Cc: Boddington, Celia; Falsey, William D
Subject: Re: Uranium withdrawal
Date: Wednesday, September 28, 2011 6:10:50 PM

Steve: Bill F. has forwarded your request to our public affairs folks. They will provide you with a short summary based on previous talking points.

Bob

From: Black, Steve
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2011 04:02 PM
To: Abbey, Robert V; Pool, Michael J; Kornze, Neil G; Falsey, William D
Cc: Lee-Ashley, Matt
Subject: Uranium withdrawal

Bob et al., our colleagues at CEQ have asked for a short explanation of your and the Secretary's recent decision to extend the Grand Canyon withdrawal. The WSJ posted a critical piece online last Friday:
http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111904060604576573000173005420.html

Do you have something already in the can (information memo or fact sheet) that I can send over to Neal and Jason? I know we advised WH Comms and CEQ leg affairs before making the announcement, and the House rider was the subject of the WH SAP, but the Journal article apparently prompted the request. Many thanks.

Steve

Steve Black
Counselor to the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W., MS 7229
Washington, D.C. 20240
Phone: 202-208-4123
Fax: 202-208-4561
e-mail: steve_black@ios.doi.gov

From: Abbey, Robert V
To: Lane, Kenneth; Farquhar, Ned
Cc: Lin, Janet H
Subject: Re:
Date: Wednesday, December 01, 2010 2:38:23 PM

Ken; we are working with PMB per David Hayes on language that we can include in the draft EIS to address comments we received during internal DOI review. Janet Lin in our office is working closely with David's office and PMB as well as our BLM AZ offices to reach closure on existing issues so we can prepare the final draft. If you have further questions, feel free to give her a call in the MIB. Hopefully, we will have resolution soon so we can send the draft to the printers.

Bob

From: "Lane, Kenneth" [Kenneth_Lane@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: 12/01/2010 01:30 PM EST
To: Robert Abbey; "Farquhar, Ned" <Ned_Farquhar@ios.doi.gov>

Any update on draft EIS for Grand Canyon Area Lands Withdrawal? (I wasn't at ASLM meeting this week)

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

From:	Abbey, Robert V
To:	Lane, Kenneth; Farquhar, Ned
Cc:	Nedd, Michael D
Subject:	Re:
Date:	Wednesday, December 01, 2010 2:43:57 PM

Ken:

OMB came back to us last Friday with a determination that our proposed action is deemed significant which means a lot more work and delay. Faye in EX Sec told me that David Hayes would talk with OMB in an attempt to get a more favorable response. Mike Nedd, is our point of contact. I will have him forward you any new information regarding the status of the proposed rule.

Bob

From: "Lane, Kenneth" [Kenneth_Lane@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: 12/01/2010 01:33 PM EST
To: Robert Abbey; "Farquhar, Ned" <Ned_Farquhar@ios.doi.gov>

And the wind & solar energy zone mining claim rule (tentatively scheduled for rollout Dec 17?)

Any update on draft EIS for Grand Canyon Area Lands Withdrawal? (I wasn't at ASLM meeting this week)

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
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Washington, D.C. 20240
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From:	Hayes, David
To:	Diehl, Barbara
Subject:	FW: Today"s 4 pm meeting
Date:	Monday, December 05, 2011 2:52:05 PM
Attachments:	12-02-11_DOI_read-ahead.doc Endangered Species Act Actionsv3 - 2012.docx

---

Pls print these and put in a folder for me. Thanks.

David J. Hayes
Deputy Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
david_hayes@ios.doi.gov
202-208-6291

From: Davis, Laura
Sent: Monday, December 05, 2011 2:46 PM
To: Ashe, D M; Abbey, Robert V
Cc: Lee-Ashley, Matt; Hayes, David; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Kornze, Neil G
Subject: Today's 4 pm meeting

Dan and Bob,
Thank you for rearranging your schedules to attend the meeting with us today at 4 pm. It will take place in the Situation Room Executive Conference Room in the West Wing.

This is a check-in/look ahead meeting with the senior White House team; we have done these annually each year. We sent the attached document as our look ahead; you will see that it flags (b) (5) [redacted] We also are bringing an ESA-specific doc as a leave behind, and on the expectation that (b) (5) [redacted] (doc attached – Dan look it over!).

I will call you both momentarily to see if you have questions. Here is who we expect from the WH:

Nancy-Ann DeParle
Chris Lu
Ruchi Bhowmik
Andrei Greenawalt
Nikki Buffa
Mike Boots (CEQ)
Clark Stevens (Press)

Again, thanks.
Laura

Endangered Species Act Actions (and other Wildlife Protection Statutes)

December 2011

- (b) (5) [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]

January 2012

- (b) (5) [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]

February 2012

- (b) (5) [redacted]

Later in FY 2012 (all court-driven)

- (b) (5) [redacted]

CONFIDENTIAL AND PRIVILEGED
Upcoming Announcements
U.S. Department of the Interior
December 2, 2011

Expanding Safe and Responsible Energy Production

- (b) (5) [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
  - [redacted]
  - [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]

- [redacted]
- [redacted]

Protecting America's Great Outdoors

- (b) (5) [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- [redacted]

Empowering Native Americans and Alaska Natives

- (b) (5) [redacted]

From:	Johnson, Terri
To:	Anderson, James E
Subject:	FW: DOI Weekly Report
Date:	Thursday, December 01, 2011 6:38:55 PM
Attachments:	Interior White House Report 12 01 11.doc

From: Lane, Kenneth
Sent: Thursday, December 01, 2011 5:26 PM
To: Johnson, Terri; Nicole_Buffa@who.eop.gov
Subject: FW: DOI Weekly Report

Hi Nikki,

I needed to include a few minor timeline updates in the report. No substantive changes.

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor to the Secretary,
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240
Room 6142
202-208-7435 phone

From: Johnson, Terri
Sent: Thursday, December 01, 2011 5:00 PM
To: Nicole_Buffa@who.eop.gov
Cc: Davis, Laura; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Lane, Kenneth; Hayes, David; Anderson, James E; Milakofsky, Ben E
Subject: DOI Weekly Report

Good afternoon Nikki – Hopefully you were able to make it over to the tree lighting this afternoon. Attached is DOI's weekly report.

Terri

CONFIDENTIAL AND PRIVILEGED

Weekly Report to the President
Secretary Ken Salazar
U.S. Department of the Interior
December 1, 2011

I. Secretary of the Interior's Personal Message to the President:

Mr. President: (b) (5)

II. Summary of Anticipated Press in the Coming Week:
(b) (5)

III. Highlights of Secretarial Travel, Media, Meetings, and Other Public Events:

Monday, December 5
- No reportable scheduled events

Tuesday, December 6
- No reportable scheduled events

Wednesday, December 7
- No reportable scheduled events

Thursday, December 8
- No reportable scheduled events

Friday, December 9
(b) (5)

Saturday, December 10
- No reportable scheduled events

Sunday, December 11
- No reportable scheduled events

IV. Legislative, Legal and Policy Issues

Developing Renewable Energy & Oversight of Energy Production

Alaska Oil and Gas Lease Sale (b) (5)

Renewable Energy Projects (b) (5)

Arctic Oil and Gas Development (b) (5)

Promoting America's Great Outdoors & Wildlife

NEW: Endangered Species Act—(b) (5)

Rock Creek Park (DC) White-tailed Deer Management Plan (b) (5)

Congressional Information Requests

Senators Inhofe and Sessions (b) (5)

Senator Sessions—(b) (5)

V. 30-60 Day Look Ahead—Legislative, Legal and Policy Issues

Promoting America's Great Outdoors & Wildlife

Grand Canyon Land Withdrawal (b) (5)

Eagle Protections—(b) (5)

Onshore Wind Energy Guidelines—(b) (5)

Wild Horse & Burro Management (b) (5)

Sage Grouse Protection (b) (5)

Cape Hatteras National Seashore (NC) Off-road Vehicle Management—(b) (5)

Manatee Protection—(b) (5)

Developing Renewable Energy & Oversight of Energy Production

NEW: Onshore Renewable Energy Projects—(b) (5)

Solar and Wind Leasing (b) (5)

Fracking Fluids Disclosure— (b) (5)

Onshore Royalty Rates—(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale (b) (5)

Offshore Drilling Safety (b) (5)

Supplemental Ethics for Offshore Regulators (b) (5)

Royalties on BP Deepwater Horizon Macondo Well—(b) (5)

U.S.-Mexico Transboundary Hydrocarbon Agreement (b) (5)

Empowering Native Americans

Indian Gaming Handbook (b) (5)

From:	roger clark
To:	Lyder, Jane
Subject:	Fwd: McCain PR: SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN INTRODUCE THE NORTHERN ARIZONA MINING CONTINUITY ACT
Date:	Wednesday, October 12, 2011 12:27:07 PM

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **richard mayol** <rmayol@grandcanyontrust.org>
Date: Wed, Oct 12, 2011 at 9:23 AM
Subject: McCain PR: SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN INTRODUCE THE NORTHERN ARIZONA MINING CONTINUITY ACT
To: Roger and Joelle Clark <rclark@grandcanyontrust.org>, Jane Danowitz <jDanowitz@pewtrusts.org>, PAt Mitchell <mitchell@sso.org>, Taylor McKinnon (b) (6) "Moore, Rick" <rmoore@grandcanyontrust.org>, "Hedden, Bill" (b) (6) Western Conservation Foundation <andrea@wcfnd.org>, Steve Martin (b) (6) , Ty Cobb <tcobb@hhlaw.com>, Patrick Von Bar ngillespie.com>

SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN INTRODUCE THE NORTHERN ARIZONA MINING CONTINUITY ACT

October 12, 2011

***Washington, D.C.* –** U.S. Senators John McCain (R-AZ), Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Mike Lee (R-UT) and U.S. Congressmen Trent Franks (AZ-02), Rob Bishop (UT-01), Jeff Flake (AZ-06), Paul Gosar (AZ-01), David Schweikert (AZ-05) and Ben Quayle (AZ-03) today introduced the *Northern Arizona Mining Continuity Act of 2011*. This legislation will stop the U.S. Department of the Interior from banning mining in a vast area of Arizona, and killing jobs in the uranium mining industry.

In a recent letter to Department of Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, several members of Congress wrote in protest of the Secretary's proposed one million acre withdrawal of mining rights. The members stated the withdrawal has nothing to do with protecting the Grand Canyon environment but is actually 'de facto wilderness' for a region that conservationists previously agreed would remain accessible to the mining industry. The Interior Department's own environmental study on the proposed withdrawal found 'no conclusive evidence' that modern-day mining operations in this area are harming the Grand Canyon watershed.

The *Northern Arizona Mining Continuity Act of 2011* would uphold the historic agreement embodied by the Arizona Wilderness Act of 1984 (AWA) that designated parts of the Arizona Strip as Wilderness and restored other lands to reasonable and safe uranium mining uses. The letter points out that the AWA "expressly refrained from banning mining on the Arizona Strip."

"The Department's proposed mining withdrawal would kill hundreds of potential jobs to 'save' the Grand Canyon from the same form of uranium mining that conservation groups once supported," **said Senator McCain.** "It also threatens to unravel the spirit of the Arizona

Wilderness Act and will raise significant questions for future Wilderness bills if agreements to accommodate responsible land uses are neither genuine nor enduring."

"Despite the fact that uranium mining efforts have for decades operated without impacting the environment or the beauty of our national parks, President Obama is nonetheless seeking to make 326-375 million pounds of the best quality uranium in the entire country off-limits, thus putting the desires of a handful of rabid environmentalists above America's long-term energy independence and national security," **said Congressman Franks.**

"The Obama Administration continues to push policies that stifle American energy exploration and job creation," **Senator Hatch said.** "Through Utah and the West, there's an abundance of energy that would help fuel the economic recovery we so desperately need. This legislation ensures that these vital public lands are accessible to domestic energy producers so we can harness the nation's second largest domestic source of uranium ore."

"This Department of Interior's decision to halt mining in this region is nothing more than a thinly veiled attempt to circumvent congress in order to create new de-facto wilderness areas. Blocking access to more than a third of the known U.S. uranium deposits would have a devastating impact on job creation and would increase our reliance on foreign sources of uranium. As it stands, we already depend on other countries for more than 90% of our uranium needs," **said Congressman Rob Bishop.** "This legislation will block yet another federal land grab and help ensure that we have access to our abundant domestic energy resources, which are essential to the future of this country."

"After having his 'wild lands' policy resoundingly rejected by Utahns and other state and local officials, Secretary Salazar appears intent upon using whatever authority he can claim to lock up lands in the western states," **said Senator Lee.** "The withdrawal of one million acres of mining rights also reneges on a compromise between the federal government and the mining industry negotiated in good faith almost thirty years ago, setting an unwelcome precedent that could have future negative consequences. This legislation will stand as yet another rebuke of the administration's relentless pursuit of federal land grabs and reinforce the message that the people, not federal bureaucrats, should be the final authority on what happens to land within their state's borders."

"Uranium mining in northern Arizona can create jobs and stimulate the region's economy without jeopardizing the splendor and natural beauty of the area, and that's why Arizona's federal, state, and local officials oppose a moratorium on such mining," **said Congressman Flake.**

"It is important we focus on the facts surrounding mining in the Northern Arizona Mining district," **said Congressman Gosar.** "It is simply false and misleading to assert that if the Administration's withdrawal is not enacted, uranium mining will take place 'in' the canyon or 'in' the park. However without a doubt, if the Administration's proposed withdrawal is enacted, the potential for nearly $30 billion dollars of economic growth opportunities – nearly $700 million annually and over a thousand well paying jobs – will be eliminated. I am proud to cosponsor this important legislation, and I strongly support environmentally responsible development of our country's vast energy and mineral resources that will expand our domestic energy supply, create new American jobs, and lessen our dependence on foreign sources of energy and minerals."

"At a time when we are desperate for jobs and economic growth, this Administration

continues to do everything in its power to implement the job-killing policies of fringe environmental groups. This withdrawal is not so much a protection of the Grand Canyon, but a government land grab of economically fertile mining land," **said Congressman Schweikert.**

"It is remarkable that we need legislation to force the Administration to stop such an unwarranted ban," **said Congressman Quayle.** "A study conducted by the same department that is proposing the mining withdrawal found 'no conclusive evidence' that modern-day mining will cause any harm to the Grand Canyon region. Despite these findings, the Department of Interior is still pushing forward even though the ban will prevent the creation of thousands of potential Arizona jobs and economic growth for the state. The Administration is once again putting special interests ahead of job creation."

--

Richard Mayol

Director
Communications & Government Affairs
Grand Canyon Trust
2601 N. Fort Valley Rd.
Flagstaff, Arizona 86001
www.grandcanyontrust.org

928.774.7488 Voice

--

Roger Clark
Air & Energy Program Director
(928) 774-7488
grandcanyontrust.org

From:	roger clark
To:	Moore, Rick; Mayol, Richard; whedden; Ty Cobb; Patrick Von Bargen; Steve Martin; nlevine@grandcanyontrust.org; John Leshy; Wilkinson, Charles; Pam Hait; Pam Eaton; Babbitt, Jim; Bonderman, David; Budinger, Bill; Callister, Lou; Enote, Jim; Fingerhut, Bert; Marx, Bud; Mathew Garver; McKinley, Marie; Milliken, John; Owen Olpin; Rebecca Tsosie; Speers, Jennifer; Wyss, Hansjoerg
Subject:	GC Uranuim Hearing
Date:	Saturday, November 05, 2011 11:11:40 AM
Attachments:	GCT Letter To Salazar.Final.11.1.11.pdf Brinkley NYT.10.31.11.docx

---

Good morning:

Another interesting week in D.C. with the Republican-led subcommittee bringing in McCain and Hatch to testify (please see story and you tube ink below). Although we were heavily outnumbered, Steve Verkamp and Mark Trautwein held their own with great help from Grijalva and CA Congressman Garamendi.

Meanwhile, we managed to hand deliver a letter of thanks from GCT's board, signed by Ty, to the Secretary of Interior (please see attached). And the week began with a nice boost from Douglas Brinkley's oped in the NYT (attached).

Prior to and after Thursday's hearing. we teamed up with NPCA in shoring up support in the Senate to block McCain's legislation. We met with Patty Beneke and David Brooks (Senate Committee on Energy and NR), Kaleb Froehlich, Senior Republican Counsel (Senate Energy &NR) and staffers with Senators Reid, T&M Udall, Kerry, Moran, Murray, and others.

Thanks again for your interest and support.
Roger

GRAND CANYON:

GOP pulls out all stops for uranium mining

Manuel Quinones, E&E reporter

Published: Friday, November 4, 2011

Stopping the Obama administration's plans to limit uranium mining around the Grand Canyon has become one of the top legislative priorities of Republicans in Congress.

A hearing of the House Public Lands Subcommittee yesterday featured a parade of witnesses -- including experts, lawmakers and industry advocates -- calling on Interior Secretary Ken Salazar to block plans to withdraw more than 1 million acres in the area from new mining claims. Democrats and conservationists, worried about irreversible pollution, are trying to work just as hard to make sure the proposal sticks.

The discussions, often involving well-worn arguments, have become relatively contentious with both sides accusing each other of spinning the truth.

Subcommittee Chairman Rep. Rob Bishop (R-Utah) used Shakespearean terms to open the latest battle in the long war over the canyon's future. "I think you're going to hear the administration come forward auditioning for the roles of Petruchio and Katherine in 'Taming of

the Shrew,'" Bishop said. "Because they will tell us the sun is the moon, the day is night, that green is red and black is white."

Stephen Verkamp, president of Verkamp's, a popular stop at the canyon, said, "When we speak of the Grand Canyon it must be understood that the canyon does not start at the edge of the precipice. Nor is it an arbitrary line on a map, but rather it is the sum-total of the entire area surrounding those edges."

"The public lands surrounding the national park are likewise critical to the integrity of the wild nature of the environment," he added, "and must be protected."

Debating science and jobs

Bureau of Land Management Director Bob Abbey spoke against the GOP bill (**H.R. 3155**) to block the withdrawal. He accused the Republicans of wanting to scrap an effort that has taken years and involved numerous stakeholders, including American Indian tribes in northern Arizona.

"Science, caution and an eye to future generations must guide the management of the Grand Canyon and surrounding lands," Abbey said, adding that the natural wonder "took millennia to create, and the process of making important decisions about its future should not be cut short."

Mining supporters say Obama administration officials are the ones not paying attention to science. Bill sponsor Rep. Trent Franks (R-Ariz.) cited University of Arizona researchers who dismissed the chance of any major contamination from uranium mining near the Grand Canyon.

"With all of this data and the lack of any evidence from the Bureau of Land Management indicating the unsafe operation of uranium mines," Franks said, "the Obama administration is still willing to make up to approximately 326 million pounds of the best uranium in the country off-limits."

Geologist and Nobel laureate Karen Wenrich said, "The secretary's [environmental impact statement] shows no environmental impacts that cannot be readily mitigated." She said that dumping a truck of uranium ore into the Colorado River, a source of drinking water for numerous downstream communities, would only have minimal effects.

Democrats and environmentalists largely dismiss Wenrich's expertise because of her financial stake in uranium mining around the Grand Canyon. They say uranium company American Energy Fields Inc. has offered to buy 61 mining claims from Wenrich for $225,000, contingent on federal approval of new claims (***E&ENews PM***, June 10).

"Just like everyone in northern Arizona, I stand to benefit from having a job," she said, adding that she conducted her research before the deal.

Democrats say blocking new mining claims around the Grand Canyon will help the tourism economy, an argument backed by Coconino County leaders.

But Mohave County, Ariz., Supervisor Buster Johnson said mining and recreation have coexisted well in the past. "They both grew at the same time," he told lawmakers.

Executives at Denison Mines Corp., which runs the only working mines in the area, say the withdrawal could hurt their operations and their mill in nearby Utah.

"While the withdrawal will not affect the currently operating mines," Roberts said, "it potentially jeopardizes plans for the three additional ore deposits controlled by Denison, and possibly takes

those properties from us and eliminates future jobs."

Indeed, the withdrawal would only affect new mining claims. Existing ones that prove valid could become new mines. The issue has led to questions about how BLM would determine validity.

"It would have to be a discovery," Abbey said, "and that discovery would have to have the existence of a valuable mineral deposit."

Deal or no deal?

Individuals and companies have staked more than 3,000 claims in the so-called Arizona Strip. Abbey said the administration foresees the development of roughly a dozen new mines under a withdrawal and about three times that without any limitations. Both sides are using that assessment to their advantage.

Bishop said sarcastically, "Where is the humanity if you are actually going to allow 11 mines to move forward?"

"There is no rational basis for saying the secretary's order stops mining," said Mark Trautwein, former staff consultant with the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

Democrats invited Trautwein in an effort to cut holes into a Republican claim that the withdrawal violates previous agreements made leading up to the Arizona Wilderness Act of 1984, which protected some areas and left others open for mining.

"Neither the history nor the provisions of the Arizona Wilderness Act support the idea that these events settled issues addressed by Secretary Salazar's order," he said.

Rep. Raúl Grijalva (D-Ariz.) said, "It was never the intent of the legislation to make the lands around the Grand Canyon permanently open to uranium mining."

"That staff member was not there at every meeting," Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) said sternly earlier in the hearing, referring to Trautwein. "That was the price of the agreement by [former Arizona Republican] Congressman [Bob] Stump." McCain added that skeptics of a deal were "mischaracterizing the facts and shame on them."

Reflecting on the 2008 race against President Obama, McCain said, "Elections have consequences." He noted that none of this would be happening if he had been elected president.

Abbey said the withdrawal was not anti-mining. He described it as an effort to allow further study of the consequences of uranium mining. Abbey said the dramatic rise in claims over the past several years prompted the administration to act.

Grijalva wants to go further, introducing legislation (**H.R. 855**) to make the withdrawal permanent. He joins activists in saying that even new uranium mining methods are not enough to prevent pollution.

"Risk is in the eye of the beholder," Grijalva said. "Certainly the industry tells you there is no risk. But those of us who think that any unintended consequence that proves to be negative is not a risk worth taking. I would rather err on the side of caution. Too much is at stake."

Good speech by Grijalva on the R's uranium bill.

Highlights of the Nov. 3 hearing before the House Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands on uranium mining near the Grand Canyon are available here: http://bit.ly/s3KRpr

At around the 6:10 mark, Sen. John McCain blames the outcome of the 2008 election for what he says is a lack of uranium mining near the Grand Canyon. Around the 12:00 mark, Rep. Grijalva asks Karen Wenrich – a former scientist who owns land that would become extremely valuable if uranium mining were expanded near the Canyon – how much she stands to gain if the bill she testified on behalf of were passed. Ms. Wenrich argues that her support has nothing to do with her financial interests.

Buffering the Grand Canyon

By DOUGLAS BRINKLEY

Published: October 30, 2011

IN 1903, President Theodore Roosevelt didn't need a guidebook to tell him that the Grand Canyon was the most precious heirloom the United States possessed. Staring out for the first time from the canyon's rim at the immensity of the chasm, he trembled with sheer joy. This was America's Westminster Abbey, Louvre and Taj Mahal rolled into one.

Back then, the Arizona Territory was debating whether to preserve the canyon or mine it for zinc, copper, asbestos and other minerals. A similar threat looms today over the canyon vistas just beyond the park's boundaries, where mining companies, foreign and domestic, have been filing claims to extract uranium from the surrounding national forest.

The idea of letting miners loose on the Grand Canyon struck Roosevelt as criminal. To him, the canyon was an American birthright. "In your own interest and the interest of all the country keep this great wonder of nature as it now is," he told a crowd of Arizonans assembled for his visit. "You cannot improve upon it. The ages have been at work on it, and man can only mar it."

Roosevelt fought fiercely to persuade Congress to preserve the Grand Canyon as a national park. But a cabal of mining outfits and their lobbyists blocked his efforts. After getting nowhere, on July 11, 1908, Roosevelt used his executive authority to unilaterally declare more than 800,000 acres of the Grand Canyon off limits to development. His weapon was the Antiquities Act of 1906, which empowers the president to protect federal lands as national monuments. (The canyon was upgraded to a national park in 1919.)

Few would argue today that Roosevelt was wrong. The canyon is one of the world's great natural wonders, and the park has also become a tourism engine. About 4.5 million people visit each year, generating more than $3.5 billion annually for the regional economy.

But as uranium prices escalated in recent years, there was a rush to stake claims on federal lands just beyond the park. An 1872 mining law allows free access to public lands, and thousands of claims have been filed over the last few years, many by foreign companies, including one controlled by the Russian nuclear agency Rosatom. These companies are not even required to pay royalties to the United States.

It's clear that the Grand Canyon needs a new permanent protection to safeguard it from the desecrations of uranium mining. The Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Energy and others are well aware of the sorry legacy left behind by uranium miners, with abandoned mines, contaminated wells and radiation hazards that endure years later.

In June, the Obama administration extended a temporary moratorium imposed in 2009 on the filing of new mining claims on a million acres surrounding Grand Canyon National Park as it studied the potential harm to the region.

This is all the more reason President Obama should follow Roosevelt's example and use the Antiquities Act to preserve the national forest and other public lands surrounding the Grand Canyon as a national monument. The land is already owned by the government. All mining claims would immediately be rejected. Existing mining operations would be phased out. If the uranium companies want to use the 1872 mining law to exploit the canyon, President Obama should use the 1906 law to stop them.

President George W. Bush used the Antiquities Act in 2006 to designate 195,000 square miles in the Pacific Ocean as the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument. Mr. Obama could become a conservation hero for doing the same for the Grand Canyon.

"We regard Attic temples and Roman triumphal arches and Gothic cathedrals as a priceless value," Roosevelt wrote. "But we are, as a whole, still in that low state of civilization where we do not understand that it is also vandalism wantonly to destroy or to permit the destruction of what is beautiful in nature, whether it be a cliff or forest, or a species of mammal or bird."

Douglas Brinkley, a professor of history at Rice University, is the author of "The Wilderness Warrior: Theodore Roosevelt and the Crusade for America."

http://www nytimes.com/2011/10/31/opinion/the-grand-canyon-and-mining.html

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Charles Wilkinson
Boulder, CO
Hansjoerg Wyss
West Chester, PA

Bert Fingerhut
Counselor
Palo Alto, CA
N. Scott Momaday
Poet Laureate
Santa Fe, NM

November 1, 2011

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

The Board of Trustees of the Grand Canyon Trust deeply appreciates your considered and honorable decision to protect the Grand Canyon from new uranium claims. We are proud to join businesses, Havasupai elders, chambers of commerce, city and county officials, sporting groups, and citizens from around the region and the world in applauding this landmark decision.

As the mining industry continues to pressure your administration to reverse your decision prior to the final Record of Decision, it is important to recall that the 1872 Mining Law was enacted while the recently established Department of the Interior was completing its geological survey of the West and preparing the first accurate map of the Grand Canyon. Forty-four years later, in 1916, Congress designated Grand Canyon as a national park to protect it for future generations. But dozens of mines and claims had already been established within its boundaries. Today, these abandoned old mines continue to pollute the Canyon and are costing taxpayers millions of dollars to remediate.

Your decision to prevent thousands of new uranium claims from further threating the Grand Canyon is a prudent and appropriate response to an antiquated law. Thank you for your timely intervention to protect one of our nation's most valued natural wonders.

Sincerely,

Ty Cobb
President of the Board

2601 N. Fort Valley Rd., Flagstaff, Arizona 86001 (928) 774-7488 FAX (928) 774-7570
www.grandcanyontrust.org

From: rclark@grandcanyontrust.org
To: Lyder, Jane
Subject: Re: Monday 9 am Conference Call on proposed N AZ uranium withdrawal
Date: Monday, June 20, 2011 2:22:26 PM

Thanks

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: "Lyder, Jane" <Jane_Lyder@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Mon, 20 Jun 2011 13:59:57 -0400
To: Lyder, Jane<Jane_Lyder@ios.doi.gov>; roger clark<rclark@grandcanyontrust.org>
Cc: Carletta Tilousi (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Leann (b) (6) Loretta Jackson-Kelly (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Monday 9 am Conference Call on propos awal

Attached is a fact sheet on today's announcement.

Jane

From: Lyder, Jane
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2011 5:38 PM
To: 'roger clark'
Cc: Carletta Tilousi; (b) (6) Leann; Loretta Jackson-Kelly
Subject: Monday 9 am Conference Call on proposed N AZ uranium withdrawal

Thanks! I am trying to set up a conference call with all of you for this Monday June 20 at noon ET -- 9 am AZ time – to talk about the Grand Canyon proposed withdrawal. The call-in number is (b) (5) (b) (5) and the passcode is (b) (5) If there are other interested tribal representatives that want to call in please feel free to invite them to do so.

Jane

Jane Lyder
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks
Department of the Interior
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-4416

From: roger clark [mailto:rclark@grandcanyontrust.org]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2011 5:03 PM

To: Lyder, Jane
Cc: Carletta Tilousi; (b) (5) ; Leann; Loretta Jackson-Kelly
Subject: Friday Email

Hi Jane:
Got your phone message. I'm copying tribal leaders.

--
Roger Clark
Air & Energy Program Director
(928) 774-7488
grandcanyontrust.org

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Air & Energy Program Director
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From:	roger clark
To:	Shafroth_William; Lyder_Jane; Meghan.Conklin
Subject:	Uranium Investment News Story
Date:	Friday, May 13, 2011 8:52:15 AM

The Future of Opposition To Uranium Mining In Arizona

May 12, 2011

The Future of Opposition To **Uranium Mining** In Arizona
Uranium Investing News

By Michelle Smith—Exclusive to Uranium Investing News [1][2]

Arizona's breccia pipes contain some of the world's purest uranium. There is a significant amount of interest in establishing mining [3] operations to explore and extract it. That interest cannot currently be pursued due to a federal segregation, or time-out, imposed in 2009. But, change may be in the forecast because the segregation expires in July.

Uranium mining in this area known as the Arizona Strip [4] is a hot topic. Much of the land where these resources lie belongs to the US government. The segregation, which halted consideration of new claims to that land, went into effect after Ken Salazar, US Secretary of Interior, published a notice proposing to withdraw approximately 1 million acres. Withdrawal will eliminate new mining claims on that land for 20 years.

Salazar and other opponents are strongly against mining in the region because it will occur in areas surrounding the Grand Canyon, a renowned US landmark. Another major concern is that the area is home to numerous native American tribes who argue that mining will adversely affect their way of life. The opposition also includes environmentalists who have concerns about wildlife and pollution.

Putting claims into perspective

Mounting numbers of claims prompted Secretary Salazar to propose the withdrawal in the first place. There are currently over 3,000 claims, according to Dennis Godfrey, Public Affairs Specialist at the Arizona Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), which manages the federal land in question. But, he says those numbers mean little because every claim will not become a mine.

Some parties hold multiple claims and these merely establish rights to a particular piece of property. Before any activity can occur, several steps must be taken. To even drill for exploration purposes, the claim holder must submit a Notice of Proposed Exploration and may only proceed once a permit is issued. Establishing a mine involves a detailed list of preparatory actions, such as submitting a Plan of Operation, putting up a bond and obtaining a variety of permits.

Furthermore, many claimants are letting their claims expire since they need to pay annual fees to maintain them. A claim is not enough to give a person a right to mine if a withdrawal is enacted and Godfrey says many claimants are not confident it is worth the cost.

Debating the matter

During the time-out an investigation of the impact on natural, cultural and social resources has been underway. Public meetings were held and a period of public comment concluded last week after about 300,000 comments were submitted to BLM.

A solution to many of the concerns that have been expressed was devised 25 years ago in the Arizona Wilderness Act, Senators John McCain and Jon Kyl said in a letter [5] to Arizona Congressman Raul Grijalva. “And to this day, uranium mining activities on the Arizona Strip have a record of productive operation and successful reclamation without impacting the Grand Canyon.”

There is currently one uranium mine operating in the area owned by Denison Mines (AMEX:DNN [6]) (TSE:DML [7]), a Canadian company.

BLM, with the help of government and non-government parties, has drafted an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). It is the contents of the draft version that the public was largely encouraged to comment on. The final version is supposed to help the Secretary make a final decision about the withdrawal.

The draft EIS contains four alternatives [8] for action and their effects. One option is no action, which will allow mining claims to proceed. Another is full withdrawal, halting new claims for 20 years. The other two alternatives involve withdrawing smaller portions of land, eliminating the possibility of claims in only those areas.

Among the EIS findings is the revelation that some pollutants will be emitted under all the alternatives. Some degree of impact on American Indian resources is likely, depending on the alternative. There would be no overall impact on regional tourism and existing employment. Visitors could benefit from roads that the mining companies would be responsible for. And, water supplies may or may not be affected depending on factors such as the number of mines and their locations.

Arizona Governor Janice Brewer wrote a letter [9] to Salazar calling the withdrawal “overly broad and unnecessary.” Brewer said state and federal laws already exist to ensure that mining operations will protect the Grand Canyon region and the Colorado River.

Many mining opponents are disgruntled because they say foreign companies are not liable to pay royalties to the US government. However, Brewer argues that the withdrawal will affect Arizona State Trust's land for which royalties are paid. The adverse effects include potential losses of $1.5 to $18.5 million and much of that would be a loss for public education.

Also, if mining is allowed, there is potentially $613 million in related employment opportunities. Brewer says the jobs are needed because unemployment rates in the area are above state and national averages.

The ticking clock

The segregation ends in July. A final EIS is also anticipated sometime this summer, but there is no strict deadline. Secretary Salazar is expected to make a decision about the 20 year withdrawal this fall, but there is no deadline for that either.

An official statement has not been issued outlining what happens if the segregation ends before the Secretary makes a decision. However, a BLM geologist said "upon expiration of the segregation, the segregated lands will again be open…," meaning renewed opportunity to obtain mining claims and pursue uranium.

Article printed from Uranium Investing News: http://uraniuminvestingnews.com

URL to article: http://uraniuminvestingnews.com/7708/the-future-of-opposition-to-uranium-mining-in-arizona.html

URLs in this post:

[1] Uranium Investing News: http://uraniuminvestingnews.com../../../../../

[2] Image: http://uraniuminvestingnews.com/files/2011/05/US-face-1.jpg

[3] mining: http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/etc/medialib/blm/az/pdfs/withdraw/deis.Par.37970.File.pdf/06_Chapt1.pdf

[4] Arizona Strip: http://uraniuminvestingnews.com/7680/uranium-mining-in-the-united-states.html

[5] letter: http://acertgroup.com/support_McCain_Kyl.pdf

[6] AMEX:DNN: http://www.google.com/finance?q=AMEX:DNN

[7] TSE:DML: http://www.google.com/finance?q=TSE:DML

[8] alternatives: http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/etc/medialib/blm/az/pdfs/withdraw/deis.Par.12057.File.pdf/07_Chapter2.pdf

[9] letter: http://acertgroup.com/brewer_KenSalazar_uranium_2009_1030.pdf

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Participant Code: (b) (5)

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Participant Code: (b) (5)

From: Nigborowicz, Timothy M on behalf of (b) (6)

To: Davis, Laura; Hayes, David; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Strickland, Thomas; Conklin, Meghan M; Lyder, Jane; Wenk, Dan; Abbey, Robert V; Pool, Michael J; Lin, Janet H; Lewis, Wilma; Henderson, Chris; O"Dell, Peggy; Frost, Herbert; Amos, Adell; Cousins, Debbie; Diehl, Barbara; Johnson, Terri; Calhoun, Dianne; Luckey, Lauren; Lassiter, Tracie L; Lewis, Shirley A; Boswell, Kimberly; Faeth, Lori; Baca, Sylvia; Marsters, Lizzie

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Participant Code: (b) (5)

From:	Petrillo, Thomas E on behalf (b) (6)
To:	Wilder, Gwendolyn L; Lewis, Shirley A; Kennedy, Pat; Gulac, Catherine D; Finegan, Jordan; Callaway, Catherine; Davis, Laura; Hayes, David; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Strickland, Thomas; Conklin, Meghan M; Lyder, Jane; Wenk, Dan; Abbey, Robert V; Pool, Mike; Lin, Janet H.; Lewis, Wilma; Henderson, Chris; O"Dell, Peggy; Frost, Herbert; Amos, Adell; Cousins, Debbie; Diehl, Barbara; Johnson, Terri; Calhoun, Dianne; Luckey, Lauren; Lassiter, Tracie L; Boswell, Kimberly
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To:	Boswell, Kimberly
Subject:	2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk, Bob Abbey, Mike Pool, Janet Lin, Wilma Lewis, Matt Lee-Ashley... staff continued in Notes)
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When: Friday, February 04, 2011 2:30 PM-3:00 PM (GMT-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
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Staff continued:
(...Chris Henderson, Peggy O'Dell, Bert Frost, Adell Amos)

Call-in Information
Dial-in Number: (b) (5)
Participant Code

From:	Nigborowicz, Timothy M on behalf o (b) (6)
To:	Sanders, Eric; Callaway, Catherine
Subject:	2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk, Bob Abbey, Mike Pool, Janet Lin, Wilma Lewis, Matt Lee-Ashley... staff continued in Notes)
Start:	Friday, February 04, 2011 2:30:00 PM
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Call-in Information
Dial-in Number: (b) (5)
Participant Code

(b) (6)

From: Nigborowicz, Timothy M on behalf o

To: Rees, Gareth C.; Lassiter, Tracie L

Subject: 2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk, Bob Abbey, Mike Pool, Janet Lin, Wilma Lewis, Matt Lee-Ashley... staff continued in Notes)

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Call-in Information
Dial-in Number: (b) (5)
Participant Code

(b) (6)

From: Nigborowicz, Timothy M on behalf o

To: Davis, Laura; Hayes, David; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Strickland, Thomas; Conklin, Meghan M; Lyder, Jane; Wenk, Dan; Abbey, Robert V; Pool, Michael J; Lin, Janet H; Lewis, Wilma; Henderson, Chris; O"Dell, Peggy; Frost, Herbert; Amos, Adell; Cousins, Debbie; Diehl, Barbara; Johnson, Terri; Calhoun, Dianne; Luckey, Lauren; Lassiter, Tracie L; Lewis, Shirley A; Boswell, Kimberly

Subject: 2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk, Bob Abbey, Mike Pool, Janet Lin, Wilma Lewis, Matt Lee-Ashley... staff continued in Notes)

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Dial-in Number: (b) (5)
Participant Code

From:	Nigborowicz, Timothy M on behalf of (b) (6)
To:	Wheeler, Richard W
Subject:	2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS; Dial: (b) (5) Leader: (b) (5) Participant: (b) (5) (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, T Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk... sta in Notes)
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Leader Code (b) (5)
Participant Code: (b) (5)

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To: Sanders, Eric; Callaway, Catherine
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Leader Code: (b) (5)
Participant Code: (b) (5)

From:	Nigborowicz, Timothy M on behalf o (b) (6)
To:	Holley, Amy; Lewis, Shirley A; Cousins, Debbie; Callaway, Catherine
Subject:	2:30-3:00pm EST: Inte on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS; Dial: (b) (5) Leader: (b) (5) Participan (b) (5) Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk... staff continued in Notes)
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Leader Code: (b) (5)
Participant Code: (b) (5)

From:	Nigborowicz, Timothy M on behalf o (b) (6)
To:	Wilder, Gwendolyn L; Lewis, Shirley A; Kennedy, Pat; Gulac, Catherine D; Finegan, Jordan; Callaway, Catherine
Subject:	2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS; Dial: (b) (5) Leader: (b) (5) Participant: (b) (5) (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk... staff continued in Notes)
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Dial-in Number: (b) (5)
Leader Code: (b) (5)
Participant Code (b) (5)

From:	Nigborowicz, Timothy M on behalf of (b) (6)
To:	Boswell, Kimberly
Subject:	2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS; Dial: (b) (5) Leader: (b) (5) Participant: (b) (5) Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Wenk... staff continued in Notes)
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(b) (6)

From: Nigborowicz, Timothy M on behalf of

To: Baca, Sylvia; Davis, Laura; Hayes, David; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Strickland, Thomas; Conklin, Meghan M; Lyder, Jane; Wenk, Dan; Abbey, Robert V; Pool, Mike; Lin, Janet H.; Lewis, Wilma; Henderson, Chris; O"Dell, Peggy; Frost, Herbert; Amos, Adell; Cousins, Debbie; Diehl, Barbara; Johnson, Terri; Calhoun, Dianne; Luckey, Lauren; Lassiter, Tracie L; Lewis, Shirley A; Boswell, Kimberly; Faeth, Lori

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-----Original Appointment-----
From: Nigborowicz, Timothy M On Behalf Of SLV
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 3:25 PM
To: Davis, Laura; Hayes, David; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Strickland, Thomas; Conklin, Meghan M; Lyder, Jane; Wenk, Dan; Abbey, Robert V; Pool, Mike; Lin, Janet H.; Lewis, Wilma; Henderson, Chris; O'Dell, Peggy; Frost, Herbert; Amos, Adell; Cousins, Debbie; Diehl, Barbara; Johnson, Terri; Calhoun, Dianne; Luckey, Lauren; Lassiter, Tracie L; Lewis, Shirley A; Boswell, Kimberly; Faeth, Lori
Subject: 2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS; Dial: 877-693-2107; Leader: 5365346#; Participant: 9665508# (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk... staff continued in Notes)
When: Friday, February 04, 2011 2:30 PM-3:00 PM (GMT-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
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Staff continued:
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Leader Code: (b) (5)
Participant Code: (b) (5)

From:	Nigborowicz, Timothy M on behalf o (b) (6)
To:	Rees, Gareth C.; Davis, Laura; Hayes, David; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Strickland, Thomas; Conklin, Meghan M; Lyder, Jane; Wenk, Dan; Abbey, Robert V; Pool, Mike; Lin, Janet H.; Lewis, Wilma; Henderson, Chris; O"Dell, Peggy; Frost, Herbert; Amos, Adell; Cousins, Debbie; Diehl, Barbara; Johnson, Terri; Calhoun, Dianne; Luckey, Lauren; Lassiter, Tracie L; Lewis, Shirley A; Boswell, Kimberly; Faeth, Lori
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Call-in Information
Dial-in Number: (b) (5)
Leader Code: (b) (5)
Participant Code: (b) (5)

From: (b) (6)
To: Haze, Pam K
Subject: Re: APPROPRIATIONS: Democrats to take aim at policy riders in Interior, EPA battle (07/25/2011)
Date: Monday, July 25, 2011 10:12:50 AM

Tkank you.

Sent from my iPad

On Jul 25, 2011, at 8:10 AM, "Haze, Pam K" <Pam_Haze@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

More good background on tactics.

APPROPRIATIONS: Democrats to take aim at policy riders in Interior, EPA battle (07/25/2011)

Jean Chemnick, E&E reporter

To call the Interior and Environment spending bill the House will debate this week partisan would be an understatement.

The bill contains 38 policy riders that run the gambit from a one-year stay on new and proposed U.S. EPA rules for greenhouse gases and conventional pollutants to a moratorium on the Fish and Wildlife Service listing new species under the Endangered Species Act. Many of the provisions were included in the original Appropriations subcommittee draft, but others were added in committee almost exclusively by panel Republicans who say they are necessary to prevent EPA and Interior from doing irreparable harm to the economy.

More policy amendments are expected to be offered this week, with the House scheduled to take up the bill today.

Democrats on the panel and in the House say the measure is a massive overreach by appropriators who are using legislation intended to fund EPA and Interior in fiscal 2012 as a means of undermining landmark environmental laws.

Appropriations Committee ranking member Norm Dicks (D-Wash.) said Democrats this week will focus on highlighting how many environmental protections would be rolled back in the unlikely event that the bill becomes law.

"We want to get the message out there that this bill has to be changed," he said. "We hope that will inspire our friends over in the other body, the United States Senate, and the White House."

Senate Republicans have said they do not expect their chamber to pass a

bill with as many policy provisions as have been proposed in the House, and the White House has threatened to veto the bill.

Dicks said Democrats will keep the bill on the floor for a long time, offering amendments to strip its riders.

"We're going to go amendment after amendment after amendment on this," he said. "Not a filibuster ... but they're going to hear a lot about a lot of issues."

"We're going to air these issues," agreed Interior and Environment Appropriations subpanel ranking member Jim Moran (D-Va.). "We're in no rush to resolve them."

Dicks said he hopes a few Democratic amendments will draw the necessary Republican support to pass, especially one to restore FWS authority to list endangered species and another that would drop the bill's stay on Bureau of Land Management plans to withdraw acreage around the Grand Canyon from future uranium mining. The rest would serve to drive home a message, he said.

"We're going to dissent," said Moran, who plans to offer amendments that would strip the bill's one-year stays on EPA regulation under the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act, and on mountaintop mining rules and the Grand Canyon withdrawal, among others.

"I don't want it to be just a messaging bill," he said. "I'm an appropriator. I used to be an appropriations staff person. I believe that these are important bills. But this bill should never see the light of day."

Moran predicted that the bill may not have enough votes even to pass the House, adding that the entire House Democratic caucus is likely to vote against it and some Republicans might, too, because they either think its provisions go too far or they oppose any funding for EPA.

He predicted that Republican leaders would not allocate enough time for the bill in a week when the House must also vote to increase the limit on the national debt ahead of an Aug. 2 deadline.

Clash over Simpson's role

The subcommittee chairman who took the lead in crafting the contentious bill is Rep. Mike Simpson (R-Idaho), a lawmaker with a reputation for working across party lines and for having friends on both sides of the aisle.

While Republicans were in the minority, Simpson served as ranking member when both Dicks and Moran were chairmen of the subcommittee, and both said they had a good relationship with him. But both said the bill was not a reasonable product, even leaving aside the $2.1 billion in spending cuts Republican budget allocations required Simpson to make.

"I'm personally disappointed in this bill," Dicks said. "Because I was chairman of this committee, I care about these issues."

The bill would fund Interior at $9.9 billion, $715 million less than current levels. EPA would receive $7.1 billion, about $1.5 billion below this year's levels and $1.8 billion less than the president requested for fiscal 2012.

Dicks said he was particularly disappointed in the bill's cuts for wildlife refuges, a comparatively small budget item he championed as chairman.

"This was a major retreat," he said. "Not only in funding, but all these restrictions -- all these limitations -- put in here and agreed to, is just unprecedented."

Dicks said Simpson was largely responsible, not only for including so many environmental riders in the underlying text, but for allowing Republican colleagues to add to those provisions by amendments in committee.

When he introduced his subcommittee draft earlier this month, Simpson said he had avoided including riders in the bill that dealt with issues the Natural Resources or Energy and Commerce committees had already addressed, such as new and upcoming Clean Air Act rules for air toxics and smog- and soot-forming emissions.

"Some things were just left out because the authorizing committees said that might screw up what we're trying to do in our committee," Simpson said at the time.

But Dicks and Moran note that Simpson raised no objection when other Republicans offered amendments dealing with those same rules in committee, which were added to the bill.

"Usually the subcommittee chairman will defend his bill against all the amendments, both from his side and from the Democratic side, unless it's something that everybody agrees is noncontroversial," said Dicks, adding that other subcommittee chairmen had done so this year. "This was very unusual," he said.

Simpson's office did not return calls to comment for this story.

Clout of a chairman

Jim Dornan, a longtime lobbyist on appropriations issues, said rider-laden appropriations bills like the Interior and Environment bill are a symptom of a much broader problem -- a Congress too politically polarized to legislate.

"They can't pass these bills as freestanding [legislation] anymore," he said.

Dornan said that hardening political bases in both parties and a consolidation of power within the leadership had stripped subcommittee

chairmen of some of the ownership they once had over their bills.

"These are not fiefdoms anymore," Dornan said. "Those riders are not the chairman's desire in most cases. They are leadership's desire. And the chairman, if he wants to remain chairman, in most cases has to placate leadership."

Dicks and Moran said that Simpson appeared to be under pressure from leadership to include anti-regulatory riders in his bill, because they are popular with the Republican base. But they both claim they never experienced similar pressure.

"When I was subcommittee chairman, I had nobody from the leadership call me," Dicks said. "They may have called me and said, 'We have one or two things we're interested in' -- but no one called me and said 'Do this,' which is the way the appropriations committee has always worked."

Dicks said that an inability to move bills separately may actually be strengthening subcommittee chairmanships, because they control some of the only legislation Congress produces that have a good chance of becoming law.

"If a subcommittee chairman wants to really do things to undermine the existing law ... these riders all are an indication of that power," he said.

"The authorizers can't do it, nobody else can do it, but Mike Simpson can do it," he added.

Endangered Species Act

Simpson has also demonstrated that he is able to use appropriations riders strategically.

An example is the Endangered Species Act rider, which would not permit FWS to increase the level of protection of a species in fiscal 2012.

Simpson said in his remarks at both the subcommittee and committee markup of the bill that he did not intend to undermine the wildlife protection law but that by restricting its application he hoped to force stakeholders -- especially environmentalists -- to push for a reauthorization of a bill that has not been revisited for decades. The status quo was not providing that incentive, he said.

"The authorization for the ESA expired 20 years ago and the assumption has been that the Appropriations Committee would continue to fund it year in and year out," he said at the start of the full committee markup.

"That's not how the process is supposed to work," he added.

David Conover, former Republican staff director at the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, said Simpson was really faced with either continuing to fund a program whose authorization had expired or doing something to pressure authorizers to get their homework done.

"What makes sense about a system that just continues to fund programs with minimal oversight?" he asked.

"Mr. Simpson may be using a very blunt tool, given the species loss that we're experiencing ... but what is their better course?" Conover asked. "What's the appropriate role for appropriators? Are they supposed to be the only functioning unit of the Congress, or shouldn't authorizing committees actually do work?"

But Adam Kolton, who heads the Washington office of the National Wildlife Federation, said Simpson's rider provided little incentive for environmentalists to cooperate.

"That isn't usually the best invitation to negotiation," he said. "It's more like Pearl Harbor than it is an invitation to sit down at Reykjavik," referring to the summit that eventually led to a major nuclear disarmament treaty between the United States and Russia.

If Simpson intends to use his appropriations bill to force Congress to pass and the president to sign a bill reforming the ESA, Kolton said, it is a risky way of doing it, because Republicans will be on the record as having voted to scrap popularly supported protections for endangered species.

<image001.gif>

From:	(b) (6)
To:	Lee-Ashley, Matt
Cc:	Haze, Pam K; Suh, Rhea; Davis, Laura; Hayes, David; Ashe, D M; Urban, Heather; Montoya, Jordan; Kelly, Kate P
Subject:	Re: House budget riders
Date:	Thursday, July 07, 2011 12:26:27 PM

Thank you. This is very helpful.

From: Lee-Ashley, Matt
To: SLV
Cc: Haze, Pam K; Suh, Rhea; Davis, Laura; Hayes, David; Ashe, Dan; Urban, Heather; Montoya, Jordan; Kelly, Kate P
Sent: Thu Jul 07 12:04:58 2011
Subject: House budget riders

Mr. Secretary,

Here is a short memo from Rhea and Pam about the riders on the House bill. Rhea is also working on information about the timelines for the budget, which she will get to you separately.

Let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Matt

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

FROM: Rhea Suh, Assistant Secretary – Policy, Budget and Administration

SUBJECT: House Appropriations Bill

I. INTRODUCTION

This morning the House Appropriations Subcommittee for the Department of the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies approved the 2012 Bill by a vote of 8 to 5. Voting for the bill were Chairman Rogers and Congressmen Lewis, Calvert, LaTourette, Cole, and Congresswoman Lummis. Voting opposed to adoption of the bill were Committee Ranking Dicks, Subcommittee Ranking Moran and Congressmen Hinchey and Serrano and Congresswoman McCollum.

The bill was adopted without amendment and is therefore unchanged from the version that was posted on the Committee website yesterday. Committee markup is expected to take place on Tuesday, July 12.

II. FUNDING SUMMARY

The bill adopted in Subcommittee action this morning totals $27.5 billion, which is a reduction of

$2 billion from the 2011 level and $3.8 billion below the 2012 budget request. EPA takes the majority of the reduction – they are reduced from 2011 by $1.5 billion or 73 percent of the total reduction.

The bill includes $10 billion for the Department of the Interior (excludes BOR and CUPCA funded in Energy and Water Development). This is $700 million or 6 percent below the 2011 enacted level and $1.2 billion or 11 percent below the budget. The big picture impacts include:

- Reductions to operating accounts in BLM, NPS and FWS. The most impactful is the reduction to FWS of $146 million below 2011. NPS is a reduction of $7 million from 2011 and BLM is a reduction of $43 million.
- Reductions to LWCF. Funding for LWCF programs totals $50 million, a reduction of $194 million or 80 percent from 2011.
- Reductions to grant programs including NPS State grants, FWS North American, State and Tribal Wildlife, Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund and elimination of the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund.
- Funding for Indian Affairs programs, BOEMRE, and OSM are largely protected in this bill.
- A summary table is attached.

III. LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

The bill includes many troublesome legislative provisions or riders – Congressman Moran said there are 26 riders that are troublesome. Congressman Moran called these a "dump truck of provisions for coprorate interests." Congressman Dicks said the bill was a wish list of special interest riders and said that these provisions would be rejected by the Senate and the President. Congressman Dicks singled out the action to disallow listings and critical habitat designations in his discussion.

- FWS Endangered Species: The bill includes a limitation on Endangered Species Act listing activities that would prohibit funding to respond to petitions to list, to add species to the list, to designate critical habitat or to reclassify species from threatened to endangered. Funding could be used for the limited purposes of 5 year reviews, reclassifications from endangered to threatened, and delisting (located in the FWS portion of the bill under Resource Management).

- BLM Grazing: A provision limits Federal court claims concerning BLM grazing activities to those which have been challenged at the agency level and exhausted all administrative hearing and appeals procedures (Sec. 118). Another provision exempts BLM livestock "trailing" practices and exempts these actions from NEPA review. "Trailing" refers to the movement of livestock from private land across public land (Sec. 120).

- Delisting of Wolves: A provision protects delisting of gray wolves in Wyoming or within the range of the Western Great Lakes from judicial review (Sec. 119).

- Yukon-Charley NP: A provision prohibits the use of funds to implement regulations concerning boating and other activities on the water within the Yukon-Charley National Preserve (Sec. 116).

-

- Stream Buffer Protection: A provision prohibits the use of funds for OSM to develop, carryout, implement, or enforce the proposed Stream Buffer Protection regulations (Sec. 432.

- Bighorn Sheep: A provision prohibits the use of funds to manage bighorn sheep populations on Federal lands that will reduce the number of livestock permitted to graze on the land. Language would preclude BLM from addressing bighorn sheep issues in land use plans and implementation actions including NEPA (Sec. 442).

- Grand Canyon: A provision prohibits the withdrawal of lands around the Grand Canyon. It is not a spending limitation but an outright prohibition on the withdrawal of over one million acres of Federal lands near Grand Canyon National Park from hard rock mining claim location and entry under the 1872 Mining Law. The provision prohibits the withdrawal of land unless expressly authorized by a law enacted after the date of enactment of the appropriations act (Sec. 445).

- Surface Coal Permitting: A provision prohibits the use of funds for surface coal mining permit coordination activities between OSM, EPA and the Corps of Engineers (Sec. 433).

- Air Quality Permitting: A provision directs EPA to evaluate compliance with air quality standards relating to OCS drilling operations as measured from onshore rather than from platforms or drilling ships consistent with the manner in which BOEMRE evaluates compliance in the Gulf (Sec. 443).

- NPS Tamiami Trail: A provision authorizes implementation of the preferred alternative for the Tamiami Trail that was issued December 2010. This is the additional 5.5 miles of bridging with a total cost of $310 million (Sec. 108).

(b) (6)

From:
To: Johnson, Terri
Subject: Re: Weekly Report
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2011 2:40:03 PM

(b) (5)

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 20, 2011, at 2:25 PM, "Johnson, Terri" <Terri_Johnson@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Ken – below is your weekly report. If you get a chance please call me so we can add your personal message:

CONFIDENTIAL AND PRIVILEGED

Weekly Report to the President

Secretary Ken Salazar

U.S. Department of the Interior

October 20, 2011

I. Secretary of the Interior's Personal Message to the President:

II. Highlights of Secretarial Travel, Meetings, and Other Public Events:

- **Promoting Binational Conservation—Texas**: (b) (5)

(b) (5)

- **Promoting America's Great Outdoors—New York City:**
  (b) (5)

III. Potential or Expected Legislative, Legal and Policy Issues:

Promoting America's Great Outdoors & Wildlife

America's Great Outdoors Initiative (b) (5)

-

America's Great Outdoors—New York City—(b) (5)

U.S.-Mexico Conservation Efforts—(b) (5)

(b) (5)

-

Grand Canyon Land Withdrawal— (b) (5)

-

Backcountry Report to Congress—(b) (5)

-

Developing Renewable Energy & Oversight of Energy Production

-

Solar Energy Development (b) (5)

BP Gulf of Mexico Exploration (b) (5)

Empowering Native Americans

Osage Tribe Trust Settlement—(b) (5)

IV. Anticipated Press in the Coming Week:

(b) (5)

From: Baca, Sylvia
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Accepted: 2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS; Dial: (b) (5) (b) (5) Leader: (b) (5) ; Participant: (b) (5) (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk... staff continued in
Start: Friday, February 04, 2011 2:30:00 PM
End: Friday, February 04, 2011 3:00:00 PM
Location: Office of the Secretary; Lizzie to dial in as Leader

From: Baca, Sylvia
To: Straitt, Iris; Petrillo, Thomas E; Padilla, Joan; Fink, Jason M
Subject: Accepted: 2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS; Dial: (b) (5) (b) (5) eader: (b) (5) ; Participant: (b) (5) (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk... staff continue
Start: Friday, February 04, 2011 2:30:00 PM
End: Friday, February 04, 2011 3:00:00 PM
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Ha, Richard W

From: Rees, Gareth C. on behalf of Baca, Sylvia
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 5:34 PM
To: Straitt, Iris; Petrillo, Thomas E; Padilla, Joan; Fink, Jason M
Subject: Accepted: 2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS; Dial: (b) (5) ; Leader: (b) (5) Participant: (b) (5) (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk... staff continue

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End: Friday, February 04, 2011 3:00:00 PM
Location: Office of the Secretary; Lizzie to dial in as Leader

Ha, Richard W

From: Rees, Gareth C. on behalf of Baca, Sylvia
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2010 9:24 AM
To: Luckey, Lauren
Subject: Accepted: Information Update - There are multiple changes: [CR#1352] - Grand Canyon Withdrawal Mtg [Bridge Line: (b) (5) pc(b) (5)]

Ha, Richard W

From: Rees, Gareth C. on behalf of Baca, Sylvia
Sent: Monday, March 08, 2010 1:29 PM
To: Walker, Claudia B
Subject: Accepted: Invitation: [CR#5071]Grand Canyon Withdrawal Pre-Brief w/Wilma Lewis, Sylvia Baca, Bob Abbey, Mike Pool, Marcilynn Burke, Paul Mussenden, Carmiece Graves, Bill Falsey, Jim Kenna, Ray Suazo, Johanna Munson, Mike Nedd, Mitch Leverette, Ed Roberson

Ha, Richard W

From: Rees, Gareth C. on behalf of Baca, Sylvia
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2010 5:43 PM
To: Lin, Janet H
Subject: Accepted: Invitation: Grand Canyon Withdrawal Mtg (Sep 29 02:00 PM EDT in WO MIB Conference Room 5071/WO Washington Office@BLM)

Ha, Richard W

From: Rees, Gareth C. on behalf of Baca, Sylvia
Sent: Tuesday, March 09, 2010 2:17 PM
To: Walker, Claudia B
Subject: Accepted: Rescheduled: [CR#5071]Grand Canyon Withdrawal Pre-Brief w/Wilma Lewis, Sylvia Baca, Bob Abbey, Mike Pool, Marcilynn Burke, Paul Mussenden, Carmiece Graves, Bill Falsey, Jim Kenna, Ray Suazo, Johanna Munson, Mike Nedd, Mitch Leverette, Ed Roberso

From:	Baca, Sylvia
To:	Whitlock, Jenna
Subject:	FW: ASLm Mid Week Report to the Secretary - Week of January 24
Date:	Thursday, January 21, 2010 9:17:59 AM
Attachments:	ASLM Week Ahead Rpt to Sec 1-21-10 (DRAFT-1).docx

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Sylvia V. Baca
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
US Department of Interior

From: Mussenden, Paul
Sent: Wednesday, January 20, 2010 10:06 PM
To: Lewis, Wilma; Farquhar, Ned; Baca, Sylvia; Cardinale, Richard
Cc: Mussenden, Paul
Subject: ASLm Mid Week Report to the Secretary - Week of January 24

All: This is due tomorrow. Please review and provide input as appropriate. Please review carefully the target dates for completing ASLM submissions (info/decision memos) to the OS. Thoughts on a personal message to the Secretary also needed.

Thanks!
PM

Paul A. Mussenden
Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary
Deputy Chief of Staff
Land and Minerals Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202)208-6734
Paul_Mussenden@ios.doi.gov

Weekly Report to the Secretary
Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management
For Week of January 24, 2010

I. Personal Message to the Secretary:

II. Highlights of Travel, Meeting, Speeches, and other Public Events:

- ASLM Lewis, DAS Baca and DAS Farquhar will be in the Washington office all week.
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(MMS) Unsolicited Application for Wind Facility Offshore New Jersey: On January 8, 2010 MMS received a commercial application for the development and generation of wind energy offshore New Jersey from Offshore MegaWatt (MW) LLC. The unsolicited application is for a project that includes nine blocks offshore New Jersey for a total site area of 20,736 hectares, approximately 80 square miles. The area is of sufficient size to site up to 700 MW of offshore wind capacity. Offshore MW LLC proposes to develop the site in two phases of 350 MW each. MMS is currently conducting a completeness review of the application.

(MMS) OCS 5-Year Program Lawsuit: The next 60-day report to the court on the status of the rebalancing of the current OCS 5-Year Program is due the week of Jan. 25.

(MMS) Cape Wind: On Jan. 20, MMS submitted a Federal Register notice seeking public comment on the revised Findings of Adverse Effect on historic and cultural properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The revised findings document incorporates new analysis resulting from the Keeper's determination that Nantucket Sound is eligible as a traditional cultural property and from MMS's determination that additional onshore sites were also eligible. The comment period closes on February 12.

(MMS) Chukchi Sea – FOIA: On Dec. 2, *Earthjustice* requested all material related to Shell's Chukchi Sea exploration plan. MMS responded to this request on Jan. 15. On Jan. 11, two more Earthjustice FOIA requests were received. 1) For all Chukchi EP info after 12/2; and 2) all Oil Spill Contingency Plan info for all of Shell's Plans (proposed 2007 plan, and the 2010 Chukchi and Beaufort Sea plans.)

(MMS) "Thunder Ridge" Oil Release: On Dec. 29, 2009, a sheen was observed by Murphy representatives with a volume that was estimated to be about 28 gallons. An overflight conducted by Murphy on Dec. 30, 2009 resulted in a spill estimate of 455 gallons, which prompted spill reports to appropriate federal authorities. Discussions with Murphy indicate that the release is from a "Thunder Ridge" well that was closed and abandoned approx. one year ago. The oil leak stopped on Jan. 10, but well control has not yet been established. Murphy has a drillship on location and was scheduled to start "kill" operations the week of Jan. 18, weather

permitting. The Gulf of Mexico Region's New Orleans District is monitoring this matter and will provide more details as they evolve.

(MMS) Uganda and MMS to Participate in an Energy Governance and Capacity Initiative (EGCI): The MMS has been selected to be a part of a needs assessment delegation funded and chaired by the U.S. Department of State's (DOS) EGCI. From Jan. 25-29, 2010, Uganda will be the first of several needs assessments conducted in carefully targeted nations. EGCI's core objective is to maximize the value and efficiency of oil and gas production and revenue flows to the host government. Other participants will include the U.S. Agency for International Development, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the U.S. Department of Treasury.

(MMS) Atlantic/Gulf of Mexico Geological and Geophysical (G&G) Activities: The Department of the Interior Appropriations bill contains report language instructing MMS to move forward with the G&G scoping meetings and requiring a timeline for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) completion. The timeline is due to Congress by Jan. 28.

III. Anticipated/possible press in the coming week:

(MMS): MMS anticipates coverage of the DOI Deputy Secretary's meeting with the Cape Wind consulting parties in Massachusetts and the "Thunder Ridge" oil release.

(BLM) Wild Horses and Burro Gathers: Wild horse advocate and Madeleine Pickens supporter Jerry Reynoldson notified BLM-NV that Mrs. Pickens learned that *Good Morning America* (GMA) will be at the Calico Mountains complex gather in NV on Jan. 13, and is insisting on attending to talk to GMA. BLM-NV is working to accommodate Mrs. Pickens' request. BLM-NV State Director Ron Wenker and other key staff will escort her group.

(OSM): As a result of Director Pizarchik's visit to West Virginia during the week of January 19, local media interest and articles are anticipated.

Submitted by: Wilma A. Lewis, Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management
Direct Dial: 202-208-2422; Cell: (b) (6)

From:	Baca, Sylvia
To:	Whitlock, Jenna
Subject:	FW: ASLm Mid Week Report to the Secretary - Week of January 24
Date:	Thursday, January 21, 2010 9:17:59 AM
Attachments:	ASLM Week Ahead Rpt to Sec 1-21-10 (DRAFT-1).docx

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Land & Minerals Management
US Department of Interior

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(LEED) to ensure that LEED specifications and requirements are being met. The BLM has three LEED projects, including construction of the BLM Farmington, NM, Field Office building, and the BLM Kanab and Fillmore, UT, Field Office buildings. During the week of Jan. 25, the BLM will be holding an ARRA meeting in Phoenix to review the project status of all BLM ARRA projects in order to ensure that the agency meets implementation targets and project deadlines.

(MMS) Diplomatic Note on potential Trans-boundary Agreement with Mexcio: On Friday, Jan. 15, the State Department received the Government of Mexico's Diplomatic Note regarding the draft of the Framework Agreement for the Exploitation of Trans-boundary Oil and Gas Reservoirs located in the respective Continental Shelves. The Government of Mexico signaled its "willingness to initiate, as soon as possible, negotiations aimed at a legally-binding bilateral agreement" for oil and gas development in the Gulf of Mexico. State Department officials indicated that internal (US government) meetings may begin in the following weeks to discuss how best to respond and proceed.

(MMS) Unsolicited Application for Wind Facility Offshore New Jersey: On January 8, 2010 MMS received a commercial application for the development and generation of wind energy offshore New Jersey from Offshore MegaWatt (MW) LLC. The unsolicited application is for a project that includes nine blocks offshore New Jersey for a total site area of 20,736 hectares, approximately 80 square miles. The area is of sufficient size to site up to 700 MW of offshore wind capacity. Offshore MW LLC proposes to develop the site in two phases of 350 MW each. MMS is currently conducting a completeness review of the application.

(MMS) OCS 5-Year Program Lawsuit: The next 60-day report to the court on the status of the rebalancing of the current OCS 5-Year Program is due the week of Jan. 25.

(MMS) Cape Wind: On Jan. 20, MMS submitted a Federal Register notice seeking public comment on the revised Findings of Adverse Effect on historic and cultural properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The revised findings document incorporates new analysis resulting from the Keeper's determination that Nantucket Sound is eligible as a traditional cultural property and from MMS's determination that additional onshore sites were also eligible. The comment period closes on February 12.

(MMS) Chukchi Sea – FOIA: On Dec. 2, *Earthjustice* requested all material related to Shell's Chukchi Sea exploration plan. MMS responded to this request on Jan. 15. On Jan. 11, two more Earthjustice FOIA requests were received. 1) For all Chukchi EP info after 12/2; and 2) all Oil Spill Contingency Plan info for all of Shell's Plans (proposed 2007 plan, and the 2010 Chukchi and Beaufort Sea plans.)

(MMS) "Thunder Ridge" Oil Release: On Dec. 29, 2009, a sheen was observed by Murphy representatives with a volume that was estimated to be about 28 gallons. An overflight conducted by Murphy on Dec. 30, 2009 resulted in a spill estimate of 455 gallons, which prompted spill reports to appropriate federal authorities. Discussions with Murphy indicate that the release is from a "Thunder Ridge" well that was closed and abandoned approx. one year ago. The oil leak stopped on Jan. 10, but well control has not yet been established. Murphy has a drillship on location and was scheduled to start "kill" operations the week of Jan. 18, weather

permitting. The Gulf of Mexico Region's New Orleans District is monitoring this matter and will provide more details as they evolve.

(MMS) Uganda and MMS to Participate in an Energy Governance and Capacity Initiative (EGCI): The MMS has been selected to be a part of a needs assessment delegation funded and chaired by the U.S. Department of State's (DOS) EGCI. From Jan. 25-29, 2010, Uganda will be the first of several needs assessments conducted in carefully targeted nations. EGCI's core objective is to maximize the value and efficiency of oil and gas production and revenue flows to the host government. Other participants will include the U.S. Agency for International Development, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the U.S. Department of Treasury.

(MMS) Atlantic/Gulf of Mexico Geological and Geophysical (G&G) Activities: The Department of the Interior Appropriations bill contains report language instructing MMS to move forward with the G&G scoping meetings and requiring a timeline for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) completion. The timeline is due to Congress by Jan. 28.

III. Anticipated/possible press in the coming week:

(MMS): MMS anticipates coverage of the DOI Deputy Secretary's meeting with the Cape Wind consulting parties in Massachusetts and the "Thunder Ridge" oil release.

(BLM) Wild Horses and Burro Gathers: Wild horse advocate and Madeleine Pickens supporter Jerry Reynoldson notified BLM-NV that Mrs. Pickens learned that *Good Morning America* (GMA) will be at the Calico Mountains complex gather in NV on Jan. 13, and is insisting on attending to talk to GMA. BLM-NV is working to accommodate Mrs. Pickens' request. BLM-NV State Director Ron Wenker and other key staff will escort her group.

(OSM): As a result of Director Pizarchik's visit to West Virginia during the week of January 19, local media interest and articles are anticipated.

Submitted by: Wilma A. Lewis, Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management
Direct Dial: 202-208-2422; Cell:(b) (6)

From: Baca, Sylvia
To: Black, Steve
Subject: FW: LS RMP Public Outreach Update - Change in Direction
Date: Wednesday, July 14, 2010 5:00:53 PM
Attachments: P1410Jul9.doc

Steve,

Here is the information on the Little Snake River RMP just in case you get inquiries.

I plan on signing off on the Federal Register notice today so it should be published sometime next week or two.

Thanks

Sylvia

Sylvia V. Baca
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
US Department of Interior

From: Jenna_Whitlock@blm.gov [mailto:Jenna_Whitlock@blm.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2010 3:46 PM
To: Baca, Sylvia
Cc: Cardinale, Richard
Subject: Fw: LS RMP Public Outreach Update - Change in Direction

Forwarding per Mike Pool's request. j

Jenna Whitlock
Land and Minerals Management
US Department of the Interior
(202) 208-5444 desk
(202) 208-6243 fax

----- Forwarded by Jenna Whitlock/WO/BLM/DOI on 07/14/2010 03:45 PM -----

Mike Pool/WO/BLM/DOI

07/14/2010 03:37 PM

To Jenna Whitlock/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM
cc Richard Cardinale/ASLM/OS/DOI@DOI
Subject Fw: LS RMP Public Outreach Update - Change in Direction

Jenna please forward to Sylvia. She is missing in the revised network going from DOI to OS. Others having problems as well. Quien sabe??

----- Forwarded by Mike Pool/WO/BLM/DOI on 07/14/2010 03:36 PM -----

Mike Pool/WO/BLM/DOI

07/14/2010 08:22 AM

To Sylvia Baca
cc Robert V Abbey/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM
Subject LS RMP Public Outreach Update - Change in Direction

Sylvia, attached are latest updates regarding LS RMP. I directed BLM-CO to go back out and advise the Moffat County Working Group, cooperating agencies and the Governor's Office as to our "intent" to (b) (5)

Mike

----- Forwarded by Mike Pool/WO/BLM/DOI on 07/14/2010 07:31 AM -----

Helen Hankins/COSO/CO/BLM/DOI

07/13/2010 07:17 PM

To Helen Hankins/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI, mike pool

cc

Subject Lsfo rmp

Mike - per your direction. Our Northwest District Manager and key staff met with cooperating agencies including Moffat County and with local officials as a courtesy to advise them of BLMs intent to(b) (5) I personally provided the Director of CO DNR a parallel advisory. Based on our approved communication plan, we subsequently issued a press release about the proposed change to the proposed final RMP. The Governor's office issued a statement to the press. In strong support. Moffat County Commissioners issued a statement that they preferred the proposal in the draft RMP & draft proposed final RMP. In separate emails I am forwarding the above statements and other comments. Helen

GOV. RITTER STATEMENT ON VERMILLION MANAGEMENT PLAN

Gov. Bill Ritter issued the following statement today regarding the federal Bureau of Land Management's decision to allow oil and gas development on most lands and minerals managed by the BLM's Little Snake Field Office, except for the 77,000-acre Vermillion Basin in northwest Colorado:

"The Little Snake planning area has more than 2 million acres of important oil and gas resources that will be available for leasing under this new management plan. That's about 3 of every 4 acres under BLM ownership.

"The Vermillion Basin is a stark, untrammeled landscape of fragile beauty. It contains just 2 percent of the high oil and gas potential in the Little Snake management area. But because of the arid conditions that make this basin so spectacular, the impacts of gas development would literally last forever.

“My administration supports the natural gas industry as a mission-critical driver of our New Energy Economy. But energy development must occur in a way that does not cause irreparable harm to our environment, other natural resources, wildlife or to our citizens and communities. The BLM’s decision upholds that spirit and preserves our quality of life.”

http://www.craigdailypress.com/news/2010/jun/30/vermillion-basin-energy-plan-proposed-moffat-count/

http://www.craigdailypress.com/news/2010/jul/07/commission-addresses-vermillion-basin-development-/

http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/blm_drops_drilling_proposal__f

http://www.gjsentinel.com/opinion/articles/administration_ignored_local_c

http://www.gjsentinel.com/opinion/articles/administration_ignored_local_c

Plus Public Land News:

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VERMILLION BASIN DECISION TOUCHES OFF ANOTHER O&G WAR

The oil and gas industry has a new bone to pick with Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar - a BLM plan for northwestern Colorado that would put off limits to development the Vermillion Basin.

Industry and Moffat County thought they had worked out a deal with BLM in 2007 for the 77,000-acre basin. A draft resource management plan (RMP) would have closed the southern half of the basin to oil and gas development while opening the northern half.

But, industry and the county charge politics became involved and the Obama administration in the final plan now intends to close the entire area.

"This decision was made at the Secretarial level of Interior," said the Public Lands Advocacy industry association in a notice to its members. "Secretary (of Interior Ken) Salazar visited the area a few months ago and announced it should be fully protected from oil and gas leasing. Despite the need for additional domestic resources, this administration is doing everything in its power to stymie leasing in areas with oil and gas development potential."

BLM Colorado Communications Director Steven Hall neither confirmed nor denied the charge that Salazar made the call. "I don't know if the secretary had direct involvement," he said. "Certainly the Washington office as well as the state office was involved in the decision."

Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter (D) and The Wilderness Society strongly endorsed the BLM decision to protect what they say is a special place. Said Ritter, "The Vermillion Basin is a stark, untrammeled landscape of fragile beauty. It contains just 2 percent of the high oil and gas potential in the Little Snake management area. But because of the arid conditions that make this basin so spectacular, the impacts of gas development would literally last forever."

Soren Jespersen, The Wilderness Society's Northwest Colorado wildlands coordinator, said the area should never have been considered for development in the first place, and should be set aside as wilderness. "The BLM acknowledged the wilderness qualities of Vermillion Basin in its own review in 1998 and it is time to safeguard these exceptional values," he said.

BLM announced the completion of a Little Snake RMP June 29 even though the plan won't be available for several more weeks. The announcement was moved up because of its importance to the area, said Hall. Once the RMP is announced in the Federal Register it will have to sit on a shelf for at least 60 days before a record of decision is published.

If and when the final plan hits the street, industry and Moffat County may protest. They will have 60 days to object. During that 60-day stretch Gov. Ritter will also have an opportunity to review the document.

Moffat County Commissioner Tom Gray told us, "We haven't made up our minds yet (on whether to protest.) We need to analyze the RMP." Industry may also protest.

Gray and Moffat County Natural Resources Department Director Jeff Comstock, using BLM data, said Vermillion Basin leasing would produce $700 million worth of gas, of which more than $35 million would come directly to the county.

Said the county in a July 6 letter to the public, "The above numbers do not reflect the additional social and economic values of adding high paying jobs associated with the gas industry to our community nor the support businesses that accompany such development. The economic and social benefits the energy industry provide to our community are critical and drive the quality of life that all those who live, work, and play in Moffat County enjoy."

Although Salazar has been criticized for siding with the offshore oil and gas industry in the Gulf of Mexico, the onshore industry is convinced he is out to get them. They cite a May 17 BLM Instruction Memorandum (IM) that established new pre-lease review procedures, both at the planning stage and at the tract review stage.

Claire M. Moseley, executive director of Public Lands Advocacy, said, "However, the leasing reform IM 2010-117 clearly states that even though a RMP may designate lands as open to leasing, the agency can choose not to lease in those areas." She said that BLM has removed from leasing hundreds of tracts and held up other sales to analyze green house gas impacts. She concluded, "Clearly, there is no viable domestic oil and gas program on the table."

In the case of the Little Snake Plan covering 1.3 million acres BLM during the Bush administration hired the Northwest Stewardship Group to put together a compromise among contesting groups. Industry claims that the final RMP ignores that compromise.

Said Public Lands Advocacy (PLA), "Despite a two-year collaborative planning process in which PLA actively participated, the DOI has decided to ignore the consensus planning document which the collaborative stakeholder group settled upon by removing the entire Vermillion Basin from oil and gas leasing."

But, said Hall, "We never reached agreement on Vermillion Basin. Environmentalists wanted it protected and the county and industry wanted it leased."

BLM says that although most of the land overseen by the Little Snake Field Office has been leased (more than 1 million acres), less than 15 percent has been developed. But said PLA, "The argument that less than 15 percent of the leased acreage has been developed for oil and gas is disingenuous because hundreds of lease parcels have been deferred pending the release of the RMP."

Still, Nada Culver, senior counsel for The Wilderness Society, said most of the Little Snake will be available for development. "There are, and will continue to be, plenty of lands left to develop," she said. "Vermillion Basin, as indispensable as it is, will not make a real dent in our energy needs."

BLM by policy and law in a final RMP/EIS must choose a preferred alternative that was posited in whole or in part in a draft RMP/EIS to give the public a chance to evaluate it. Hall said that a no leasing alternative for Vermillion Basin was included in the draft RMP. Moseley acknowledged the no lease alternative was included in the draft.

RAHALL: HOUSE COMMITTEE TO DRAFT ENERGY BILL JULY 14

House Natural Resources Committee Chairman Nick Joe Rahall (D-W.Va.) intends to move a comprehensive energy bill (HR 3534) quickly through his committee.

He set Tuesday (July 14) as a mark-up date for HR 3534, which attempts to parlay the BP's Deepwater Horizon accident in the Gulf of Mexico into reforms of both offshore and onshore oil and gas development programs.

At a June 30 hearing on the revised bill, Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar generally endorsed the measure. He particularly praised a provision that would

give Congressional approval to three new agencies that will replace the Minerals Management Service. Salazar has already done that administratively.

While Salazar didn't in general single out other onshore provisions for praise, he did call for quick action on the bill, which is targeted at offshore oil and gas reforms. "There is a need to move forward and to move forward with some urgency," he said. "The sooner that action is taken the faster it is before we can get beyond the tragedy. In my view waiting is not an option."

Committee Republicans, led by Rep. Cynthia Lummis (R-Wyo.), attacked the revised draft for addressing onshore oil and gas issues when the main problem is offshore.

"I'm disappointed that we're not using the culmination of these hearings which have focused on the Gulf of Mexico to craft legislation to deal with the national disaster in the Gulf of Mexico," she said. "We're using this legislation to deal with many, many other subjects that require much more discussion and vetting."

Among other things she faulted a proposed change from an auction bid system for onshore oil and gas lease sales to a closed-bid system. "I also find it interesting that the bill dealing with the national crisis in the Gulf of Mexico changes onshore lease sales to a sealed bid process, removing the ability to use live auctions," she said.

Rahall's HR 3534 does make substantial changes in the version of a bill he introduced last fall. Among other things Rahall dropped a lead provision that would have established a new federal energy office that combined BLM's oil and gas program, the Minerals Management Service (except for audit functions) and Forest Service management of leasing and development.

In addition the revised bill would NOT increase onshore oil and gas royalties. An early draft of the measure last year would have jumped the ceiling to 17.5 percent, but the new bill retains the existing 12.5 percent.

How far HR 3534 gets remains to be seen. The measure could be included in other fast-moving Gulf legislation, be swept into climate change legislation, be added to an annual appropriations bill or move on its own.

The new bill would make these changes in onshore policy:

* DILIGENT DEVELOPMENT: have the Interior Department establish benchmarks for diligent development. If a lessee did not meet those benchmarks, the department could cancel the lease,
* CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS: repeal a provision of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Section 390) that authorizes BLM and the Forest Service to categorically exclude from environmental review a half-dozen oil and gas activities,
* ROYALTY-IN-KIND: terminate this program under which the government takes royalties in the form of the oil and gas itself and then sells the oil and gas. However, Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar has already terminated the program administratively,
* SOLAR AND WIND LEASING: subject solar and wind energy projects to a leasing procedure, as oil and gas, coal and geothermal already are. Under existing law solar and wind companies submit applications for rights-of-way,
* ROYALTY INTEREST: eliminate the practice of paying lessees interest on overpaid royalties, and

* LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND: guarantee $900 million each year to the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF.) The allocation would not be subject to appropriation. The fund is now authorized at $900 million per year but the money must be appropriated each year and appropriators seldom provide much less than that. LWCF is financed by offshore oil and gas royalties and the account now stands at more than $16 billion.

DOI SHAKES LOOSE PILT PAYMENTS, AVOIDING FEARED DELAY

Under extreme pressure from the West, the Interior Department June 29 released $358.1 million in payments-in-lieu of taxes (PILT) payments.

Western counties, western state officials and western Congressmen from both parties had erupted when the administration in mid-June announced the payments would be delayed until mid-to-late-July. The payments had been expected in June.

The Interior Department in a press release blamed the late payments on unidentified states or localities. "The 2010 payment amounts were delayed because of late reporting by some entities and the complexity of evaluating prior year payment amounts authorized by the Mineral Leasing Act and the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act," said Interior.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) praised the department. "I appreciate Secretary (of Interior Ken) Salazar's quick response to our request to distribute the funds as soon as possible," he said.

The all-Republican Wyoming Congressional delegation also "praised" the department, but faulted the delay. "It is important that PILT money be distributed consistently and timely," said Sen. Mike Renzi (R-Wyo.) "No slow bureaucracy should keep much needed resources from our communities."

Ranking House Natural Resources Committee Republican Doc Hastings (R-Wash.) demanded to know which state and local governments reported late, the reasons for "unavoidable delays" in calculating the payments, and why counties were not notified immediately of the delays.

"We must know whether the problem rests with PILT's administration by Department officials, the later reporting of certain entities, or with the laws themselves," Hastings wrote Salazar June 28. "This requires that the Department be open, transparent and thorough in providing the facts about this situation."

Congressional Democrats and Republicans had joined forces June 22 to ask the administration in a letter to issue estimated payments, immediately. The 15 senators and 21 House members, including Reid, said that western counties needed the money ASAP.

The Interior Department said that before BLM calculates each county's PILT payments it must know how much money all counties received from other programs the previous fiscal year. The payments from the other programs decide who gets what from PILT.

Interior initially made matters worse in mid-June by sending a "NOTICE" to select individuals (but not to the press) cryptically announcing a delay. "Due to unavoidable circumstances the Department of the Interior will experience a delay from its normal Payment in Lieu of Taxes distribution," the notice said.

"The Department expects to distribute 2010 PILT payments in late July of this year."

Under the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (PL 110-343 of Oct. 3, 2008) Interior usually makes PILT payments in June. The act provides the money for the PILT payments automatically through fiscal year 2012; that is, the allocations are not subject to appropriations.

HILL LEADERS SAY THEY WILL PREPARE LEAN SPENDING BILLS

House subcommittees last week began marking up fiscal year 2011 appropriations bills with spending caps essentially the same as fiscal 2010 final levels.

And on June 30 the House approved an abbreviated budget resolution (H Res 1492, H Res 1493), which trims President Obama's 2011 request by $7 billion. The Obama budget had already proposed flat spending, at best, for most public lands programs. The budget resolution was attached to an emergency appropriations bill (HR 4899.)

Whether an Interior appropriations subcommittee will mark up a public lands bill this month remains to be seen. Political infighting may prevent that. But subcommittees last week marked up Agriculture, Commerce and Transportation bills.

Congress headed out July 2 on a week-long holiday and won't return until next week. So House and Senate appropriators will have four weeks to write spending bills before Congress is scheduled to leave for another vacation August 6, this one for a month. If committees do write bills, floor action is still a remote possibility because of the political infighting.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the Senate subcommittee that controls much public lands news spending, Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), said June 23 that Senate Democratic leaders have given her the go-ahead to write a fiscal year 2011 spending bill.

The Senate Appropriations Committee confirmed on background that Chairman Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) has told his subcommittees to prepare to mark up. But the committee said no mark-ups will be held until Democratic leaders give the full committee a spending allocation, as the House is doing.

The betting until now has been that the full Senate would not approve appropriations bills before the November 2 elections because of all the controversies facing the measures. Those odds still look pretty good.

Feinstein also inferred that the Senate leaders had assigned a spending cap to the bill she would prepare as chairman of the Senate subcommittee on Interior appropriations. Again, no Senate caps have been assigned yet.

Although Hoyer projected a slight reduction in the administration's spending request, a good possibility remains that Congress will in the end choose to extend fiscal 2010 spending levels. That would benefit most public lands agencies because the administration has proposed, at best, flat spending for fiscal 2011.

Meanwhile, for fiscal 2011 the Senate Budget Committee April 26 did approve a budget (S Con Res 60) that recommends an increase in natural resources spending above the budget request of President Obama.

However, Senate consideration of the committee budget would constitute a miracle because the odds are high against either the Senate or the House taking up a multi-year budget this year, let alone approving one. Thus, Hoyer is talking of an abbreviated one-year budget. Unlike regular Congressional budgets the House resolution does not recommend spending allocations for major policy areas, such as natural resources.

The Senate Budget Committee adopted a "mark" prepared by chairman Kent Conrad (D-N.D.) that would increase spending for a Natural Resources line item by $940 million, from $38.7 billion this year to $39.6 billion in fiscal 2011. That line item includes EPA and a host of other agencies not directly related to management of the public lands.

GOP MONUMENTS RESOLUTION MORE AMBITIOUS THAN ADVERTISED

The House Natural Resources Committee filed a report with the full House late last month that indicates the committee is seeking considerably more documents about the Obama administration's national monuments plan than was originally believed.

When the committee June 16 approved a resolution (H Res 1406) requesting information Democrats and Republicans alike painted it as a search for the pages of just one document. However, the committee report says the resolution seeks not just the one document, but all other Interior Department paperwork incident to it.

The report says the committee is asking for "copies of all Department of the Interior documents, maps, records (including electronic records), communications and other information dating from July 1, 2009, and later referring to or relating to a specific internal draft document of the Department of the Interior concerning the potential designation of National Monuments."

Meanwhile, ranking House Natural Resources Committee Republican Doc Hastings (R-Wash.) continues to investigate the possibility that the Interior Department is considering national monument designations for agencies other than BLM. The documents that H Res 1406 is seeking evaluate 14 possible monuments on BLM land.

In an addendum to the House committee report, Hastings wrote, "We now know that other agencies were involved in preparing this document - not just (BLM.) The e-mails reveal that other Department of the Interior agencies including the National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Bureau of Reclamation were involved in contributing to this document. What were the proposals for new designations or actions within each of these agencies?"

The Great Falls Tribune July 6 described an ambitious department-wide attempt to identify "Treasured Landscapes," which Salazar has not hesitated to say he wants to protect. After reviewing documents the administration provided to Hastings, the Tribune said, "According to the Tribune's review, high-ranking officials at the BLM, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service have been working for nearly a year on a series of 'vision documents' outlining Salazar's 'Treasured Landscapes' public land conservation initiative. The

leaked monument memo is a seven-page snippet from BLM's contribution to that initiative process."

It is not clear if House Democratic leaders will bring up the resolution on the floor. That committee chairman Nick Joe Rahall (D-W.Va.) sided with the Republicans may persuade the leadership to take a vote on the resolution.

But Hastings said the committee's vote should persuade the administration to free the documents. "The Committee's favorable vote should result in the American public getting answers to these questions," he said. "The Department should promptly transmit a complete copy of the document along with the 2,016 pages of related material they have identified and gathered as being responsive to our request but are nevertheless deliberately withheld from the public."

Hastings and his fellow committee Republicans finally won a skirmish June 16 in their year-long battle to obtain internal Interior Department documents that analyze the possible designation of national monuments.

The Democratic-controlled committee approved without opposition the Republican resolution (H Res 1406.) It seeks all pages of a document that assesses the qualifications of 14 areas for designation as monuments. The Republicans already have several pages of the document. All the 14 assessed areas are managed by BLM.

When Hastings and Rep. Rob Bishop (Utah), ranking Republican on the House subcommittee on National Parks, first introduced a privileged resolution (H Res 1254), they demanded all Interior Department documents related to a Treasured Landscapes program. On May 5 the House committee rejected that request because, as Rahall said at the time, it was too sweeping. Still, the committee refused to endorse the resolution and send it to the House floor by a narrow 20-to-22 margin.

But this time Hastings and Bishop are only seeking pages related to the one department document, and documents related to it. They already have obtained pages 15-to-21; they are now asking for pages 1-14, pages 22 on and all information that led up to the document.

When the committee considered the first Republican resolution on May 5, Rahall said it was too sweeping, but that he would support a request for the one document.

Hastings and Bishop launched the monuments controversy in February. They released a seven-page Interior Department document that indicated the Obama administration "is considering" the acquisition of billions of dollars of land, all for BLM. In addition the Republicans say the document indicates Interior is considering the designation of 14 new national monuments on BLM land.

Since then Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar has repeatedly assured Congress and the public that the document was for internal planning purposes only. He has also said the Obama administration would follow a public process before the White House designates more national monuments.

GREAT OUTDOORS INITIATIVE: At a listening session of an Obama administration America's Great Outdoors Initiative June 25 Salazar once again said that protecting treasured landscapes is one of his goals.

"I hope in the months ahead we will prepare a report for the President and Congress relative to a Great Outdoors agenda," he said. "Included in that

agenda I hope that we will identify landscapes of national significance across the country."

As significant landscapes he mentioned the Chesapeake Bay (where the press availability took place), and the "Great Lakes, San Francisco Bay Delta, the Colorado Plateau and many others."

In response to a question from PLN about what he personally would like to see the initiative accomplish, Salazar said "some additional wildlife refuges and potentially some additional national parks." But he made sure to add, "We would listen to the people and obviously work with the governors and Congressional delegations."

Private property rights groups such as the American Land Rights Association contend that the America's Great Outdoors Initiative is a smokescreen for a monuments campaign. "This listening session is about the plan that is part of the battle between the House Natural Resources Committee and the White House and Interior Departments over the release of secret documents describing the full extent of the Obama Great Outdoors Initiative," said the association in a bulletin to its members.

The 14 possible BLM monuments are located in Arizona (1), California (4), Colorado (1), Montana (1), Nevada (1), New Mexico (2), Oregon (1), Utah (2) and Washington (1). The Interior document says 1,618,140 acres would be involved, including 397,210 acres of state and private land. Acquisition of the land would cost more than $2 billion.

The administration did respond in part to the demands of Hastings and Bishop on May 4, the night before the committee considered the first Republican resolution. It forwarded 383 pages of materials related to the request.

But, complained Hastings, "(A)fter reviewing the pages (provided) I am more alarmed than ever by the administration's refusal to come clean on their plans for new national monuments." Hastings said that while the Interior Department provided 383 pages it (1) withheld 2,000 more and (2) provided no attachments to E-mails.

BILL TO REQUIRE HILL ACTION: In a related development Rep. Devin Nunes (R-Calif.) and 13 of his Republican colleagues introduced a bill (HR 5580) last month that would require Congressional approval of any national monument designated by the President within two years. Under the Antiquities Act of 1906 the President may designate national monument on his own motion.

ENVIROS ATTACK DOI 'PRECLUDED' FINDING FOR SAGE-GROUSE

Three environmental groups last week amended their long-standing sage-grouse litigation by protesting an Obama administration determination that listing the bird is "precluded" by work on other species.

The Western Watersheds Project and two other environmental groups said the Endangered Species Act (ESA) only authorizes the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to use the precluded excuse if it is making progress on listing other species. And, said the groups, FWS is making no such progress.

Said the environmentalists in their court filing, "(T)he Service has failed to make expeditious progress in addressing the large backlog of species that warrant ESA protection; and it is relying on improper budgetary and other

excuses to avoid proceeding with the greater sage-grouse listing, contrary to the ESA's statutory requirements and without rational justification."

In the end, said the environmentalists, "This 'precluded' determination relegates the greater sage-grouse (and its distinct population segments) to the long list of ESA 'candidate' species - a black hole from which few species ever emerge, and under which they receive no ESA protection - and represents yet another non-scientific, politicized, and arbitrary determination that prevents the sage-grouse from obtaining the ESA protection that it urgently needs."

The June 28 filing in U.S. District Court in Idaho follows up on the court's December 2007 ruling that a Bush administration determination that listing of the sage-grouse was not warranted. The court called for a new review. After the review the Obama administration March 23 agreed with the court that listing of the sage-grouse was warranted. But it said listing was precluded at this time because other species took precedence.

Wyoming Gov. Dave Freudenthal (D) lashed out at the environmentalists June 29 because he said the state had put together a satisfactory strategy for protecting the sage-grouse. "They're suing while we're doing the work," Freudenthal said. "We're doing what they should be doing - conserving - but they'd rather litigate than fix anything."

In fact on June 29 a team of Wyoming officials presented a final report addressing protection of the sage-grouse under the lead of Bob Budd, executive director of the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust. The strategy identifies the bird's core areas; assigns stipulations for economic development, such as oil and gas, in core areas; and identifies connecting areas that should be protected.

Said Budd, "If the sage-grouse is listed, roughly 80 percent of the state's surface area is in its historic range and it will have an impact on everything from ranching to oil and gas to uranium."

He said of the Wyoming strategy, "If you're looking at conservation and you can actually identify and conserve 83.1 percent of a species in your area, in roughly 25 percent of the state's land mass, that is a good sign."

More than 20 conservation groups petitioned FWS in 2003 for a listing of the sage-grouse under the ESA. On Jan. 6, 2005, then FWS Director Steven Williams issued a decision that a listing was not required because the efforts of federal and state agencies would protect the sage-grouse. On Dec. 4, 2007, Idaho Chief Judge B. Lynn Winmill ordered FWS to reconsider its decision. Finally, on March 5 Salazar said FWS will declare that listing of the bird is warranted but precluded.

A century ago more than 1 million sage-grouse populated the West. The birds are primarily dependent on sage-brush habitat. Since then the population has shrunk to 100,000 to 500,000 birds.

JUDGE TO DETERMINE IF WOLF HUNTS CONTINUE, OR ESA KICKS IN

U.S. District Court Judge Donald W. Molloy in Montana is expected to decide by this fall if Idaho and Montana may sponsor wolf hunt seasons again later this year.

Environmentalists, led by the Earthjustice environmental law group, asked Molloy last month to head off any hunting by ordering the relisting of the northern Rockies wolf under the Endangered Species Act (ESA.) Both the Bush and Obama administrations agreed to delist the wolf in Idaho and Montana because the bird's numbers had rebounded over the last three decades.

At the same time Molloy is being asked by the State of Wyoming to order the delisting of the wolf in Wyoming. Neither the Bush nor the Obama administrations have agreed to delisting the wolf in Wyoming, faulting a state plan.

The environmentalists and the states are arguing numbers. The environmentalists maintain that the wolf population in Idaho and Montana should be allowed to grow to 2,000 to 5,000 animals. But the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) said that populations of 100 to 150 in each state suffice.

On April 2, 2009, FWS issued a final rule that implemented a Bush administration proposal to remove the northern Rockies wolf from the endangered species list. The gray wolf was first listed as a threatened species under the ESA on Jan. 4, 1974.

At the time FWS set a minimum recovery goal of 30 breeding pairs and a minimum of 300 individual wolves for at least three consecutive years. FWS said it reached that goal in 2002, and the wolf population has grown since then.

FWS first delisted the Northern Rockies wolves in February 27, 2008. But environmentalists filed a lawsuit and Judge Molloy put the wolves back on the endangered species list. Among other things Molloy said FWS failed to ensure that subpopulations would interbreed.

On Jan. 14, 2009, the Bush administration tried again when former Deputy Secretary of the Interior Lynn Scarlett announced for the second time that FWS would delist the wolf. However, the rule was not scheduled to go into effect until mid-February 2009, which gave the Obama administration an opportunity to review the Bush action. On April 2, 2009, the Obama administration agreed with the Bush administration.

Wyoming state officials launched their own lawsuit on June 2, 2009, against FWS for rejecting their wolf management plan. That case is being considered in federal court in Wyoming, not in the Montana court. Wyoming Attorney General Bruce Salzburg rejected claims by FWS that local laws were too weak to protect Wyoming's 300 wolves.

Mexican wolf petition: In separate litigation FWS has agreed to respond by July 31 to a petition from the Center for Biological Diversity for a separate listing of the Mexican wolf under ESA. In 1978 FWS consolidated the listings of various wolf species into one listing for the conterminous U.S. The center says a separate listing for the Mexican wolf would force FWS to update a recovery plan and protect the Mexican wolf. "The Mexican gray wolf's distinctiveness from other gray wolves means their survival and recovery is of heightened significance," said Michael Robinson of the Center.

CLIMATE BILL POSSIBILITIES ENDLESS; DELAY TO NOVEMBER?

House and Senate Democratic leaders this summer have before them a seemingly infinite number of options for moving climate change legislation. The implications for public lands programs vary from option to option.

One thing is becoming increasingly likely however: Congress will not finish a climate bill until it holds a lame-duck session after the November 2 elections. Until the election Democratic leaders will almost certainly avoid the political heat that would go with passage of a bill.

Still, Congressional Democrats and President Obama said June 29 that they will continue working on legislation throughout the summer, particularly in the Senate. Senators who attended a White House meeting with the President last week reportedly said they expect to move a bill this year, even if it is less ambitious than the bills now on the table.

The ball is in the Senate's court and Senate committees may begin preparing legislation soon for the Senate floor, even if the legislation is deferred for some time. Although Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) asked his committees to prepare bills before Congress began a July 4 Holiday July 2, that didn't happen.

Even if the Senate passes a weak bill, that may not matter because a post-election conference committee will have freedom to put together a strong final bill.

In fact, some Democrats are arguing increasingly for a less politically-contentious climate bill, i.e. a year-old, Senate Energy Committee bill that primarily addresses renewable energy. That measure (S 1462), approved by the committee June 17, 2009, does not include controversial carbon taxes.

As for the public lands, however, the 500-page measure would make these significant changes in a domestic production subtitle:

* authorize a $20 million per year fund from fiscal 2016 through 2020 to pay for interagency oil and gas offices to expedite drilling permits;

* authorize leasing for geothermal development lands that are already leased for oil and gas production and under an approved application for permit to drill (only an oil and gas lessee could obtain a geothermal lease in the same place);

* require Senate confirmation of the director of the Minerals Management Service (see related article page 7 on the service's reorganization);

* increase a bond ceiling for an Alaska Natural Gas pipeline from $16 billion to $30 billion; and

* authorize a natural gas pipeline through Denali National Park.

The committee approved the bill, sponsored chiefly by chairman Jeff Bingaman (D-N.M.), by a substantial 15-to-8 margin, with ranking Republican Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) voting for the bill.

In addition to the public lands provisions, the energy committee bill would authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to overrule a state's objection to the siting of electricity rights-of-way.

Conservation programs enter the climate conversation in other ways. The House approved an ambitious cap-and-trade climate bill (HR 2425) on June 26, 2009, that would revise fundamentally management priorities on federal and nonfederal lands to emphasize adaptation to climate change. In addition the

bill would establish a Natural Resources Climate Change Adaptation Fund that would provide billions of dollars to protect natural resources.

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee (EPW) approved a similar climate change bill (S 1733) on Nov. 5, 2009. Those bills have not advanced in the Senate because of opposition from Republicans and centrist Democrats. So Sens. John Kerry (D-Mass.) and Joseph Lieberman (I-Conn.) wrote a less ambitious draft bill that is pending before the EPW committee; that measure includes conservation provisions similar to those in S 1733 and HR 2425.

After the White House meeting, The Wilderness Society encouraged the senators and Obama to produce a strong bill, with conservation money. "Directing new resources to protecting natural resources and rebuilding and restoring degraded forestland will protect our clean water, clean air and vital wildlife habitat in the face of a warming climate, and create quality jobs that can't be outsourced," said David Moulton, director of climate policy and conservation funding for society

The renewable energy bill prepared by the Senate Energy Committee could in turn become a target for an amendment that would guarantee full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF.) That possibility heated up June 24 when House Natural Resources Committee Chairman Nick Joe Rahall (D-W.Va.) revised an old energy bill of his (HR 3534) that would guarantee full funding for LWCF. (See related article page 3.)

It may help that the lead author of the Senate's renewable energy bill, Bingaman, also is the lead author of a bill (S 2747) that would guarantee full funding for LWCF.

IBLA DECISIONS

(We now post current Interior Board of Land Appeals decisions at our website, http://www.plnfpr.com/ibla.htm. IBLA may be contacted at: Interior Board of Land Appeals, 801 North Quincy St., MS 300-QC, Arlington, VA 22203. Phone (703) 235-3750.)

SUBJECT: MINING CLAIM ASSESSMENT FEES.

DoI decision: If annual mining claim assessment fees aren't paid, BLM will declare claims forfeited.

Appellant claimant: BLM should have notified claimant, not his agent, of failure to pay.

IBLA decision: Remanded, BLM must notify claimant, not agent, and provide opportunity to cure defect.

Case identification: Joel Carothers, 179 IBLA 244. Decided: June 22, 2010. Eight pages. Appeal from a decision of the Nevada State Office of BLM, which declared unpatented mining claims and mill sites forfeited for failure to timely file affidavits of assessment work on or before December 30, 2009, for the 2009 assessment year when required processing fees were not included and claimants failed to cure this defect within 30 days after their receipt of notice. NMC 912528, et al.

IBLA argument: IBLA Chief Administrative Judge H. Barry Holt said BLM erred in sending a notice of failure to pay annual assessment fees for mining claims to an agent for the claimant, and not to the claimant himself. In this instance an

agent for the claimant filed with BLM annual assessment fees for claims held by more than one client. The accompanying check, however, covered only some of the claims. So BLM notified the agent that he had not submitted payment for the eight claims at issue here. That notice, however, was unclaimed. BLM then separately notified the claimant that his claims were forfeited. Judge Holt held that BLM erred in sending the notice of nonpayment to the agent, even though the agent sent the check. He said BLM must notify the claimant himself and give him an opportunity to cure the defect. "We find that under these circumstances BLM must provide notice to the claimants whose rights and interests are in jeopardy, not merely to any other party that happens to submit documents or payment," held Holt.

NOTES

HILL TRIES INDIAN SETTLEMENT AGAIN. The House July 1 approved a $3.4 billion settlement of disputed Indian royalty claims in new legislation (HR 4899.) The settlement is blocked in the Senate where it is attached to a controversial economic stimulus/tax bill (HR 4213.) So House leaders attached it to a must-pass emergency appropriations bill (HR 4899) that supports the war in Afghanistan. The Senate has refused to take up HR 4213 three times, most recently on June 30. Although the Indian settlement was not the immediate target of critics of the stimulus/tax bill, Sen. John Barrasso (R-Wyo.) has introduced an amendment (SA 4313) that would make substantial changes to it. Among other things Barrasso, vice chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, would cap attorneys fees at $50 million. The agreement would pay attorneys up to three percent of the $3.4 billion deal, or a little over $100 million. Barrasso's amendment prompted the Obama administration to agree with the lead plaintiff in the case, Elouise Pepion Cobell, that the provision would kill the settlement. "We oppose the proposed amendments to the Cobell legislation, which would constitute a material change that would rendered the carefully-structured Settlement null and void," said Attorney General Eric H. Holder, Jr. and Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar in a June 9 letter to Senate leaders.

ARIZONA URANIUM WITHDRAWAL OPPOSED. Thirty House members July 1 introduced legislation (HR 5665) that would block the Obama administration's withdrawal from uranium mining of 1 million acres near Grand Canyon National Park. Said lead bill sponsor Trent Franks (R-Ariz.), "By prohibiting exploitation of northern Arizona reserves, the Obama Administration strategically weakens America's long-term national security and our ability to be energy self-sufficient. It also seriously calls into question President Obama's supposed commitment to increase our domestic nuclear energy production in order to protect America's national security." On July 21, 2009, BLM issued a segregation notice that effectively banned new mining on the million acres. At the same time BLM proposed a 20-year withdrawal from new uranium claims of 633,547 acres of BLM-managed land and 360,002 acres of Kaibab National Forest in Arizona. Rep. Raúl M. Grijalva (D-Ariz.), chairman of the House subcommittee on National Parks, Forest and Public Lands, has introduced legislation (HR 644) that would permanently withdraw the million acres of public lands adjacent to

the park. But Arizona Sens. John McCain (R) and Jon Kyl (R) and former Sen. Dennis DeConcini (D) oppose the proposed withdrawal. Now Rep. Franks has introduced legislation to bar the withdrawal.

SOME WILD HORSE BOARD POSITIONS FILLED. BLM announced July 1 the selection of three new members to its Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board. And the bureau said it was still working on appointments for three other positions on the nine-member board. In the July 1 announcement BLM said it has named to the board H. Paul Durbin to represent wildlife management, Timothy J. Harvey to represent humane advocacy, and Gary Zakotnik to represent livestock management. Zakotnik is a holdover. Separately, BLM June 21 asked the public for nominations to fill three other positions on the board. Those nominations are due by August 5. All board members serve three-year terms. In a shift BLM said that in the three yet-to-be filled seats it would reduce the livestock membership from two to one. The dropped livestock position would be filled with a public interest member. The Obama administration has proposed a massive shake-up of the federal wild horse and burro program featuring expensive new storage corrals in the East and Midwest. The idea is to relieve overcrowding on the public range. BLM estimates the public range has a carrying capacity of 26,500 wild horses and burros but that 38,000 animals now live there. Further, BLM is holding an additional 35,000 animals in corrals and pastures at great expense. In fiscal year 2009 BLM spent about 70 percent of its wild horse budget, or $29 million, on maintaining preserves. The total budget was $40.6 million. Submit nominations to the board by August 5 to: National Wild Horse and Burro Program, Bureau of Land Management, L Street Mailing, 1849 C St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240, Attn: Sharon Kipping.

SENATE DELAYS BLM TIMBER SALE EXTENSIONS. The Senate June 30 refused for the third time to take up a catchall economic stimulus bill (HR 4213), placing at risk a provision that would allow holders of BLM timber contracts to obtain three-year extensions of their contracts. The House approved the bill with the provision May 28. HR 4213 is a massive economic stimulus bill. Without the timber contract extensions some of the contracts would expire. The Senate action was not directed at the BLM timber provision, but at the overall $120 billion cost of the package. The timber provision has not been included in a new emergency appropriations bill (HR 4899) the House approved July 1, as the geothermal provision below has been.

COUNTIES' GEOTHERMAL REFUND REVIVED. The House July 1 approved in a new bill (HR 4899) a provision that would allow counties to receive 25 percent of geothermal royalties collected by the federal government. The provision is attached to an emergency appropriations bill. The provision has been blocked in the Senate where it is attached to a controversial economic stimulus/tax bill (HR 4213.) The Senate three times has refused to take up the catchall economic stimulus bill, most recently on June 30. A fiscal year 2010 appropriations law forbids counties from sharing in royalty revenues, as they traditionally had under the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970. The provision in the economic stimulus bill would change that by allocating 50 percent of federal land geothermal revenues to states, 25 percent to the U.S. Treasury and 25 percent to counties. The provision is expected to cost $8 million over 10 years.

PALMA IN, SEIRRA OUT AT UTAH BLM. BLM's Utah State Director Selma Sierra and BLM's Eastern States Director Juan Palma will switch positions, BLM said last month. The Southern Utah Wilderness Association criticized Sierra for allegedly favoring oil and gas development over protection of the Red Rock area of southern Utah. On the other hand in accepting the transfer Palma said, "Over the years, my wife Susan and I have enjoyed many of Utah's public lands with our three boys. The Red Rock country around Moab is among our favorite places."

PUBLIC LANDS COUNCIL HITS THE WEB. The Public Lands Council livestock association has established a new website, http://www.publiclandscouncil.org. The council has represented cattle and sheep ranchers who operate on the public lands since 1968. Skye Krebs, an Oregon rancher, is president of the council. Dustin Van Liew is executive director.

WEST GOVS PROMISE TO COOPERATE. Western governors repeated their commitment to work with each other across borders to manage wildlife in landscape-sized areas. The members of the Western Governors' Association said they would put together within three years data needed to back wildlife decisions. They are working through a Western Governors' Wildlife Council with a $3 million grant from the Department of Energy. The states have begun eight pilot projects to develop compatible systems. Sally Jewell, president and CEO of REI, told the governors, "Ecosystems don't know political boundaries, so conservation of the most important wildlife corridors, water and forest resources require cooperation across multiple public and private entities." More information on the projects is available at: www.westgov.org. The western governors were meeting in Whitefish, Mont., for an annual summer get-together.

CONFERENCE CALENDAR

JULY

16-20. National Association of Counties annual conference in Reno, Nev. Contact: National Association of Counties, 440 First St., N.W., 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20001. (202) 393-6226. FAX (202) 393-2630. http://www.naco.org.

22-24. Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation annual institute in Banff, Alberta, Canada. Contact: Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, 9191 Sheridan Blvd., #203, Westminster, CO 80031. (303) 321-8100. http://www.rmmlf.org.

AUGUST

5-10. American Bar Association annual meeting in San Francisco. Contact: American Bar Association, 321 North Clark St., Chicago, IL 60610. (312) 988-5870. http://www.abanet.org.

17-18. Petroleum Association of Wyoming annual meeting in Casper, Wyo. Contact: Email suz@pawyo.org or phone (307) 234-5333.

SEPTEMBER

9-11. Nevada Mining Association annual meeting in Lake Tahoe, Nev. Contact: Nevada Mining Association at (775) 829-2121 or http://www.nevadamining.org.

13-15. Public Lands Council annual meeting in Pendleton, Ore. Contact: Public Lands Council1301 Pennsylvania Ave. NW - Suite 300, Washington, D.C. 20004. (202) 347-0228. http://www.publiclandscouncil.org,

OCTOBER

3-7. The Wildlife Society annual meeting in Snowbird, Utah. Contact: The Wildlife Society, 5410 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814-2197. (301) 897-9770. http://www.wildlife.org.

11-14. Land Trust Alliance rally in Portland, Ore. Contact: Land Trust Alliance, 1331 H St., N.W., Suite 400, Washington, DC 20005-4711. (202) 638-4725. http://www.lta.org.

18-22. Oil and Gas Law short course in Houston. Contact: Contact: Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, 9191 Sheridan Blvd., #203, Westminster, CO 80031. (303) 321-8100. http://www.rmmlf.org.

24-27. Geothermal Resources Council annual meeting in Sacramento. Contact: Geothermal Resources Council, P.O. Box 1350, Davis, CA 95617-1350. (530) 758-2360. http://www.geothermal.org.

27. Pacific Northwest Reforestation Council annual meeting in Vancouver, Wash. Contact: Western Forestry and Conservation Association, 4033 SW Canyon Road, Portland, OR 97221. (503) 226-4562. http://www.westernforestry.org.

27-30. The National Trust for Historic Preservation annual conference in Austin, Texas. Contact: National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1785 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036. (202) 588-6100. http://www.nationaltrust.org.

28-29. NEPA and Federal Land Development course in Denver. Contact: Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, 9191 Sheridan Blvd., #203, Westminster, CO 80031. (303) 321-8100. http://www.rmmlf.org.

31-Nov2. The Geological Society of America annual meeting in Denver. Contact: The Geological Society of America, 3300 Penrose Place, Box 9140, Boulder, CO 80301. (1) (800) 472-1988. http://www.geosociety.org.

From: Baca, Sylvia
To: Whitlock, Jenna; Davis, Vermell
Subject: FW: Pending action items
Date: Friday, November 05, 2010 12:23:05 PM
Importance: High

I need a date for items below ASAP

Grand canyon

OSM Oversight Directive

Sylvia V. Baca
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
US Department of Interior

From: Farquhar, Ned
Sent: Friday, November 05, 2010 10:15 AM
To: Lane, Kenneth; Abbey, Robert V; Bromwich, Michael R; Haze, Pam K; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Belin, Letty; Davis, Laura; Black, Steve
Cc: Falsey, William D; Schwartz, Melissa; Baca, Sylvia; Lewis, Wilma
Subject: RE: Pending action items

Ken – Adding Wilma and Sylvia to your distrib list – Sylvia covers Grand Canyon and the oversight issue in our office.

Interior Approps energy report - I heard from our staff last night that OMB has sent its edits, we are incorporating them. (b) (5)

Onshore royalty rate - Unless you are interested in the nitty-gritty of the onshore royalty rate reform cost-benefit analysis, I think the onshore royalty rate reform item could be de-listed. It's in the reg-grinding process now.

OCS - I think BOEMRE is keeping you up to date on the NTL.

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Cc: Falsey, William D; Schwartz, Melissa
Subject: Pending action items

Hello all, just trying to get an update on the status of these pending action items

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Protecting America's Treasured Landscapes & Wildlife **Action Date**

1. ***Grand Canyon Area Lands Withdrawal (Uranium Mining)***
   - Draft EIS being finalized for release November

Action Date

-

Developing Renewable Energy & Oversight of Energy Production **Action Date**

1. ***OCS Development***
   - NTL re CEO certification requirement & containment enforceability mechanism being developed for issuance-- (T) Week of November 2
     to be followed by interim final rule incorporating such-- (T) By end of November

2. ***Interior Appropriations Report***
   - OMB promises to clear report Fri, October 29

3. ***Onshore Royalty Rate Reform***
   - Cost-benefit and economic impact analysis completion

4. ***OSM Reissued and Revised Oversight Directive***
   - OSM to release for public review and comment a revised oversight directive that clarifies procedures for addressing permit defects, among other things. (b) (5) November

-

Empowering Native Americans, Alaska Natives & Island Communities **Action Date**

-

1. ***Indian Water Rights***

- DOI Indian water rights team preparing draft letter of support for White Mtn Apache Tribe water settlement legislation. (b) (5)

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

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Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

From: Baca, Sylvia
To: Jensen, Jay
Subject: FW: Response to USFS Questions
Date: Wednesday, June 23, 2010 11:00:01 AM
Attachments: Grand_Canyon_Withdrawal_DEIS.pdf

Hi Jay

As requested: Information on Stikine River, Grand Canyon and Sunrise below

Bottom line on Stikine- no appeal filed with IBLA in the required 30 day period therefore they will have to go the district court.

Time line on Grand Canyon withdrawal-- page two of above pdf.

Sunrise - ROD signed by State Director Jan 2009. The IBLA recently (May 14th) issued their ruling on the appeal, affirming the BLM decision. The ruling does reference a BO by the USFWS...

Information on other topics will be sent as I receive it.

Thanks

Sylvia

Sylvia V. Baca
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
US Department of Interior

-----Original Message-----
From: James_Haerter@blm.gov [mailto:James_Haerter@blm.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2010 4:46 PM
To: Baca, Sylvia
Cc: Leverette, Mitchell; Spisak, Tim
Subject: Response to USFS Questions

Sylvia;

I have compiled the following information regarding the two items that you requested:

1. The BLM Alaska State Office issued a decision on April 2, 2010 rejected the state of Alaska's application for a recordable disclaimer of interest
(AA-085787) under the provisions of Section 315 of FLPMA. The decision rejected their argument that "title passed by operation of law from the United States to the State of Alaska on January 3, 1959, the date of Alaska's statehood", due to the objections by the current surface management agency (USFS.) Alaska was notified of their right to appeal to IBLA within 30 days at the time the decision was issued. I checked with the OHA this afternoon, and no appeal has apparently been filed. That is to say, no appeal under the heading of state of Alaska, and with the keywords "Stikine River".

A copy of the decision is located here:
http://www.blm.gov/style/medialib/blm/ak/aktest/rdi/stikine_riv.Par.6456.File.dat/Stikine_Decision_4-2-2010.pdf

2. Current status report for the Grand Canyon Mineral Withdrawal DEIS. I located the newsletter and the draft scoping report on the BLM-Arizona website, and it does include milestones/timelines (attached

pdf.)

(See attached file: Grand_Canyon_Withdrawal_DEIS.pdf)

I intend to contact Mitch Leverett tomorrow to confirm that this is the latest information. Please let me know if you need anything further.

James Haerter
Energy Policy Specialist – ERT
1849 C Street NW; MS-6628
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-5348

Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS

Newsletter #1 - March 2010

BLM

Public Scoping Report Now Available

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) completed a Scoping Report for the Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on February 25, 2010. The report provides a summary of the scoping efforts completed by the BLM and the scoping comments received by BLM. The purpose of scoping is to provide an opportunity for members of the public to learn about the proposed project and to share any concerns or comments they may have. Information gathered by the BLM through the scoping process will be used in developing the EIS. Comments will be used to help identify a range of alternatives, as well as to identify issues and concerns to be considered in the EIS.

The BLM hosted two public scoping meetings (September 30, 2009, in Fredonia, Arizona, and October 15, 2009, in Flagstaff, Arizona). The open house meetings were designed to allow attendees to view informational displays, make inquiries of project specialists, and submit written comments. Handouts and displays were provided to inform attendees about the proposed withdrawal and the EIS process. Comments received between August 26, 2009, and December 7, 2009, were included in the Scoping Report. Although the Scoping Report is complete, the BLM will continue to accept scoping comments identifying relevant issues throughout the EIS process.

The breakdown of comment submittals is presented in the following table.

Submittal Type	Submittals Received
Email	428
Fax	2
Form Letters (15 types)	76,452
Form Letter, with additional comment (15)	4,671
Letter	139
Public Comment Form	28
Duplicate (same submittal, same person)	1,805
Total Submittals Received	**83,525**

Approximately 97 percent of the submittals consisted of 15 different form letters developed and submitted by various organizations and their members. Form letters were processed for specific comments one time; additional exact submittals were reported as part of the total submittals, but the comment was only coded once.

After processing the 83,525 submittals the BLM recorded a total of 8,695 unique comments (the significant difference in these numbers is a result of the high number of form letters). The comments by resource category are shown in descending order below.

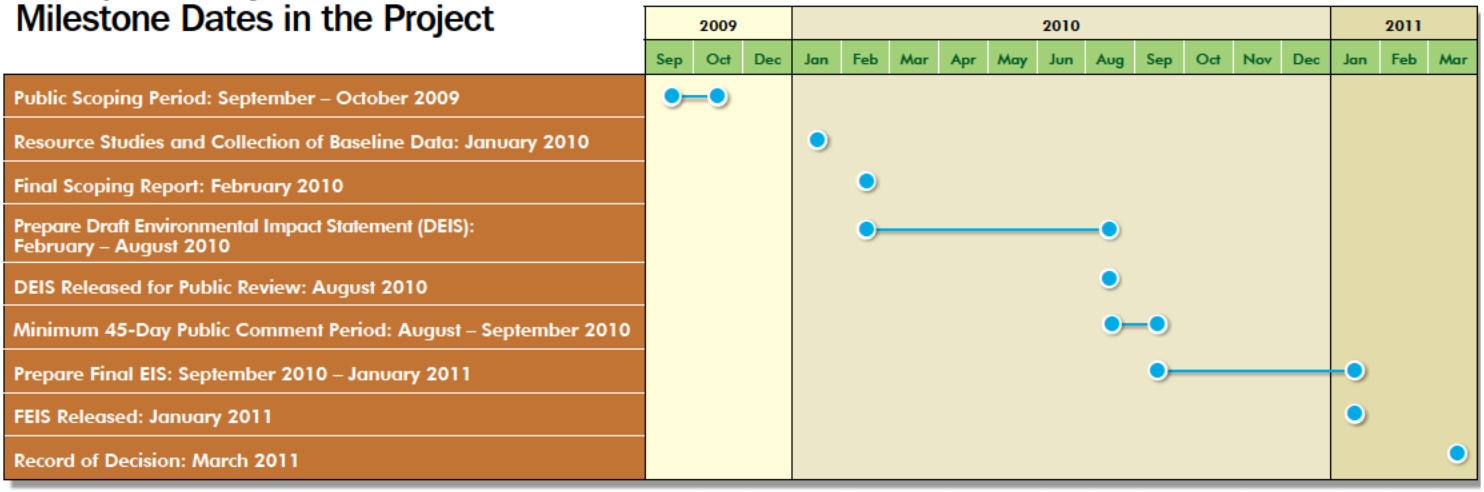
Comment Resource Category	Total #
Water Resources	1,017
Economic Conditions and Values	899
Affected Persons and Groups	872
Minerals	796
Natural Environment	636
Social Conditions/Values	628
Miscellaneous	572
Laws, Policies	553
Cumulative Impacts	550
Lands	539
Health and Safety	373
Wildlife General	253
Alternatives	174
Recreation	158
Air Quality	132
Scenery, Visual Resources	111
Vegetation	110
Species of Concern	72
Anthropological Heritage and Cultural Resources	71
Natural Resources	52
Transportation	48
Aquatic Wildlife	12
Noise	7
Environmental Justice	3
Total Comments	**8,695**

Continued on next page

Public Scoping Report Now Available (continued)

You are encouraged to consult the Scoping Report for more specific details about the comments the BLM received regarding the Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS. The full text of the Scoping Report is available at: **http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/mining/timeout.html**

Anticipated Major Milestone Dates in the Project



What Are Breccia Pipes and How Are They Mined?

The proposed action to be evaluated in the EIS is to withdraw all federal mineral estate in the segregation areas from the location of new mining claims under the Mining Law of 1872 for a period of 20 years. As part of evaluating theproposed withdrawal, the BLM considers it important to describe for the public the general nature of the mineral deposits and the type of mining activity that occurs in the study area. This brief article is an attempt to present key information about uranium mining in northern Arizona. Other articles related to the EIS and to soliciting public input on the project will follow in subsequent newsletters.

While uranium can be found in many parts of the world, certain areas have higher concentrations; the Arizona Strip of the Colorado Plateau is one of those areas. The Colorado Plateau is made up of many different layers of rock formations. One of the deepest rock formations in the Colorado Plateau is called Redwall Limestone. As is typical of all limestones, the Redwall Limestone began to dissolve eons ago in places where it came in contact with slightly acidic groundwater. Over time, groundwater continued to flow through and settle within the Redwall Limestone, and the dissolved pockets within the formation eventually collapsed. With no support from below, the rock layers above the dissolved limestone then collapsed into vertical columns (or pipes) of broken rock known as breccia pipe. It is within these breccia pipes that uranium can sometimes be found (Figure 1). The breccia pipes are typically about 300 feet wide and up to 3,000 feet in depth. It is estimated that thousands of breccias pipes may exist across the Colorado

Continued on next page

Breccia Pipes (Continued from Page 2)

Plateau, but only a small fraction have uranium minerals within them. To date, 10 breccia pipes have been mined for uranium on the Arizona Strip, resulting in the production of over 20 million pounds of uranium ore.

The uranium minerals are located in a very limited area of the pipes that is relatively far underground, generally deeper than 1,000 feet. Therefore, the open-pit or surface mining techniques with which most people are familiar cannot be used. Breccia pipe uranium mining operations therefore typically consist of erecting a "headframe" at the surface over one or more vertical shafts or tunnels which are excavated down to the breccia pipe formation. Horizontal tunnels (also known as "adits") are constructed and uranium ore is excavated by miners working underground. Uranium ore typically contains less than 1 percent uranium. This type of mining presents the usual risks associated with underground mining along with the need to maintain adequate ventilation in order to prevent the build-up of radon gas and associated worker exposure.

No processing, or milling, of uranium ore occurs in Arizona. Since the 1980s, all mined ore has been transported to a facility in Blanding, Utah, for processing. Because breccia pipe uranium deposits are so widespread, transportation of ore to the mill is accomplished by heavy haul truck rather than by rail.

During the milling process, the uranium ore rock is crushed, and the uranium is dissolved out of the ore using either an acidic or alkaline chemical solution. Once extracted from the ore rock, the dissolved uranium is concentrated, filtered, and dried into a compound commonly referred to as "yellowcake." Yellowcake can then be further refined for use in nuclear power plants, in medical applications, in weapons, and many other uses.

Because breccia pipes are limited in size and are nearly always mined using underground techniques, the surface disturbance tends to be relatively small — about 20 acres per mine — and temporary, usually lasting no more than 4 or 5 years. Some existing mining operations have been suspended and renewed one or more times as world uranium prices have fluctuated. After final cessation of a mine's operations all waste rock is required to be backfilled into the mine and the site is then sealed, recontoured, and revegetated.

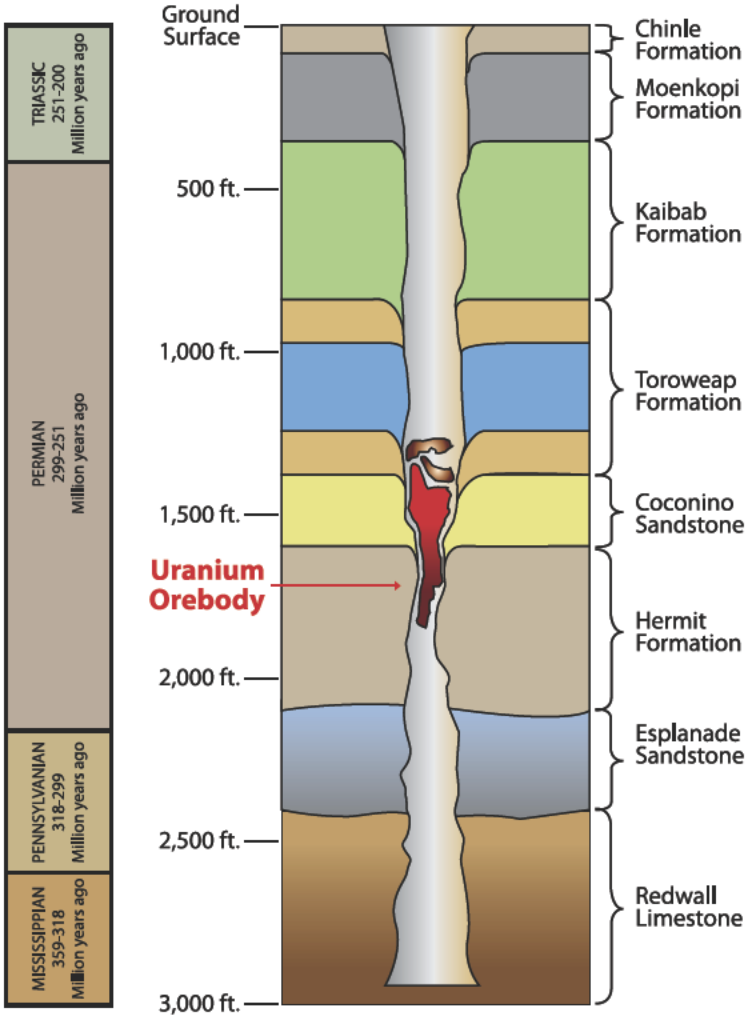


Figure 1. Typical breccia pipe formation

USGS Report Details Uranium Resources and Potential Effects of Uranium Mining Near Grand Canyon

As part of the Department of the Interior's evaluation of whether to segregate nearly 1 million acres of federal lands near Grand Canyon National Park from new uranium mining claims, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) has released a multifaceted, 357-page report on uranium resources and potential impacts of uranium mining in northern Arizona.

The four major studies contained in the report evaluate uranium resources found in breccia pipe deposits and explore potential geological, hydrological, and biological issues related to uranium mining on BLM and Forest Service lands near the Park. The report, which can be downloaded as a single 194 MB file or by individual chapters, is available at: **http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2010/5025/**

NATIONAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC LANDS

For Further Information Contact:

Scott Florence, District Manager
BLM Arizona Strip District Office
345 East Riverside Drive
St. George, UT 84790-9000
Ph: **435-688-3200**

From:	Baca, Sylvia
To:	Boling, Ted A
Subject:	Fw: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting Wednesday 9 am
Date:	Monday, January 31, 2011 5:20:20 PM

From: Conklin, Meghan M
To: Conklin, Meghan M; Calhoun, Dianne; Archuleta, Deanna; Babauta, Tony; Baca, Sylvia; Barkoff, Kendra; Bean, Michael; Belin, Letty; Black, Steve; Bromwich, Michael; Burke, Marcilynn A; Castle, Anne; Connor, Michael L; Davis, Laura; Diehl, Barbara; Echohawk, Larry; Elton, Kim; Faeth, Lori; Farquhar, Ned; Fearn, Mickey; Finkler, Kira L; French, Michael J; Gould, Rowan; Hayes, David; Haze, Pam K; Henderson, Chris; Ishee, Mary Katherine; Jackson, Andrew; Jacobson, Rachel; Jarvis, Jon; Johnson, Terri; Kelly, Kate P; Klein, Elizabeth A; Koenigsberg, Melissa; Lane, Kenneth; Laverdure, Del; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Levison, Lara; Lewis, Wilma; Lyder, Jane; Mansour, Christopher; Marsters, Lizzie; McNutt, Marcia K; Padilla, Joan; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Rivera, Ray; Screnar, Brian; Shafroth, William; Sobeck, Eileen; Stanton, Robert; Suh, Rhea; Tompkins, Hilary C; Tsosie, Paul; Tubbs, John; Urban, Heather; Lewis, Courtenay; Abbey, Robert V; Schwartz, Melissa; Beaudreau, Tommy; Hildebrandt, Betsy
Sent: Mon Jan 31 16:52:27 2011
Subject: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting Wednesday 9 am

Hello:

The Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting will take place on Wednesday at 9 am in Room 6150.

Below are the agenda items. Please send me any additions to the agenda no later than 5 pm on Tuesday.

Thanks!
Meghan

AGENDA:

1. Budget Update
2. Renewable Energy Conference
3. BLM Renewable Energy Guidance
4. Wind Energy/BEGEPA Guidelines
5. AGO Report
6. Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS
7. Joint DOI/DOE Offshore Wind Announcement
8. CA Water
9. Potential Cobell Outreach Calls
10. Western Oregon Chew Choo Timber Sale

Meghan Conklin
Associate Deputy Secretary
Department of the Interior
202.208.7229 office
Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov e-mail

From: Baca, Sylvia
To: Boling, Ted A
Subject: FW: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting Wednesday 9 am--please note room change to 6119
Date: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 12:58:04 PM

Sylvia V. Baca
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
US Department of Interior

From: Conklin, Meghan M
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 9:44 AM
To: Conklin, Meghan M; Calhoun, Dianne; Archuleta, Deanna; Babauta, Tony; Baca, Sylvia; Barkoff, Kendra; Bean, Michael; Belin, Letty; Black, Steve; Bromwich, Michael; Burke, Marcilynn A; Castle, Anne; Connor, Michael L; Davis, Laura; Diehl, Barbara; Echohawk, Larry; Elton, Kim; Faeth, Lori; Farquhar, Ned; Fearn, Mickey; Finkler, Kira L; French, Michael J; Gould, Rowan; Hayes, David; Haze, Pam K; Henderson, Chris; Ishee, Mary Katherine; Jackson, Andrew; Jacobson, Rachel; Jarvis, Jon; Johnson, Terri; Kelly, Kate P; Klein, Elizabeth A; Koenigsberg, Melissa; Lane, Kenneth; Laverdure, Del; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Levison, Lara; Lewis, Wilma; Lyder, Jane; Mansour, Christopher; Marsters, Lizzie; McNutt, Marcia K; Padilla, Joan; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Rivera, Ray; Screnar, Brian; Shafroth, William; Sobeck, Eileen; Stanton, Robert; Suh, Rhea; Tompkins, Hilary C; Tsosie, Paul; Tubbs, John; Urban, Heather; Lewis, Courtenay; Abbey, Robert V; Schwartz, Melissa; Beaudreau, Tommy; Hildebrandt, Betsy
Subject: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting Wednesday 9 am--please note room change to 6119

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AGENDA:

1. AGO Report
2. Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS
3. Stream Protection Rule
4. Wild Horses
5. ESA Updates
6. Rural Economic Initiative

Meghan Conklin
Associate Deputy Secretary

Department of the Interior
202.208.7229 office
Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov e-mail

From:	Baca, Sylvia
To:	Whitlock, Jenna; Lin, Janet H
Subject:	FW: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting Wednesday 9 am--please note room change to 6119
Date:	Tuesday, February 15, 2011 12:59:35 PM

need the latest updates on these topics for tomorrow morning meeting.

Pls have them by cob tonight

Thank you

Sylvia V. Baca
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
US Department of Interior

From: Conklin, Meghan M
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 9:44 AM
To: Conklin, Meghan M; Calhoun, Dianne; Archuleta, Deanna; Babauta, Tony; Baca, Sylvia; Barkoff, Kendra; Bean, Michael; Belin, Letty; Black, Steve; Bromwich, Michael; Burke, Marcilynn A; Castle, Anne; Connor, Michael L; Davis, Laura; Diehl, Barbara; Echohawk, Larry; Elton, Kim; Faeth, Lori; Farquhar, Ned; Fearn, Mickey; Finkler, Kira L; French, Michael J; Gould, Rowan; Hayes, David; Haze, Pam K; Henderson, Chris; Ishee, Mary Katherine; Jackson, Andrew; Jacobson, Rachel; Jarvis, Jon; Johnson, Terri; Kelly, Kate P; Klein, Elizabeth A; Koenigsberg, Melissa; Lane, Kenneth; Laverdure, Del; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Levison, Lara; Lewis, Wilma; Lyder, Jane; Mansour, Christopher; Marsters, Lizzie; McNutt, Marcia K; Padilla, Joan; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Rivera, Ray; Screnar, Brian; Shafroth, William; Sobeck, Eileen; Stanton, Robert; Suh, Rhea; Tompkins, Hilary C; Tsosie, Paul; Tubbs, John; Urban, Heather; Lewis, Courtenay; Abbey, Robert V; Schwartz, Melissa; Beaudreau, Tommy; Hildebrandt, Betsy
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Associate Deputy Secretary
Department of the Interior
202.208.7229 office
Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov e-mail

From:	Baca, Sylvia
To:	Conklin, Meghan M; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Lyder, Jane
Cc:	Burke, Marcilynn A
Subject:	Info Memo on Grand Canyon
Date:	Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:45:38 PM
Attachments:	Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal of Lands Outside Grand Canyon (BLM draft, 2-3-11).docx
Importance:	High

Hi Meghan

We have finished the Grand Canyon withdrawal Information Memo for the Secretary. I understand that you want us to run it through FWS. I have called Jane and emailed her but have not heard back from her. I am sending to Betsy for review. We need to get this to the Secretary's office ASAP.

Many thanks

Sylvia

Sylvia V. Baca
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
US Department of Interior

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

February 3, 2011

(b) (5)
~~FROM:~~

THROUGH: Sylvia Baca, Deputy Assistant Secretary – Land and Minerals Management

(b) (5)
FROM:

SUBJECT: ~~N~~Northern Arizona Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Withdrawal of BLM and Forest Service Lands Located Outside Grand Canyon National Park -

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0", Hanging: 1"

CC: Wilma A. Lewis, Assistant Secretary – Land and Minerals Management
David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Tom Strickland, Chief of Staff, Assistant Secretary – Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
Jane Lyder, Deputy Assistant Secretary – Fish, Wildlife and Parks

I. INTRODUCTION

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

II. BACKGROUND

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(b) (5)

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III. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES

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Members of Congress: (b) (5)

Arizona Governor's Office: (b) (5)

Indian Tribes: (b) (5)

Coconino County, AZ: (b) (5)

Mojave County, AZ and Kane County, UT: (b) (5)

Industry: (b) (5)

Media: (b) (5)

From:	Baca, Sylvia
To:	Conklin, Meghan M; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Lyder, Jane
Cc:	Burke, Marcilynn A
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Sylvia

Sylvia V. Baca
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
US Department of Interior

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

February 3, 2011

~~FROM:~~ (b) (5)

THROUGH: Sylvia Baca, Deputy Assistant Secretary – Land and Minerals Management

FROM: (b) (5)

SUBJECT: ~~N~~Northern Arizona Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Withdrawal of BLM and Forest Service Lands Located Outside Grand Canyon National Park -

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0", Hanging: 1"

CC: Wilma A. Lewis, Assistant Secretary – Land and Minerals Management
David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Tom Strickland, Chief of Staff, Assistant Secretary – Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
Jane Lyder, Deputy Assistant Secretary – Fish, Wildlife and Parks

I. INTRODUCTION

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Coconino County, AZ: (b) (5)

Mojave County, AZ and Kane County, UT: (b) (5)

Industry: (b) (5)

Media: (b) (5)

From: Baca, Sylvia
To: Lin, Janet H
Subject: Out of Office: Meeting tomorrow on Grand Canyon/Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS
Date: Wednesday, September 07, 2011 12:44:17 PM

Thank you for your email. I will be out of the office begining August 22nd, returning September 7th. I will NOT be monitioring or returning email during this time. If you have an urgent matter please contact Rich Cardinale at 202 208 6734.

thank you

Sylvia

From: Baca, Sylvia
To: Whitlock, Jenna
Subject: RE: FW: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting Wednesday 9 am--please note room change to 6119
Date: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 8:49:05 AM

Thank u
Sylvia V. Baca
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
US Department of Interior

-----Original Message-----
From: jwhitloc@blm.gov [mailto:jwhitloc@blm.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 6:11 PM
To: Baca, Sylvia
Cc: Janet_Lin@blm.gov; Cardinale, Richard
Subject: Re: FW: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting Wednesday 9 am--please note room change to 6119

Here you go, Sylvia. Please let me know if you need anything more. j

2. Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS – The roll out for the DEIS for the proposed withdrawal of BLM and Forest Service lands outside Grand Canyon National Park will be on Thursday, February 17. The DEIS is scheduled for publication in the Federal Register on Friday, February 18 with availability at the desk on Thursday, February 17. Tribal consultation and public meetings will begin in late February and continue into the first part of March.

4. Wild Horses – The target date for roll out of the Proposed Strategy for the Wild Horse and Burro program is Tuesday, February 22.

Jenna Whitlock
Office of the Assistant Secretary
Land and Minerals Management
US Department of the Interior
(202) 208-5444 desk, (202) 510-6816 cell, (202) 208-6243 fax

"Baca, Sylvia"
<Sylvia_Baca@ios.
doi.gov>
02/15/2011 12:59
PM

To
"Whitlock, Jenna"
<jwhitloc@blm.gov>, "Lin, Janet H"
<IMCEAEX-_O=DOI_OU=EXCHANGE+20ADMIN
ISTRATIVE+20GROUP+20+28FYDIBOHF23SP
DLT+29_CN=RECIPIENTS_CN=42892c34-de
cac31f-85257394-4f3a28@doi.net>

cc

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Sylvia V. Baca
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
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From: Conklin, Meghan M
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 9:44 AM
To: Conklin, Meghan M; Calhoun, Dianne; Archuleta, Deanna; Babauta, Tony; Baca, Sylvia; Barkoff, Kendra; Bean, Michael; Belin, Letty; Black, Steve; Bromwich, Michael; Burke, Marcilynn A; Castle, Anne; Connor, Michael L; Davis, Laura; Diehl, Barbara; Echohawk, Larry; Elton, Kim; Faeth, Lori; Farquhar, Ned; Fearn, Mickey; Finkler, Kira L; French, Michael J; Gould, Rowan; Hayes, David; Haze, Pam K; Henderson, Chris; Ishee, Mary Katherine; Jackson, Andrew; Jacobson, Rachel; Jarvis, Jon; Johnson, Terri; Kelly, Kate P; Klein, Elizabeth A; Koenigsberg, Melissa; Lane, Kenneth; Laverdure, Del; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Levison, Lara; Lewis, Wilma; Lyder, Jane; Mansour, Christopher; Marsters, Lizzie; McNutt, Marcia K; Padilla, Joan; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Rivera, Ray; Screnar, Brian; Shafroth, William; Sobeck, Eileen; Stanton, Robert; Suh, Rhea; Tompkins, Hilary C; Tsosie, Paul; Tubbs, John; Urban, Heather; Lewis, Courtenay; Abbey, Robert V; Schwartz, Melissa; Beaudreau, Tommy; Hildebrandt, Betsy
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5. ESA Updates

6. Rural Economic Initiative

Meghan Conklin
Associate Deputy Secretary
Department of the Interior
202.208.7229 office
Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov e-mail

From:	Baca, Sylvia
To:	Burke, Marcilynn A
Subject:	Re: Info Memo on Grand Canyon
Date:	Thursday, February 03, 2011 2:52:21 PM

What do u think about jane comments. Need to modify info memo?

From: MaBurke@blm.gov <MaBurke@blm.gov>
To: Baca, Sylvia
Sent: Thu Feb 03 14:49:34 2011
Subject: Re: Info Memo on Grand Canyon

Wild Lands meeting at 3 pm

Thanks,

Marcilynn A. Burke
Deputy Director, Programs and Policy
Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St., NW
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-3774 (office)
(202) 527-3395 (cell)
(202) 208-5242 (fax)

From: "Baca, Sylvia" [Sylvia_Baca@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: 02/03/2011 02:38 PM EST
To: Marcilynn Burke
Subject: Re: Info Memo on Grand Canyon

Can we talk at 300 pm

From: MaBurke@blm.gov <MaBurke@blm.gov>
To: Lyder, Jane
Cc: Hildebrandt, Betsy; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Conklin, Meghan M; O'Dell, Peggy; Baca, Sylvia; Robert_Abbey@blm.gov <Robert_Abbey@blm.gov>
Sent: Thu Feb 03 14:07:05 2011
Subject: Re: Info Memo on Grand Canyon

Thanks Jane.

I will discuss your suggestion with Bob and Sylvia and get back to the group.

Thanks,

Marcilynn

_____

Marcilynn A. Burke
Deputy Director, Programs and Policy
Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior

1849 C St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240
(202) 208-3774 (office)
(202) 527-3395 (cell)
(202) 208-5242 (fax)

"Lyder, Jane" <Jane_Lyder@ios.doi.gov>

02/03/2011 01:40 PM

To "Conklin, Meghan M" <Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov>
cc "Baca, Sylvia" <Sylvia_Baca@ios.doi.gov>, "Hildebrandt, Betsy" <Betsy_Hildebrandt@ios.doi.gov>, "Hildebrandt, Betsy" <Betsy_Hildebrandt@fws.gov>, "O'Dell, Peggy" <Peggy_O'Dell@nps.gov>, "Burke, Marcilynn A" <MaBurke@blm.gov>
Subject Re: Info Memo on Grand Canyon

I Just wrote a somewhat long reply that disappeared from my iPad. In the event you didn't get it I will try to repeat it. (b) (5)

"

Sent from my iPad

On Feb 3, 2011, at 10:57 AM, "Conklin, Meghan M" <Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Thank you.

This looks good to me, thanks. I will share it with David. I am glad that you are sending it to NPS/FWP for their feedback. I am copying a few others since Jane is on the road and she may not have her blackberry close.

I can take care of sending it into scheduling this afternoon. If anyone ends up having edits, please send to me by 3 pm.

Thanks

Meghan

From: Baca, Sylvia
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:46 PM

To: Conklin, Meghan M; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Lyder, Jane
Cc: Burke, Marcilynn A
Subject: Info Memo on Grand Canyon
Importance: High

Hi Meghan

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Sylvia V. Baca

Deputy Assistant Secretary

Land & Minerals Management

US Department of Interior

From:	Baca, Sylvia
To:	Burke, Marcilynn A
Subject:	Re: Info Memo on Grand Canyon
Date:	Thursday, February 03, 2011 2:38:24 PM

Can we talk at 300 pm

From: MaBurke@blm.gov <MaBurke@blm.gov>
To: Lyder, Jane
Cc: Hildebrandt, Betsy; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Conklin, Meghan M; O'Dell, Peggy; Baca, Sylvia; Robert_Abbey@blm.gov <Robert_Abbey@blm.gov>
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Subject: Re: Info Memo on Grand Canyon

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Marcilynn

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"Lyder, Jane" <Jane_Lyder@ios.doi.gov>

02/03/2011 01:40 PM

To "Conklin, Meghan M" <Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov>
cc "Baca, Sylvia" <Sylvia_Baca@ios.doi.gov>, "Hildebrandt, Betsy" <Betsy_Hildebrandt@ios.doi.gov>, "Hildebrandt, Betsy" <Betsy_Hildebrandt@fws.gov>, "O'Dell, Peggy" <Peggy_O'Dell@nps.gov>, "Burke, Marcilynn A" <MaBurke@blm.gov>
Subject Re: Info Memo on Grand Canyon

I Just wrote a somewhat long reply that disappeared from my iPad. In the event you didn't get it I will try to repeat it. (b) (5)

(b) (5)

Sent from my iPad

On Feb 3, 2011, at 10:57 AM, "Conklin, Meghan M" <Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Thank you.

This looks good to me, thanks. I will share it with David. I am glad that you are sending it to NPS/FWP for their feedback. I am copying a few others since Jane is on the road and she may not have her blackberry close.

I can take care of sending it into scheduling this afternoon. If anyone ends up having edits, please send to me by 3 pm.

Thanks

Meghan

From: Baca, Sylvia
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:46 PM
To: Conklin, Meghan M; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Lyder, Jane
Cc: Burke, Marcilynn A
Subject: Info Memo on Grand Canyon
Importance: High

Hi Meghan

We have finished the Grand Canyon withdrawal Information Memo for the Secretary. I understand that you want us to run it through FWS. I have called Jane and emailed her but have not heard back from her. I am sending to Betsy for review. We need to get this to the Secretary's office ASAP.

Many thanks

Sylvia

Sylvia V. Baca

Deputy Assistant Secretary

Land & Minerals Management

US Department of Interior

From:	Baca, Sylvia
To:	Burke, Marcilynn A
Subject:	Re: Info Memo on Grand Canyon
Date:	Thursday, February 03, 2011 2:53:46 PM

Ok. Thanks

From: MaBurke@blm.gov <MaBurke@blm.gov>
To: Baca, Sylvia
Sent: Thu Feb 03 14:52:04 2011
Subject: Re: Info Memo on Grand Canyon

Janet will come up at 3 pm.

Thanks,

Marcilynn A. Burke
Deputy Director, Programs and Policy
Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St., NW
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-3774 (office)
(202) 527-3395 (cell)
(202) 208-5242 (fax)

From: "Baca, Sylvia" [Sylvia_Baca@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: 02/03/2011 02:38 PM EST
To: Marcilynn Burke
Subject: Re: Info Memo on Grand Canyon

Can we talk at 300 pm

From: MaBurke@blm.gov <MaBurke@blm.gov>
To: Lyder, Jane
Cc: Hildebrandt, Betsy; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Conklin, Meghan M; O'Dell, Peggy; Baca, Sylvia; Robert_Abbey@blm.gov <Robert_Abbey@blm.gov>
Sent: Thu Feb 03 14:07:05 2011
Subject: Re: Info Memo on Grand Canyon

Thanks Jane.

I will discuss your suggestion with Bob and Sylvia and get back to the group.

Thanks,

Marcilynn

_____

Marcilynn A. Burke
Deputy Director, Programs and Policy
Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior

1849 C St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240
(202) 208-3774 (office)
(202) 527-3395 (cell)
(202) 208-5242 (fax)

"Lyder, Jane" <Jane_Lyder@ios.doi.gov>

02/03/2011 01:40 PM

To "Conklin, Meghan M" <Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov>
cc "Baca, Sylvia" <Sylvia_Baca@ios.doi.gov>, "Hildebrandt, Betsy" <Betsy_Hildebrandt@ios.doi.gov>, "Hildebrandt, Betsy" <Betsy_Hildebrandt@fws.gov>, "O'Dell, Peggy" <Peggy_O'Dell@nps.gov>, "Burke, Marcilynn A" <MaBurke@blm.gov>
Subject Re: Info Memo on Grand Canyon

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Sent from my iPad

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Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:46 PM

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Cc: Burke, Marcilynn A
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Many thanks

Sylvia

Sylvia V. Baca

Deputy Assistant Secretary

Land & Minerals Management

US Department of Interior

From: Baca, Sylvia
To: Conklin, Meghan M; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Lyder, Jane; Hildebrandt, Betsy; O"Dell, Peggy
Cc: Burke, Marcilynn A
Subject: RE: Info Memo on Grand Canyon
Date: Thursday, February 03, 2011 1:03:20 PM

Thanks Meghan

Sylvia V. Baca
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
US Department of Interior

From: Conklin, Meghan M
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:57 PM
To: Baca, Sylvia; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Lyder, Jane; Hildebrandt, Betsy; O'Dell, Peggy
Cc: Burke, Marcilynn A
Subject: RE: Info Memo on Grand Canyon

Thank you.

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Subject: Info Memo on Grand Canyon
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Many thanks

Sylvia

Sylvia V. Baca
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
US Department of Interior

From:	Baca, Sylvia
To:	Cardinale, Richard
Subject:	Re: Overdue Correspondence
Date:	Thursday, April 22, 2010 4:25:22 PM

Boxer and pacelle with wilma

From: Cardinale, Richard
To: Lewis, Wilma; Farquhar, Ned; Baca, Sylvia; Aird, Brenda; Whitlock, Jenna; Davis, Vermell
Sent: Thu Apr 22 14:25:36 2010
Subject: Overdue Correspondence

As of yesterday, our bureaus have a total of 33 pieces of overdue correspondence, the second highest in the Department. Of the total, 9 are currently in the SOL's office and I am working with Marigrace to expedite their review. We have a total of 5 that are currently on our hallway. We need to complete our review, preferably before we all leave tonight, and get these moved through the process. Anything you can do to expedite your review, will be most appreciated. If minor changes need to be made as a result of your respective reviews that prevent you from surnaming the letters in their current form, I will work to ensure that appropriate changes are made. The correspondence on our hallway is as follows:

1. Gray – Withdrawal of lands near Grand Canyon
2. Boxer – Wild Horse and Burro questions
3. Schweitzer – Mineral Leases within Flathead National Forest
4. Pacelle – Requesting immediate moratorium on horse gathers
5. Danner; Gray; Mathers – Potential National Monument designations

I know these are only 5 letters out of a total of 33, but that's nearly a fifth of the total number. Anything you can do to assist will be greatly appreciated.

Rich

From: Baca, Sylvia
To: Lane, Kenneth
Subject: RE: Pending action items
Date: Friday, November 05, 2010 1:42:39 PM

Grand Canyon With drawl EIS : Best estimates are mid December. A third-party economic analysis with a 30-day turnaround has been requested.

OSM - OSM anticipates Mid December for rollout of Oversight and Enforcement Announcement

Sylvia V. Baca
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
US Department of Interior

From: Farquhar, Ned
Sent: Friday, November 05, 2010 10:15 AM
To: Lane, Kenneth; Abbey, Robert V; Bromwich, Michael R; Haze, Pam K; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Belin, Letty; Davis, Laura; Black, Steve
Cc: Falsey, William D; Schwartz, Melissa; Baca, Sylvia; Lewis, Wilma
Subject: RE: Pending action items

Ken – Adding Wilma and Sylvia to your distrib list – Sylvia covers Grand Canyon and the oversight issue in our office.

Interior Approps energy report - I heard from our staff last night that OMB has sent its edits, we are incorporating them. (b) (5)

Onshore royalty rate - Unless you are interested in the nitty-gritty of the onshore royalty rate reform cost-benefit analysis, I think the onshore royalty rate reform item could be de-listed. It's in the reg-grinding process now.

OCS - I think BOEMRE is keeping you up to date on the NTL.

From: Lane, Kenneth
Sent: Friday, November 05, 2010 9:54 AM

To: Abbey, Robert V; Bromwich, Michael R; Haze, Pam K; Farquhar, Ned; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Belin, Letty; Davis, Laura
Cc: Falsey, William D; Schwartz, Melissa
Subject: Pending action items

Hello all, just trying to get an update on the status of these pending action items

-
-
-

Protecting America's Treasured Landscapes & Wildlife **Action Date**

1. ***Grand Canyon Area Lands Withdrawal (Uranium Mining)***
   - Draft EIS being finalized for release November

Action Date

-

Developing Renewable Energy & Oversight of Energy Production **Action Date**

1. ***OCS Development***
   - NTL re CEO certification requirement & containment enforceability mechanism being developed for issuance-- (T) Week of November 2
     to be followed by interim final rule incorporating such-- (T) By end of November
2. ***Interior Appropriations Report***
   - OMB promises to clear report Fri, October 29
3. ***Onshore Royalty Rate Reform***
   - Cost-benefit and economic impact analysis completion
4. ***OSM Reissued and Revised Oversight Directive***
   - OSM to release for public review and comment a revised oversight directive that clarifies procedures for addressing permit defects, among other things. (b) (5) November

-

Empowering Native Americans, Alaska Natives & Island Communities **Action Date**

-

1. ***Indian Water Rights***
   - DOI Indian water rights team preparing draft letter of support for White Mtn Apache Tribe water settlement legislation. (b) (5)

(b) (5)

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

From: Baca, Sylvia
To: Burke, Marcilynn A
Subject: RE: Revised Memo on Northern Arizona DEIS (Grand Canyon)
Date: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:25:11 PM

Could not reach Meghan

Just send Memo with revisions we talked about to Jane Lyder. I will call her and ask her to promptly review.

Many thanks.

Sylvia V. Baca
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
US Department of Interior

-----Original Message-----
From: MaBurke@blm.gov [mailto:MaBurke@blm.gov]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 11:33 AM
To: Baca, Sylvia
Subject: Revised Memo on Northern Arizona DEIS (Grand Canyon)
Importance: High

Sylvia,

Attached is a revised draft.

Janet tells me that Meghan would like to get ASFWP review, presumably before we send it to the Secretary. Would you like for me to send it to them?

(See attached file: Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal of Lands Outside Grand Canyon (BLM draft, 2-3-11).docx)

Thanks,

Marcilynn

_____

Marcilynn A. Burke
Deputy Director, Programs and Policy
Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240
(202) 208-3774 (office)
(202) 527-3395 (cell)
(202) 208-5242 (fax)

From:	Bill Hedden
To:	Castle, Anne
Subject:	RE: Grand Canyon Trust v Reclamation et al
Date:	Thursday, January 06, 2011 11:53:11 AM

Anne,
I am so sorry to hear (b) (6)
Don't worry about the timing of getting back to us...we will just keep plugging away while hoping for a new avenue for discussions. By the way, DOI people freely talked about this matter with Nikolai at a meeting just before the holidays, so secrecy has been breached, but I have instructed him not to take that conversation any farther. Please keep me posted on the progress of your discussions with the intervenors.
Best,
Bill

-----Original Message-----
From: Castle, Anne [mailto:Anne_Castle@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Thursday, January 06, 2011 8:44 AM
To: Bill Hedden
Subject: Grand Canyon Trust v Reclamation et al

Dear Bill

Please forgive the tardiness of this response. I had intended sincerely to get back in touch by the first of the year to let you know whether the Interior agencies would be interested in pursuing settlement discussions. (b) (6)

I'm still about two weeks out from having issues resolved.

I apologize and had really hoped and intended that this issue would be resolved in a more timely manner.

Anne

Anne Castle
Assistant Secretary for Water and Science
US Department of the Interior

Sent from my iPad

From:	Bill Hedden
To:	Castle, Anne
Cc:	Battle, Gladys L
Subject:	RE: Grand Canyon Trust v Reclamation et al
Date:	Thursday, January 27, 2011 10:43:07 AM

Anne,
I have time today and tomorrow for a call at (b) (6) . Please have Gladys contact me to arrange a time that works for you.
Bill

-----Original Message-----
From: Castle, Anne [mailto:Anne_Castle@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Thursday, January 27, 2011 8:21 AM
To: Bill Hedden
Cc: Battle, Gladys L
Subject: RE: Grand Canyon Trust v Reclamation et al

Bill, thanks so much for your good wishes and your patience.

I'd like to resume our conversation. Would you be available for a call later today or sometime tomorrow? Gladys can set up a time at your convenience. Thanks.

Anne

-----Original Message-----
From: Bill Hedden [mailto:bhedden@grandcanyontrust.org]
Sent: Thursday, January 06, 2011 11:51 AM
To: Castle, Anne
Subject: RE: Grand Canyon Trust v Reclamation et al

Anne,
I am so sorry (b) (6) Don't worry about the timing of getting back to us...we will just keep plugging away while hoping for a new avenue for discussions. By the way, DOI people freely talked about this matter with Nikolai at a meeting just before the holidays, so secrecy has been breached, but I have instructed him not to take that conversation any farther. Please keep me posted on the progress of your discussions with the intervenors.
Best,
Bill

-----Original Message-----
From: Castle, Anne [mailto:Anne_Castle@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Thursday, January 06, 2011 8:44 AM
To: Bill Hedden
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Dear Bill

Please forgive the tardiness of this response. I had intended sincerely to get back in touch by the first of the year to let you know whether the Interior agencies would be interested in pursuing settlement discussions. (b) (6)

Consequently, I

have not been able to conclude the discussions I had intended to have during the past week. I'm still about two weeks out from having issues resolved.

I apologize and had really hoped and intended that this issue would be resolved in a more timely manner.

Anne

Anne Castle
Assistant Secretary for Water and Science
US Department of the Interior

Sent from my iPad

This message contains confidential information and is intended only for the intended recipient(s). If you are not the named recipient you should not read, distribute or copy this e-mail. Please notify the sender immediately via e-mail if you have received this e-mail by mistake; then, delete this e-mail from your system.

From: bill hedden
To: Castle, Anne
Subject: Re: Talk?
Date: Monday, May 09, 2011 7:11:38 PM

Anne,
The only time that would not work is 3-4 mountain time (I'm in Arizona). Otherwise I am free.
Bill
On Mon, May 9, 2011 at 2:33 PM, Castle, Anne <Anne_Castle@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

> Hi Bill. I'd be happy to talk. I'm traveling too but can give you a call Tuesday afternoon while I'm on the road. Is there any particular time that won't work? I'll be on Mountain time.
>
> Anne
>
> ---
>
> **From**: bill hedden <bhedden@grandcanyontrust.org>
> **To**: Castle, Anne
> **Sent**: Mon May 09 16:53:42 2011
> **Subject**: Talk?
>
> Anne,
> The Grand Canyon Trust litigation committee will meet Wednesday at 9:0 AM PDT this week to discuss whether to appeal of the rulings in our Colorado River case. It would be very helpful to me if you and I were able to talk sometime before that meeting. Could we connect somehow Tuesday afternoon or evening or early Wednesday? I am traveling and on my cell phone at (b) (6)
> Bill Hedden

From: bill hedden
To: Castle, Anne
Subject: Talk?
Date: Monday, May 09, 2011 4:53:50 PM

Anne,
The Grand Canyon Trust litigation committee will meet Wednesday at 9:0 AM PDT this week to discuss whether to appeal of the rulings in our Colorado River case. It would be very helpful to me if you and I were able to talk sometime before that meeting. Could we connect somehow Tuesday afternoon or evening or early Wednesday? I am traveling and on my cell phone at (b) (6)
Bill Hedden

From: Black, Steve
To: Davis, Laura
Subject: FW: For tomorrow"s meeting with David: Briefing Paper on the Steens Project
Date: Tuesday, July 26, 2011 7:57:45 AM

Laura, further to my previous e-mail.

-----Original Message-----
From: RVAbbey@blm.gov [mailto:RVAbbey@blm.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2011 7:41 AM
To: Black, Steve
Cc: Scott, Janea; Kornze, Neil G; Hildebrandt, Betsy
Subject: Re: For tomorrow's meeting with David: Briefing Paper on the Steens Project

Steve;

I agree. Today's meeting seems redundant. We welcome open and frank communications between strike team members and this is the reason we routinely remind team members to bring forward important information to these meetings, including any concerns about proposed projects. While we had a hiccup a couple of weeks ago with West Butte, we took to heart Betsy's suggestion that we remind local agency personnel and strike team members of their obligations to raise issues early on so that we have the best chance of working through these issues rather than waiting to the last minute and elevating concerns to senior leadership. I know we have done this with BLM personnel and I hope that other bureaus have done so with their appropriate personnel.

While all projects are somewhat controversial, some are more problematic than others. We all know this. It is likely that some proposals will need to be significantly altered or denied due to impacts which cannot be successfully mitigated. None of us would be serving the Secretary well if we fail to raise these issues to his level should we find ourselves at such an impasse. We demonstrated our ability to work across bureau administrative boundaries with the Grand Canyon withdrawal question and so far we have worked fairly well with renewable projects. To add more meetings so that we can discuss "stuff" we are already discussing among ourselves is not the best use of our time.

Bob

"Black, Steve"
<steve_black@ios.
doi.gov> To
"Scott, Janea"
07/26/2011 06:54 <Janea_Scott@ios.doi.gov>
AM cc
"Abbey, Robert V"
<RVAbbey@blm.gov>, "Kornze, Neil G"
<nkornze@blm.gov>

Subject
Re: For tomorrow's meeting with David: Briefing Paper on the Steens Project

This sounds like a duplication of our effort on the strike team. Or am I missing something?

From: Scott, Janea
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2011 11:42 PM
To: Black, Steve
Subject: For tomorrow's meeting with David: Briefing Paper on the Steens Project

Hi Steve,

For tomorrow's meeting with David, Liz indicates that he would like to talk through the 2011 priority projects, with the concerns like Betsy raised at last week's strike team meeting, in mind. i.e. some of these projects are controversial, how do we make sure the Secretary has all of the information he needs? Here's the briefing paper from BLM on the Steens project, in preparation for the conversation.

Have a good night!
Janea

From: Klein, Elizabeth A
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2011 5:32 PM
To: Scott, Janea
Subject: FW: Briefing Paper on the Steens Project

Fyi.

From: nkornze@blm.gov [mailto:nkornze@blm.gov]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2011 5:26 PM
To: Lewis, Courtenay; Klein, Elizabeth A; Brown, Caitlin F
Subject: Briefing Paper on the Steens Project

The briefing paper is attached.

Neil

From:	Black, Steve
To:	Kemkar, Neal
Subject:	FW: Secretary Salazar"s Remarks from Mather Point at the Rim of the Grand Canyon
Date:	Wednesday, September 28, 2011 5:50:16 PM
Attachments:	image003.png

As promised.

From: Interior News
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2011 2:47 PM
Subject: Secretary Salazar's Remarks from Mather Point at the Rim of the Grand Canyon

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
U.S. Department of the Interior

www.doi.gov
News Release

June 20, 2011
Contact: Kate Kelly (202) 208-6416
Celia Boddington (202) 208-6913

Secretary Salazar's Remarks from Mather Point at the Rim of the Grand Canyon

MATHER POINT, GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK – In remarks regarding the potential withdrawal of certain federal lands near the Grand Canyon from new mining claims, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar today said that management of the Grand Canyon area must be guided by "caution, wisdom, and science," so as to protect the World Heritage Site, tribal interests, drinking water supplies, and the tourism economy that the area's natural resources support.

In his remarks, provided below, Secretary Salazar stated that he will take action to prevent the opening of one million acres of public and National Forest System lands surrounding the Grand Canyon to new uranium mining claims while the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) completes a final Environmental Impact Statement that evaluates a preferred alternative of a 20 year mineral withdrawal on those same lands.

Secretary Salazar was joined at the Mather Point Amphitheater in Grand Canyon National Park by BLM Director Bob Abbey, National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis, and US Geological Survey Director Marcia McNutt.

A fact sheet on today's announcement can be found here.

Secretary Salazar's remarks as prepared for delivery are below.

Remarks as Prepared for Delivery

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
U.S. Department of the Interior

www.doi.gov

News Release

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar
South Rim of the Grand Canyon, Arizona
June 20, 2011

Good morning, everyone.

One hundred and forty-two years ago, John Wesley Powell and his crew became the first explorers ever known to successfully steer their way through the rocks and gorges, the rapids and whirlpools, of America's greatest natural wonder: the Grand Canyon.

Powell came here to read the story of our planet in the layers of the canyon walls. He came to study the forces that shaped this land, pebble after pebble, flood after flood, over 2 billion years.

To be here - for John Wesley Powell or for any of us - is to be overwhelmed and humbled by the scale of geologic time. The minutes, hours, and days by which we measure our lives are hardly an instant in the life of these canyons.

Yet, all of us - by the decisions we make in our short time here - can alter the grandeur of this place.

Our ancestors understood this. Time and again, people like John Wesley Powell, Theodore Roosevelt, and Stephen Mather (for which this point is named), helped us choose the protection of the ancient over the pressures of the now.

As Teddy Roosevelt famously implored from this very place: "Leave it as it is. You cannot improve on it. The ages have been at work on it, and man can only mar it."

That courage... that wisdom... that patience... is why we have Grand Canyon National Park, iconic places like Yosemite and Yellowstone, and wild and untrammeled forests and public lands for all Americans to enjoy and explore.

Our ancestors could not have known that one day the Grand Canyon would attract more than 4 million visitors a year. That hunting, fishing, tourism, and outdoor recreation would generate an estimated $3.5 billion in economic activity in this area. Or that millions of Americans living in cities like Phoenix and Los Angeles would rely on this river and this canyon for clean, healthy drinking water.

And many Tribes in the area see their history and culture woven throughout the Grand Canyon's landscape.

Like our ancestors, we do not know how future Americans will enjoy, experience, and benefit from this place. And that's one of the many reasons why wisdom, caution, and science should guide our protection of the Grand Canyon.

In this moment, we face a choice that could profoundly affect the Grand Canyon in ways we do not yet understand.

Some of the lands near the Grand Canyon contain uranium resources that have helped meet our energy needs. Over the past 20 years, eight uranium mines have operated in the area and one study has shown that a possible additional eight to eleven mines might be developed in the area.

The question for us, though, is not whether to stop cautious and moderate uranium development, but whether to allow further expansion of uranium mining in the area.

The Bureau of Land Management, under the leadership of Director Bob Abbey, has been carefully

studying this question since July, 2009, when I initiated a two-year closure of the area to new uranium mining claims.

BLM, in coordination with other agencies, the States, Counties, Tribes, and other partners published a draft environmental impact statement that examined whether to implement a twenty year mineral withdrawal, subject to valid existing rights, for certain areas around the Grand Canyon.

The options they considered were no withdrawal (which would allow new hard rock mining claims to be filed), a partial withdrawal of approximately 300,000 acres, a partial withdrawal of 650,000 acres, and a full withdrawal of approximately 1 million acres.

The BLM received nearly 300,000 comments on this draft environmental impact statement. The time has now come to respond to those comments and identify a "preferred alternative" for a final environmental impact statement that the agency will complete by this fall.

Based on the analysis that has been done and the public comments that have been received, in particular - many of the water quality concerns raised by downstream water users, I am directing two steps today.

First, I am ordering a temporary emergency withdrawal - through December 20, 2011 - of the full one million acres we are studying for the potential long-term withdrawal, subject to valid existing rights. This emergency six-month withdrawal will ensure that no new mining claims can be filed after the current two-year segregation expires on July 20th.

Second, based on the input of BLM Director Bob Abbey, National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis, USGS Director Marcia McNutt, and the United States Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell, I am directing the BLM to identify the full one million acre uranium withdrawal as the preferred alternative in the final EIS.

This alternative, if ultimately selected, would ensure that all public lands adjacent to Grand Canyon National Park are protected from new hard rock mining claims, all of which are in the watershed of the Grand Canyon.

This remains an ongoing process. Based on this direction, BLM will complete the environmental analysis of the preferred alternative and other alternatives and publish a final environmental impact statement by fall 2011. I will then be ready to make a final decision on the potential 20-year mineral withdrawal.

Finally, before I turn it over to Bob, I want to make a couple of things clear.

First, I know some critics will falsely claim that with a full one-million acre withdrawal from new hard rock mining claims, we would somehow be denying all access to uranium resources.

That, of course, is not true. Uranium, like oil and gas, solar, wind, geothermal, and other sources, remains a vital component of a responsible and comprehensive energy strategy. We will continue to develop uranium in northern Arizona, Wyoming and other places across the country.

It is worth stating again that we believe there are likely a number of valid existing rights in the proposed withdrawal area even if the preferred alternative is ultimately selected as the final decision. We expect continued development of those claims and the establishment of new mines over the next twenty years.

In fact, cautious development with strong oversight could help us answer critical questions about water quality and environmental impacts of uranium mining in the area. This science, derived from experience, would help others decide what actions are necessary to protect the Grand Canyon.

Second, as we move through the final analysis toward a decision, let us all be reminded of what these canyons can teach us.

It is what John Wesley Powell and his crew experienced here as they risked their lives more than a century ago.

And it's what families sense when they stand on this rim: that our lives are fleeting instants when measured against the geologic time and forces that forged this canyon.

But our decisions - our actions - can alter billions of years of history in all its wonder and glory.

Let us be cautious. Let us be patient. Let us be humble.

###

From: Ojeda-dodds, Gisella N on behalf of Black, Steve
To: Ojeda-dodds, Gisella N
Subject: FW: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting this Wednesday
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2011 12:48:53 PM

For Hot Topics Meeting

From: Conklin, Meghan M
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2011 12:08 PM
To: Abbey, Robert V; Anderson, James E; Archuleta, Deanna; Ashe, D M; Baca, Sylvia; Bean, Michael; Beaudreau, Tommy; Belin, Letty; Black, Steve; Boling, Ted; Bromwich, Michael R; Burke, Marcilynn; Calhoun, Dianne; Caminiti, Mariagrazia; Caramanian, Lori; Carrillo, Francisco; Castle, Anne; Conklin, Meghan M; Connor, Michael L; Davis, Laura; Diehl, Barbara; Echohawk, Larry; Elton, Kim; Faeth, Lori; Falsey, William D; Farquhar, Ned; Fetcher, Adam K; Finkler, Kira L; Fletcher, Adam; Gould, R W; Hanley, Kallie; Hayes, David; Haze, Pam K; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Ishee, Mary Katherine; Jackson, Andrew; Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor; Jacobson, Rachel L; Jarvis, Jon; Johnson, Terri; Kelly, Kate P; Klein, Elizabeth A; Koenigsberg, Melissa; Kornze, Neil G; Lane, Kenneth; Laverdure, Del; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Lew, Shoshana M; Lew, Shoshana M; Lyder, Jane; Mansour, Christopher; Marsters, Lizzie; McNutt, Marcia K; Padilla, Joan; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Schwartz, Melissa; Screnar, Brian; Shafroth, William; Sobeck, Eileen; Stanton, Robert; Steve H. Feldgus; Suh, Rhea; Tompkins, Hilary C; Trujillo, Tanya M; Tsosie, Paul; Tubbs, John; Urban, Heather
Subject: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting this Wednesday

Hello:

The Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting will take place on Wednesday at 9 am in Room 6150. Below is the Draft Agenda. Please send me any additions by 5 pm in order to be included on the agenda.

Thanks
Meghan

--
AGENDA:

1. Backcountry Report
2. Tribal Nations Conference 2011
3. Statue of Liberty 125th Anniversary and other NY events
4. Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS
5. Solar PEIS
6. Ongoing 50 state report rollout
7. Anacostia River Event
8. Proposal for Fracking disclosure rule

From: Black, Steve
To: Geoff Brown
Subject: Out of Office: New York Times ad next weekon Grand Canyon mining withdrawal
Date: Thursday, June 02, 2011 5:21:00 PM

Hello, and thank you for your e-mail. I am traveling and will not be checking e-mails until I return. Please contact Janea Scott at 202-208-2977 or Nick Wills at 202-208-4123 for assistance.

From:	Black, Steve
To:	Davis, Laura
Subject:	RE: For tomorrow"s meeting with David: Briefing Paper on the Steens Project
Date:	Tuesday, July 26, 2011 10:35:41 AM

Thanks. David, Liz and Janea and I talked briefly before the meeting and agreed to go forward with a small group/high level discussion. I told David, and he agreed, it is best to let the strike team do its work before these issues get "elevated," but apparently David and Liz had learned of the project during a regular check-in with FWS so he wanted to go forward.

-----Original Message-----
From: Davis, Laura
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2011 9:58 AM
To: Black, Steve
Subject: RE: For tomorrow's meeting with David: Briefing Paper on the Steens Project

Thanks. Will you let me know what the response is?

-----Original Message-----
From: Black, Steve
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2011 7:58 AM
To: Davis, Laura
Subject: FW: For tomorrow's meeting with David: Briefing Paper on the Steens Project

Laura, further to my previous e-mail.

-----Original Message-----
From: RVAbbey@blm.gov [mailto:RVAbbey@blm.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2011 7:41 AM
To: Black, Steve
Cc: Scott, Janea; Kornze, Neil G; Hildebrandt, Betsy
Subject: Re: For tomorrow's meeting with David: Briefing Paper on the Steens Project

Steve;

I agree. Today's meeting seems redundant. We welcome open and frank communications between strike team members and this is the reason we routinely remind team members to bring forward important information to these meetings, including any concerns about proposed projects. While we had a hiccup a couple of weeks ago with West Butte, we took to heart Betsy's suggestion that we remind local agency personnel and strike team members of their obligations to raise issues early on so that we have the best chance of working through these issues rather than waiting to the last minute and elevating concerns to senior leadership. I know we have done this with BLM personnel and I hope that other bureaus have done so with their appropriate personnel.

While all projects are somewhat controversial, some are more problematic than others. We all know this. It is likely that some proposals will need to be significantly altered or denied due to impacts which cannot be successfully mitigated. None of us would be serving the Secretary well if we fail to raise these issues to his level should we find ourselves at such an impasse. We demonstrated our ability to work across bureau administrative boundaries with the Grand Canyon withdrawal question and so far we have worked fairly well with renewable projects. To add more meetings so that we can discuss "stuff" we are already discussing among

ourselves is not the best use of our time.

Bob

"Black, Steve"
<steve_black@ios.
doi.gov>
07/26/2011 06:54
AM

To
"Scott, Janea"
<Janea_Scott@ios.doi.gov>
cc
"Abbey, Robert V"
<RVAbbey@blm.gov>, "Kornze, Neil G"
<nkornze@blm.gov>
Subject
Re: For tomorrow's meeting with
David: Briefing Paper on the Steens
Project

This sounds like a duplication of our effort on the strike team. Or am I missing something?

From: Scott, Janea
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2011 11:42 PM
To: Black, Steve
Subject: For tomorrow's meeting with David: Briefing Paper on the Steens Project

Hi Steve,

For tomorrow's meeting with David, Liz indicates that he would like to talk through the 2011 priority projects, with the concerns like Betsy raised at last week's strike team meeting, in mind. i.e. some of these projects are controversial, how do we make sure the Secretary has all of the information he needs? Here's the briefing paper from BLM on the Steens project, in preparation for the conversation.

Have a good night!
Janea

From: Klein, Elizabeth A
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2011 5:32 PM

To: Scott, Janea
Subject: FW: Briefing Paper on the Steens Project

Fyi.

From: nkornze@blm.gov [mailto:nkornze@blm.gov]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2011 5:26 PM
To: Lewis, Courtenay; Klein, Elizabeth A; Brown, Caitlin F
Subject: Briefing Paper on the Steens Project

The briefing paper is attached.

Neil

From:	Black, Steve
To:	Conklin, Meghan M; Davis, Laura
Cc:	Scott, Janea; Kemkar, Neal
Subject:	Re: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting Wednesday 9 am
Date:	Monday, January 31, 2011 9:16:18 PM

I'll be traveling on Wednesday. Please let me (or Janea or Neal) know if there are any issues/questions re the RE conference.

Thanks!

Steve

From: Conklin, Meghan M
To: Conklin, Meghan M; Calhoun, Dianne; Archuleta, Deanna; Babauta, Tony; Baca, Sylvia; Barkoff, Kendra; Bean, Michael; Belin, Letty; Black, Steve; Bromwich, Michael; Burke, Marcilynn A; Castle, Anne; Connor, Michael L; Davis, Laura; Diehl, Barbara; Echohawk, Larry; Elton, Kim; Faeth, Lori; Farquhar, Ned; Fearn, Mickey; Finkler, Kira L; French, Michael J; Gould, Rowan; Hayes, David; Haze, Pam K; Henderson, Chris; Ishee, Mary Katherine; Jackson, Andrew; Jacobson, Rachel; Jarvis, Jon; Johnson, Terri; Kelly, Kate P; Klein, Elizabeth A; Koenigsberg, Melissa; Lane, Kenneth; Laverdure, Del; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Levison, Lara; Lewis, Wilma; Lyder, Jane; Mansour, Christopher; Marsters, Lizzie; McNutt, Marcia K; Padilla, Joan; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Rivera, Ray; Screnar, Brian; Shafroth, William; Sobeck, Eileen; Stanton, Robert; Suh, Rhea; Tompkins, Hilary C; Tsosie, Paul; Tubbs, John; Urban, Heather; Lewis, Courtenay; Abbey, Robert V; Schwartz, Melissa; Beaudreau, Tommy; Hildebrandt, Betsy
Sent: Mon Jan 31 16:52:27 2011
Subject: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting Wednesday 9 am

Hello:

The Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting will take place on Wednesday at 9 am in Room 6150.

Below are the agenda items. Please send me any additions to the agenda no later than 5 pm on Tuesday.

Thanks!
Meghan

AGENDA:

1. Budget Update
2. Renewable Energy Conference
3. BLM Renewable Energy Guidance
4. Wind Energy/BEGEPA Guidelines
5. AGO Report
6. Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS
7. Joint DOI/DOE Offshore Wind Announcement
8. CA Water
9. Potential Cobell Outreach Calls
10. Western Oregon Chew Choo Timber Sale

Meghan Conklin
Associate Deputy Secretary
Department of the Interior
202.208.7229 office
Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov e-mail

From: Black, Steve
To: Davis, Laura
Subject: Re: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting Wednesday 9 am
Date: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 10:38:34 AM

Unfortunately, there were no flights tonight. Just double checked w/ LaDonna. Am on the 7 a.m. tomorrow to Denver, back in DC at 5 p.m.

Steve

----- Original Message -----
From: Davis, Laura
To: Black, Steve
Sent: Tue Feb 01 05:26:27 2011
Subject: RE: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting Wednesday 9 am

I thought you were back on Wednesday?

From: Black, Steve
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2011 7:16 PM
To: Conklin, Meghan M; Davis, Laura
Cc: Scott, Janea; Kemkar, Neal
Subject: Re: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting Wednesday 9 am

I'll be traveling on Wednesday. Please let me (or Janea or Neal) know if there are any issues/questions re the RE conference.

Thanks!

Steve

From: Conklin, Meghan M
To: Conklin, Meghan M; Calhoun, Dianne; Archuleta, Deanna; Babauta, Tony; Baca, Sylvia; Barkoff, Kendra; Bean, Michael; Belin, Letty; Black, Steve; Bromwich, Michael; Burke, Marcilynn A; Castle, Anne; Connor, Michael L; Davis, Laura; Diehl, Barbara; Echohawk, Larry; Elton, Kim; Faeth, Lori; Farquhar, Ned; Fearn, Mickey; Finkler, Kira L; French, Michael J; Gould, Rowan; Hayes, David; Haze, Pam K; Henderson, Chris; Ishee, Mary Katherine; Jackson, Andrew; Jacobson, Rachel; Jarvis, Jon; Johnson, Terri; Kelly, Kate P; Klein, Elizabeth A; Koenigsberg, Melissa; Lane, Kenneth; Laverdure, Del; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Levison, Lara; Lewis, Wilma; Lyder, Jane; Mansour, Christopher; Marsters, Lizzie; McNutt, Marcia K; Padilla, Joan; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Rivera, Ray; Screnar, Brian; Shafroth, William; Sobeck, Eileen; Stanton, Robert; Suh, Rhea; Tompkins, Hilary C; Tsosie, Paul; Tubbs, John; Urban, Heather; Lewis, Courtenay; Abbey, Robert V; Schwartz, Melissa; Beaudreau, Tommy; Hildebrandt, Betsy
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Meghan Conklin
Associate Deputy Secretary
Department of the Interior
202.208.7229 office
Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov<mailto:Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov> e-mail

From: Black, Steve
To: Abbey, Robert V; Pool, Michael J; Kornze, Neil G; Falsey, William D
Cc: Lee-Ashley, Matt
Subject: Uranium withdrawal
Date: Wednesday, September 28, 2011 6:02:16 PM

Bob et al., our colleagues at CEQ have asked for a short explanation of your and the Secretary's recent decision to extend the Grand Canyon withdrawal. The WSJ posted a critical piece online last Friday:
http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111904060604576573000173005420.html

Do you have something already in the can (information memo or fact sheet) that I can send over to Neal and Jason? I know we advised WH Comms and CEQ leg affairs before making the announcement, and the House rider was the subject of the WH SAP, but the Journal article apparently prompted the request. Many thanks.

Steve

Steve Black
Counselor to the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W., MS 7229
Washington, D.C. 20240
Phone: 202-208-4123
Fax: 202-208-4561
e-mail: steve_black@ios.doi.gov

From: Black, Steve
To: Abbey, Robert V; Pool, Michael J; Kornze, Neil G; Falsey, William D
Cc: Lee-Ashley, Matt
Subject: Uranium withdrawal
Date: Wednesday, September 28, 2011 6:02:16 PM

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Steve

Steve Black
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1849 C Street, N.W., MS 7229
Washington, D.C. 20240
Phone: 202-208-4123
Fax: 202-208-4561
e-mail: steve_black@ios.doi.gov

Ha, Richard W

From: Lassiter, Tracie L on behalf of Burke, Marcilynn
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2011 4:26 PM
To: Calhoun, Dianne
Subject: Accepted: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Update and Roll-Out

Ha, Richard W

From: Lassiter, Tracie L on behalf of Burke, Marcilynn
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2011 12:23 PM
To: Calhoun, Dianne
Subject: Accepted: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Update and Roll-Out

Ha, Richard W

From: Lassiter, Tracie L on behalf of Burke, Marcilynn
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2011 12:23 PM
To: Conklin, Meghan M
Subject: Accepted: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Update and Roll-Out

Ha, Richard W

From: Lassiter, Tracie L on behalf of Burke, Marcilynn
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2011 4:26 PM
To: Conklin, Meghan M
Subject: Accepted: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Update and Roll-Out

From:	Burke, Marcilynn
To:	Burke, Marcilynn; Burke, Marcilynn A; (b) (6)
Subject:	EPAP and 2011 Accomplishments
Date:	Saturday, November 05, 2011 9:31:03 PM
Attachments:	Final 2011 EPAP_11_05_11.pdf Accomplishments for 2011 EPAP_11_05_11.docx

---

Thanks,

Marcilynn

_____

Marcilynn A. Burke
Acting Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management
U.S. Department of the Interior ● 1849 C St., NW ● Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-6734 (voice) ● (202) 208-3619 (fax)
Marcilynn_Burke@ios.doi.gov

Form Fillable Version

Performance Agreement and Appraisal
Department of the Interior Senior Executive Service

Executive's Name: Marcilynn A. Burke		Bureau/Office: Bureau of Land Management/Office of the Secretary
Title: Deputy Director, Programs & Policy/Acting ASLM	Location: Washington, DC	Rating Period: Oct. 1, 2010 - July 27, 2011/July 28 - Sept. 30, 2011

Executives in the Department of the Interior are accountable for supporting DOI strategies, objectives and goals. This Agreement identifies critical job elements and establishes performance requirements for each element. As described below, executives will be appraised on critical elements in two categories: 1) Two *Departmentwide Elements*, which include responsibilities shared by all executives, and 2) up to six *Position-specific elements*, which are specific to individual executives and are linked to organizational goals and objectives. Each executive's performance must be appraised against these performance requirements (set at the beginning of each appraisal period).

Part I: Consultation

The signatures below certify that the supervisor has developed the performance agreement in consultation with the executive, discussed the agreement with the executive, and provided examples of behaviors that would/would not meet the performance standards. The discussion occurs at the beginning of the performance rating period. The executive is given a copy of the agreement.

Executive's Signature:	Date:
Rating Official's Name: Signature:	Date:
Reviewing Official's Signature (Optional):	Date:

Part II: Progress Review

Executive's Signature:	Date:
Rating Official's Signature:	Date:
Reviewing Official's Signature (Optional):	Date:

Part III: Annual Summary Rating

Rating Official: ☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Rating Official's Signature:	Date:
Reviewing Official's Signature (Optional):	Date:

This evaluation has been discussed with me and I have been given a copy. I am aware that if I decide to submit a narrative response and/or request a higher level review, one or both must be submitted in writing within 10 workdays of receipt of my evaluation (see instructions).

Employee's Signature:	Date:

Check if applicable: ☐ *I request a higher level review.*

Performance Review Board Recommendation:
☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

If recommended rating differs from initial summary rating, the Board must identify specific elements where there is disagreement and rationale for recommendation.

PRB Chairperson's Signature:	Date:

Final Rating: ☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Recognition: _____% Pay Increase _____% Performance Award $_____Special Act Award _____Hours Time Off

Appointing Authority (or Designee) Signature:	Date:

Clear Form Print Form Save Form

Element Rating Definitions

Exceptional - Consistently delivered on assignments and commitments; displayed outstanding leadership in promoting the organization's strategic goals and initiatives; demonstrated the highest level of integrity and accountability in achieving program and management goals. Contributions had an impact beyond his or her immediate purview. Executive exerted a major positive influence on management practices, operating procedures or program implementation, which contributed substantially to organizational change, growth and recognition. This executive's expertise, advice and opinions are sought and respected by peers.

Superior - Performance is between the levels described for Exceptional and Fully Successful. Performance outcomes and results of the executive's leadership surpassed expectations by exceeding the majority of performance requirements. Effectiveness and contributions may have had an impact beyond the executive's purview and performance is well beyond what is expected or required for the position. Consistently demonstrated the highest level of integrity and accountability in achieving program and management goals. Served as a source of leadership and motivation for peers and subordinates.

Fully Successful – Performance demonstrates the Fully Successful level of accomplishment through observable outcomes or achievement of or substantial progress toward agreed-upon critical action, objective, and/or desired result. Expectations were consistently met with solid, dependable performance. Performance reflects notable achievements and the executive regularly demonstrated the ability to meet the difficult and complex requirements inherent in SES positions, while consistently demonstrating the highest level of integrity and accountability in achieving all program objectives and management goals; *no areas of performance are deficient.*

Minimally Successful - Performance is between the levels described for Fully Successful and Unsatisfactory. Overall performance was marginally acceptable and occasionally less than Fully Successful. The executive had difficulties in meeting performance expectations. Actions taken by the executive were sometimes inappropriate or marginally effective. Immediate improvement in performance is essential.

Unsatisfactory - Performance fails to demonstrate the Fully Successful level of accomplishment or progress toward the agreed-upon critical action, objective and/or desired result to such an extent that *it results in demonstrable negative consequences for the organization*. Removal from the position is required.

Part IV: Rating Calculation

Reason for Rating ☐ Annual Rating ☐ Departure Rating ☐ Other _____

Mandatory Departmentwide Elements					
Element 1	☐ Exceptional	☐ Superior	☐ Fully Successful	☐ Minimally Successful	☐ Unsatisfactory
Element 2	☐ Exceptional	☐ Superior	☐ Fully Successful	☐ Minimally Successful	☐ Unsatisfactory
Position-specific Elements					
Element 3	☐ Exceptional	☐ Superior	☐ Fully Successful	☐ Minimally Successful	☐ Unsatisfactory
Element 4	☐ Exceptional	☐ Superior	☐ Fully Successful	☐ Minimally Successful	☐ Unsatisfactory
Element 5	☐ Exceptional	☐ Superior	☐ Fully Successful	☐ Minimally Successful	☐ Unsatisfactory
Element 6	☐ Exceptional	☐ Superior	☐ Fully Successful	☐ Minimally Successful	☐ Unsatisfactory
Element 7	☐ Exceptional	☐ Superior	☐ Fully Successful	☐ Minimally Successful	☐ Unsatisfactory
Element 8	☐ Exceptional	☐ Superior	☐ Fully Successful	☐ Minimally Successful	☐ Unsatisfactory

Conversion to Initial Summary Rating:

The executive's rating is determined by using the formula below, taking into consideration the ratings for the two Departmentwide elements and each Position-specific element. The definitions below describe the minimums for each rating level. If the individual ratings on the elements meet the definition for a higher summary rating level, the higher summary rating level applies.

☐ **Exceptional**	☐ **Superior**	☐ **Fully Successful**	☐ **Minimally Successful**	☐ **Unsatisfactory**
Rated Exceptional on 75% or more of the elements; no elements rated below Superior.	Rated Superior on 75% or more of the elements; no elements rated below Fully Successful.	Rated Fully Successful or higher on all elements.	Rated Minimally Successful on one or more elements, no elements are rated Unsatisfactory.	Rated Unsatisfactory on any element.

If plan has 8 elements total, 75% = 6 elements; If plan has 7 elements total, 75% = 6 elements
If plan has 6 elements total, 75% = 5 elements; If plan has 5 elements total, 75% = 4 elements

Part V: The Performance Elements

All Interior executives share certain critical responsibilities that are instrumental for achieving results. Set forth below, Mandatory Department-wide Elements 1 and 2 reflect the core competencies of Department executives—what is important to Interior as an organization. These Mandatory Department-wide responsibilities guide the achievement of the incumbent's Position-Specific Elements (Elements 3-8). The Executive and immediate supervisor jointly review all elements at the beginning of the rating period and during at least one mid-term progress review to ensure mutual understanding of performance expectations.

Element 1: Mandatory Department-wide Executive Responsibilities—Leadership, Employee Perspective, and Collaboration (Fully Successful Standard)

Strategic Alignment: Develops, prioritizes and aligns strategies, objectives and goals, taking into account key influences on organizational performance. Successfully leads organizational change to achieve Secretarial initiatives and high priority goals, effectively communicating the organization's mission, core values, and strategic goals to employees and stakeholders. Engages stakeholders and employees in change efforts, problem solving, streamlining, and/or reengineering of processes or procedures to improve organizational effectiveness.

Leadership, Integrity and Effective Supervision: Creates and sustains a positive workplace that promotes employee engagement to support Interior's high priority performance goals and Secretarial initiatives. Exhibits leadership style that demonstrates integrity and high ethical standards of public service. Motivates others to achieve high performance through open and honest communication. Promotes a learning organization through feedback and coaching; required employee development plans; access to training; and timely completion of all mandatory training (ethics, security, etc.) Establishes and maintains a culture of professionalism and integrity where employees are treated with dignity and respect. Fosters inclusion, creativity, innovation, initiative, risk-taking, and trust among employees and peers. Implements recruitment, retention and developmental strategies that support organizational objectives, agency hiring goals and successful transition of highly qualified employees into Federal service, and workforce and succession planning to develop the next generation of leaders. Sets effective workforce performance standards aligned with organizational goals and engages in accountable performance management of subordinates. Uses feedback, coaching and timely evaluations of performance to promote teamwork and goal accomplishment. Provides appraisals that make meaningful distinctions in performance of subordinates. Appropriately recognizes and rewards performance of subordinates. Advocates a safe and healthy workplace by promoting awareness of appropriate policies, practices and procedures to avoid preventable injuries and loss of work.

Diversity Advocacy and EEO: Promotes an inclusive workplace, recognizing differences and varied perspectives; is a role model for inclusion, acceptance, and accountability; provides fair and equitable recognition and equal opportunity, and promptly and appropriately addresses allegations of harassment or discrimination. Demonstrates a commitment to equal employment opportunity and implements the EEO and affirmative employment goals. Makes employment decisions without regard to sex, race, color, national origin, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation or identification, prior participation in the EEO process, or any other non-merit reason. Ensures subordinate supervisors have effective managerial, communication and interpersonal skills to supervise and promote a diverse workforce. Actively supports policies on anti-harassment and reasonable accommodation.

Element 1: Executive Provides Highlights of Accomplishments at the End of the Rating Period

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 1: Supervisor's Rating of Executive's Performance and Supporting Narrative Justification

☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Element 2: Mandatory Department-wide Executive Responsibilities—Business Acumen (Fully Successful Standard)

Internal Controls and Business Results: Achieves the goals of the acquisition improvement plan, advances strategic sourcing, advances asset management through improved FCI/increased disposition/reducing backlogs, takes steps to reduce travel and administrative costs, improves internal controls and audit results, advances transparency and accountability. Contributes substantially to improving energy conservation, sustainability, and environmental justice.

IT: Ensures awareness of and compliance with applicable IT security, records management, FOIA and privacy laws, regulations and policies. Implements technical, managerial and operational controls commensurate with risks and values to be protected; identifies and protects sensitive information; completes required training; produces quality certification and accreditation packages; ensures timely and effective response or remediation of IT security weaknesses or privacy incidents. Identifies opportunities to reduce IT complexity and cost.

Customer Feedback: Listens to, colleagues, customers, labor organizations with exclusive employee representation to identify needs and expectations. Builds alliances, involves stakeholders in making decisions, and gains cooperation to achieve mutually satisfying solutions. Pursuant to Executive Order 13175, actively engages, where appropriate, with Tribes in consultation to promote enhanced communication to emphasize trust, respect and shared responsibility. Understands and uses organizational realities, networks, and accepted practices to achieve desired business results. Uses collaborative techniques and tools such as alternative dispute resolution, adaptive management or structured decision-making to foster partnering and collaboration. Builds trust and cooperative working relationships with stakeholders within and outside the organization. Promotes openness, transparency and collaboration, observing the "open government" initiative.

Element 2: Executive Provides Highlights of Accomplishments at the End of the Rating Period

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 2: Supervisor's Rating of Executive's Performance and Supporting Narrative Justification

☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Position-Specific Elements

In the spaces below, the executive and his or her immediate supervisor must describe *at least three, but no more than six* critical actions, objectives—including expected results—that the incumbent will be expected to accomplish during the performance rating period. These elements must be derived from and directly contribute to the Government's, Department's, bureau's or office's or program priorities and tier from the Department's Strategic Plan, the President's Priority Goals, bureau strategic or operational plans, program-specific plans, legislative and/or budgetary requirement, and/or specific discipline goals. These elements may be modified during the evaluation period if circumstances warrant. Changes must be made at least 90 days before the end of the evaluation period to prevent having to extend the evaluation period.

Element 3: Position-Specific (Mandatory)

Describe Commitment and Expected Results:

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Describe the Link to Strategic or Organizational Goals:

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 3: Executive Provides Highlights of Accomplishments at the End of the Rating Period

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 3: Supervisor's Rating of Executive's Performance and Supporting Narrative Justification

☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Element 4: Position-Specific (Mandatory)

Describe Commitment and Expected Results:

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Describe the Link to Strategic or Organizational Goals:

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 4: Executive Provides Highlights of Accomplishments at End of the Rating Period

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 4: Supervisor's Rating of Executive's Performance and Supporting Narrative Justification

☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Element 5: Position-Specific (Mandatory)

Describe Commitment and Expected Results:

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Describe the Link to Strategic or Organizational Goals:

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 5: Executive Provides Highlights of Accomplishments at the End of the Rating Period

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 5: Supervisor's Rating of Executive's Performance and Supporting Narrative Justification

☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Element 6: Position-Specific

Describe Commitment and Expected Results:

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Describe the Link to Strategic or Organizational Goals:

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 6: Executive Provides Highlights of Accomplishments at the End of the Rating Period

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 6: Supervisor's Rating of Executive's Performance and Supporting Narrative Justification

☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Element 7: Position-Specific

Describe Commitment and Expected Results:

Describe the Link to Strategic or Organizational Goals:

Element 7: Executive Provides Highlights of Accomplishments at the End of the Rating Period

Element 7: Supervisor's Rating of Executive's Performance and Supporting Narrative Justification

☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Element 8: Position-Specific

Describe Commitment and Expected Results:

Describe the Link to Strategic or Organizational Goals:

Element 8: Executive Provides Highlights of Accomplishments at the End of the Rating Period

Element 8: Supervisor's Rating of Executive's Performance and Supporting Narrative Justification

☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Privacy Act Notice
This statement is provided pursuant to the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, for individuals who have been requested to submit a statement of accomplishment/self-assessment. The authority to solicit this information is derived from 5 USC 4301, et seq., and 5 CFR Part 430, Performance Management. In order to allow you the opportunity to provide input into the evaluation process, management may request this information from you. Your supervisory officials will consider the information you furnish in preparing an evaluation of your performance or conducting periodic progress reviews. The information contained in your performance evaluation may be disclosed to Department employees who have a need for the record in their official duties. Disclosures may also be made under routine uses published in the Federal Register for Privacy Act system of records, OPM/GOVT-2, Employee Performance File System of Records. Disclosures may be made to the Office of Personnel Management, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Federal Labor Relations Authority and others, when relevant and necessary to the performance of their authorized duties. Failure to furnish any or all of this information may result in your supervisors preparing your evaluation, or conducting a progress review, without considering information you may feel is relevant or significant.

Accomplishments for 2011 EPAP

Element 1

Strategic Alignment

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Leadership, Integrity and Effective Supervision

(b) (5), (b) (6)

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Diversity Advocacy and EEO

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 2

Internal Controls and Business Results

(b) (5), (b) (6)

(b) (5), (b) (6)

IT

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Customer Feedback (including transparency and collaboration)

(b) (5), (b) (6)

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 3

Native American Communication and Consultation/Cultural and Historic Preservation

Tribal Consultation

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Historic Preservation

(b) (5), (b) (6)

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 4

Oil and Gas

Leasing Reform

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Fracking

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Royalty

(b) (5), (b) (6)

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Air MOU

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 5

AGO and the National Landscape Conservation System

AGO

(b) (5), (b) (6)

LWCF

(b) (5), (b) (6)

NLCS

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Lands with Wilderness Characteristics

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 6

Governmental Affairs

(b) (5), (b) (6)

From: Burke, Marcilynn
To: Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject: Fw: 2011 Accomplishments
Date: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 9:35:30 AM
Attachments: Accomplishments for 2011 EPAP.docx

Pls prin attachment

Thanks,

Marcilynn A. Burke
Acting Asst. Secretary, Land and Minerals Mgmt.
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-6734 (voice) (202) 208-3619 (fax)
Marcilynn_Burke@ios.doi.gov

From: Burke, Marcilynn [mailto: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 04:49 AM
To: Burke, Marcilynn; (b) (6) Burke, Marcilynn A; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: RE: 2011 Accomplishments

Thanks,

Marcilynn

Marcilynn A. Burke
Associate Professor of Law
University of Houston Law Center • 100 Law Center • Houston, TX 77204-6060
(713) 743-2336 (voice) • (713) 743-2223 (fax)
(b) (6)
(e-mail) • http://www.law.uh.edu/faculty/mburke/ (web site)
You may access my papers on the Social Science Research Network (SSRN) at http://ssrn.com/author=381808.

From: Burke, Marcilynn
Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 4:44 AM
To: marcilynn_burke@ios.doi.gov; (b) (6) maburke@blm.gov; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: 2011 Accomplishmen

Thanks,

Marcilynn

Marcilynn A. Burke
Associate Professor of Law
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(713) 743-2336 (voice) • (713) 743-2223 (fax)
(b) (6) (e-mail) • http://www.law.uh.edu/faculty/mburke/ (web site)
You may access my papers on the Social Science Research Network (SSRN) at http://ssrn.com/author=381808.

From: Burke, Marcilynn
Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 3:38 AM
To: marcilynn_burke@ios.doi.gov; (b) (6) maburke@blm.gov; (b) (6)
Subject: 2011 Accomplishments

Thanks,

Marcilynn

Marcilynn A. Burke
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You may access my papers on the Social Science Research Network (SSRN) at http://ssrn.com/author=381808.

Accomplishments for 2011 EPAP

No. 1

(b) (6), (b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (5)

No. 3

(b) (6), (b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (5)

No. 4

(b) (6), (b) (5)

No. 5

(b) (6), (b) (5)

No. 6

(b) (6), (b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (5)

From: Burke, Marcilynn
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Fw: Bureau Reports
Date: Wednesday, November 23, 2011 7:28:21 PM
Attachments: Bureau Reports 2011.11.23.pdf
Department-wide_Reports_awaiting_management_response_as_of_November_18_2011.xlsx

---

Thanks,

Marcilynn A. Burke
Acting Asst. Secretary, Land and Minerals Mgmt.
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-6734 (voice) (202) 208-3619 (fax)
Marcilynn_Burke@ios.doi.gov

From: Anderson, James E
Sent: Wednesday, November 23, 2011 05:52 PM
To: DOI_Politicals
Subject: Bureau Reports

Good evening,

Attached are this week's bureau reports. The weekly report schedule will return to normal next week. Thanks to everyone for being flexible these last few weeks.

Have a great Thanksgiving!

Jamey

Attorney Client Communication – Confidential & Privileged

Office of the Solicitor Weekly Report for the Week of November 28, 2011

Deepwater Horizon Matters

Multi District Litigation

(b) (5)

Renewable Energy Litigation Updates

Upcoming Renewable Energy Decisions (Rice Solar Project – connected action project)

(b) (5)

Defending Other Renewable Energy Projects

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Other Matters

Yellowstone Grizzly Distinct Population Segment

(b) (5)

Yellowstone Snowmobile Litigation

(b) (5)

Polar Bear Special 4(d) Rule

(b) (5)

Sonoran Desert Bald Eagle

(b) (5)

Challenge to the Grand Canyon Withdrawal Final Environmental Impact Statement -- Yount v. Salazar and BLM (D. Ariz.)

(b) (5)

Theodore Roosevelt Conservation P'ship v. Salazar (D.C. Cir.): Pinedale Anticline Project Area

(b) (5)

Native Village of Point Hope v. Salazar (D. Alaska)

(b) (5)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
THREE WEEK OUT REPORT
November 25, 2011

WEEK AHEAD

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area and Middle Delaware National Scenic River (PA/NJ) – Special Use Permit. On November 21, the Susquehanna to Roseland Line Right of Way (ROW) special use permit EIS package was published in the Federal Register; the 60-day public comment period will end January 31, 2012. The associated EPA Notice of Availability is not expected to appear in the Federal Register until December 2. Public meetings on the alternatives are scheduled to be held the week of January 23. The DEIS examines only the portions of the lines crossing the park and trail.

Roger Williams National Memorial (RI) – Special Use Permit. The park received special use permit applications proposing a First Amendment activity from a group calling themselves Occupy Providence. The park could not accommodate their initial request, as camping outside of designated sites or areas is prohibited, and there were no specific dates supplied for the proposed activity. Their second application was approved as it stated the proposed activity would be a "24/7 vigil to support Occupy Wall Street" and did not include any indication of camping and specified dates (November 15-29). The applicant could potentially apply for an unlimited number of sequential permits.

Point Reyes National Seashore (CA) – Extension of Public Comment Period for Draft EIS. Due to the release of the Marine Mammal Commission report regarding harbor seal ecology, the park extended the public comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company Special Use Permit to December 9.

Long Walk National Historic Trail Feasibility Study/Environmental Impact Statement Record of Decision. The NPS has completed the evaluation of the Long Walk for its feasibility and suitability as a National Historic Trail. The study finds that the Long Walk meets the criteria for National Historic Trail designation. However, the Navajo Tribal Council resolved not to support trail designation, and in subsequent consultations, the Nation favored no action on trail designation. The Mescalero Apache Tribe did not provide comments on the draft study to indicate any support for national historic trail designation. Therefore, the NPS respects the Navajo Nation's stated position and recommends a No-Action Alternative. Senator Tom Udall sponsored the passage of the study act in 2002. He is aware of the study's findings and has expressed an interest in seeking further consultation on his part with the Navajo to seek the Nation's support for National Historic Trail designation.

Canyon de Chelly National Monument (AZ) – NAGPRA Process Opposed by Navajo Nation. (b) (5)

(b) (5)

Mammoth Cave National Park (KY) – Green River Crossing Rehabilitation Project. The Southeast Regional Director has signed the draft FONSI for the Green River Crossing Rehabilitation project. The project outlines improvements to be made to the infrastructure of the Green River Ferry Crossing within the park; however, a funding source has not yet been secured. Local residents supported construction of a bridge across Green River, which is not economically or environmentally feasible. A press release announcing the FONSI will be issued within two weeks.

Minute Man National Historical Park (MA) – Anticipated Appeal of Municipal Zoning Decision. The Town of Lincoln seeks to build a facility on a parcel landlocked by the NPS and the U.S. Air Force at Hanscom AFB; approval is anticipated at an upcoming zoning board meeting. Working with the solicitor's office, DOJ and the USAF JAG, the NPS plans to appeal the zoning approval to preserve park resources and maintain visitor safety.

ON THE HORIZON

Boston African American National Historic Site (MA) – Reopening of African Meeting House. The nation's oldest documented African American church building will reopen to the public on December 6, following a four-year overhaul that received $4 million in ARRA funding through NPS.

North Cascades National Park Complex (WA) – Release of Final Ross Lake National Recreation Area General Management Plan. The Ross Lake NRA GMP will be released on December 11. The key aspects are a name change, designating the portions of the Skagit River under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, converting a portion of potential Wilderness to Wilderness, and addressing seaplane use. The final GMP/EIS does not include expansion of the park's boundaries, a provision supported by some non-profit organization.

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park (AK) – Record of Decision for the Nabesna Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan and Final EIS. The Alaska Regional Director will sign a Record of Decision (ROD) in early December that will approve a management plan for Off-Road Vehicles and trails in the Nabesna District of the park and preserve. The NPS agreed to try to complete the EIS and decision by December 31, 2011, pursuant to a settlement agreement from a 2006 lawsuit by National Parks and Conservation Association, Alaska Center for the Environment, and the Wilderness Society. The ROD provides for improvement of nine trails in order to maintain one alignment and prevent resource impacts associated with degraded trails; permitting of recreational ORV use on improved trails in the National Preserve; continued allowance of subsistence ORV use in both the park and preserve; and a monitoring system that will prevent expansion of impacts associated with unimproved trails. The ROD also includes a proposal to re-classify eligible wilderness, which will result in a net gain of 16,929 acres of eligible

wilderness. The reclassification will result in motorized corridors that were in existence prior to 1986 being classified as ineligible, and a net gain in eligible acres. The Wilderness Eligibility Reclassification requires Director approval.

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park and Rock Creek Park (DC/MD/WV) – Non-motorized Boathouse Facilities. On December 13, a public meeting will be held regarding a feasibility study examining non-motorized boathouse facilities along the Georgetown waterfront in Washington, DC. The study will evaluate the structures and facilities that can be accommodated within this Non-Motorized Boathouse Zone. It will lay the groundwork for future decision-making regarding scenarios for improvement of NPS facilities or potential land exchanges for private development of boathouses, and compliance with NEPA and NHPA to implement the Non-Motorized Boathouse Zone.

WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument (HI) – Pearl Harbor Day 70th Anniversary Commemoration. On December 7, the park will hold its commemoration, the last one with a formal Pearl Harbor Survivors Association role as the organization folds on December 13. Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus, Senator Daniel Inouye, and Governor Abercrombie are scheduled to attend. The remains of a USS Arizona survivor will be interred at an NPS/US Navy ceremony in the afternoon.

Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site (MT) – General Management Plan Meeting. On December 14-15, a workshop will be held in Billings, Montana, to make the preliminary selection of the recommended preferred alternative for the park's GMP. Billings was selected as the site for the meeting to accommodate the needs of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, one of the park's four congressionally directed partners. All four of the park's tribal partners, plus the State of Colorado, and representatives of Kiowa County, are expected to be in attendance at the meeting.

Natchez Trace Parkway (MS/AL/TN) – Governor to Transfer Land to the NPS for Improved Native American Mound Access. The State of Mississippi is preparing to transfer an 86-acre corridor of land to the NPS for improved access to the Emerald Mound Native American Burial/Ceremonial Mound. The 56-acre site is currently managed by the NPS; however, access to the site requires visitors to take a poorly maintained county road. The exact date of the transfer has not been determined.

Joshua Tree National Park (CA) - Western Governors Association Meeting. The Western Governors Association (WGA) will hold its next regular meeting on December 7-8 in the Coachella Valley. The meeting will focus on two primary tracks: the recreation and tourism economy and greater interest and involvement in the outdoors by American youth. The role of national parks and their gateway communities in these two areas will be a specific focus of the meeting. As part of the meeting, the governors will visit the park and take part in a curriculum-based education program offered by park staff.

Week Ahead Report
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
November 21, 2011

Initiation of Public Scoping on Wolf Depredation Management Strategy for Western Oregon and Washington: In mid-December, FWS will issue a Notice of Intent to develop an Environmental Impact Statement for gray wolf management actions relating to wolf depredations on livestock in areas of Oregon and Washington where gray wolves are federally protected under the Endangered Species Act. This is similar in concept to what these states have done to prevent and address chronic depredation situations in the eastern parts of the states, where wolves are part of the recovered Northern Rocky Mountain population that is no longer listed. FWS will invite public input and hold public meetings in both states, probably in January. Controversial.

Proposed Rule to Revise Critical Habitat for the Lost River and Shortnose Suckers: FWS is revising proposed critical habitat for the Lost River sucker and shortnose sucker (fish) in two occupied units in Klamath and Lake Counties, Oregon; and Modoc County, California. Within the Upper Klamath Lake Unit, most of the acreage/miles occur on private lands whereas most of the acreage/miles in the Lost River Basin Unit are on Federal land (primarily FWS and Forest Service). This action is court-driven. The agricultural community is fearful that critical habitat may result in additional regulation and affect the economic viability of their operations. Because of potential controversy in the Klamath Basin, FWS has already begun contacting stakeholder groups and local government officials to explain and clarify the process, what it could mean to them, and the opportunity to comment when the proposed rule is published in the Federal Register. The target for submitting to the Federal Register is November 30, 2011.

Notice of 6-Month Extension of Final Determination and Reopening of Comment Period for the Proposed Listing of the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard as Endangered: The Service will publish in the Federal Register a notice of a 6-month extension of the final determination, and reopening of the comment period for 30 days, for the listing of the dunes sagebrush lizard under the ESA. Since the publication of the proposed rule, there has been substantial disagreement regarding the interpretation of the limited surveys used to determine the lizard's status and trends. This has led to a significant disagreement regarding the current conservation status of the species in New Mexico and Texas. In addition, there was sparse information on the lizard's presence in Texas, leading to substantial disagreement on the accuracy of our analysis of lizard habitat loss in Texas. Therefore, in consideration of the disagreements surrounding the lizard's population status and the loss of lizard habitat throughout the range, we are extending the timeframe for the final determination for up to 6 months in order to solicit information that will help to resolve these issues. This notice must publish in the Federal Register before December 15, 2011, in order to comply with the statutory deadlines of the Act.

FWS Smokey Canyon Superfund Site Report: Senator Barbara Boxer and the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee requested FWS to provide a technical review of the Smokey Canyon Superfund site report. The completed report has been sent to three outside reviewers. The FWS Director's office will be briefed in late November; all the reviewers' comments have been received and analyzed. FWS' report back to the committee is due December 1, 2011. FWS anticipates controversy.

2012 Update to the Federal Falconry Regulations: FWS will publish an update to the federal regulations governing falconry the week of November 21. Beginning January 1, 2012, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Tennessee, Virginia and Wyoming will operate under the revised federal regulations. Falconers in those states will no longer need federal permits to practice falconry. A number of small technical changes for clarification were also made to the regulations.

30-day comment period beginning on Draft Environmental Assessment for the Wildlife Ponds Project at Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Refuge in San Luis Obispo County, California: The FWS Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge Complex has issued a public notice that will appear in Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo (CA) newspapers Nov. 18, 2011, initiating a 30-day public comment period for the Wildlife Ponds Project EA. The EA proposes to create five to nine wildlife ponds occupying approximately 0.6 to 1.0 acres on the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Refuge. The primary purposes of the action are to benefit the federally threatened California red-legged frog, three federally endangered plants, and other wildlife species. This EA is not expected to be controversial.

Nisqually NWR Estuary Restoration award: On December 10 at Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge in Washington, the Coastal America Partnership will present awards to members of the Nisqually Estuary Restoration Team for its work on the largest estuary restoration in the Pacific Northwest. The team of state, federal, tribal, local and NGO representatives worked for more than 15 years to plan, fund and implement the restoration of over 900 acres of tidal habitat in the Nisqually Delta. Not controversial.

FWS concludes consultation on Boy Scout Reserve site: The FWS West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office has finalized the Boy Scout Reserve (Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve) ESA section 7 consultation and Corps of Engineers permitting process. The Scout Reserve is located in Fayette County, West Virginia. The construction crews will begin work on Monday, November 21; the national Boy Scout Jamboree is scheduled to occur on the site from July 15 to 24, 2013.

LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT
November 20 – December 3, 2011

SENIOR OFFICIALS' ACTIVITIES

Week of November 21, 2011
Acting ASLM Burke – In Houston Monday through Wednesday. (b) (6)

DAS Baca – In the office Monday through Wednesday afternoon. (b) (6)

DAS Farquhar – In the office all week, (b) (6)

Week of November 28, 2011
Acting ASLM Burke – (b) (6) In the office Tuesday through Thursday. On travel to Houston on Friday to participate in the State of the Gulf of Mexico Summit.
DAS Baca – In the office all week.
DAS Farquhar – In the office all week.

HOT TOPICS

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Renewable Energy

- ***Update:*** **RECO Workshop:** *On Nov. 15-17, the BLM held a Renewable Energy Coordination Office (RECO) Workshop in the Washington Office. The RECO Workshop agenda included discussions of renewable energy policies and issues, updates on current initiatives, interagency coordination discussions, and several joint sessions with a National Transmission Project Managers' Workshop also underway in the Washington Office. On Nov. 15, the Secretary met with the RECO leads and Project Managers in a joint session.*

- ***Update:*** **Solar Priority Projects:** *On Nov. 3, the BLM Washington Office received the decision package for the 150-MW Rice Solar project. The DOI Strike Team cleared the ROD package for 150-MW Rice Solar project on Nov. 9. The Department is awaiting State SHPO approval of the cultural resources MOA for the project. The Rice Solar project is a 2011 Priority Project.*

- ***Update:*** **24 Solar Energy Zone:** *The BLM is scheduled to publish an amended withdrawal petition/application for the Solar Energy Zones (SEZs) by Feb. 29, 2012, following the end of the public comment period on the Supplement to the Solar PEIS. The BLM anticipates that the number of SEZs will likely decrease from 24 SEZs (677,000 acres) to 17 SEZs (304,000 acres).*

Fluid Minerals

- ***New:*** **Utah Sale Raises $49.5 Million:** *BLM-UT generated $49.5 million in bonus bids from the sale of 11 parcels covering 8,271 acres in its Nov. 15 oil and gas auction. The BLM offered 13 parcels covering 9,606 acres in total. The high bid per acre was $12,100, and the high bid per parcel was approximately $18.6 million. Six of the parcels sold contain portions of six parcels previously offered in BLM-Utah's December 2008 oil and gas lease sale. In an Oct. 2009 report, the review team concluded that the portions included in the six parcels offered on Nov. 15 could be suitable for leasing and environmentally responsible oil and gas development. The BLM prepared two environmental assessments to evaluate the potential effects of leasing the proposed parcels and to provide opportunities for public input and comment. On Sept. 15, the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance filed a protest on the six parcels. A proposed decision to deny the protest was forwarded to the Utah State Director on Oct. 2, and is awaiting signature.*

- ***New:*** **GAO Review of Hydraulic Fracturing Regulations:** *On Nov. 14, the GAO notified DOI of an inquiry into the BLM's hydraulic fracturing rulemaking. Specifically, GAO will look into the federal and state requirements governing oil and gas development from unconventional reservoirs, as well as the regulatory gaps or challenges federal and state agencies face in overseeing oil and gas development from unconventional reservoirs. The GAO is conducting the inquiry at the request of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the House Committee on Natural Resources.*

Congressional

- ***New: Briefing on BLM Draft Shooting Policy:*** *On Nov. 21, the BLM will brief the staff of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Minority Committee Staff on the BLM's draft policy on shooting sports. The BLM is working with the FACA-chartered Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council to develop guidance to protect long-term access to recreational target shooting. Rep. Jeff Flake (R-AZ) introduced monuments/shooting legislation, which proposes to keep monuments open to shooting unless there's a scientifically demonstrated conflict with public safety, national security, or existing statute. This proposed bill would effectively prevent line managers from making decisions based on local input and resource conflicts that are not specifically addressed by law (i.e., Endangered species or cultural resources issues could prevail but other public land uses like recreationists would not).*

OSM/BLM Consolidation

- ***New:*** **BLM & OSM Consolidation*****:*** *Directors Pizarchik and Abbey have held employee meetings in Denver, CO; Pittsburg, PA; and Alton, IL. On Nov. 21, the Secretary addressed OSM and BLM employees, along with OSM Director Joe Pizarchik and BLM Director Bob Abbey, discussing the consolidation of OSM within BLM. Approximately 100 employees attended the meeting in person, with almost 150 participating via conference call, and many more participating via streaming video. The Secretary's visit was a follow-up to his October 26th employee meeting, when he first discussed the Secretarial Order with OSM and BLM employees. On Nov. 22, the*

bureaus submitted a scoping report to DAS Baca. The outreach efforts will now focus on stakeholder meetings, as well as continued internal dialogue and opportunities on the web for both employees and stakeholders to provide input.

Wild Horses and Burros

- ***New:*** **Tri-State Calico Complex Gather:** *As of Nov. 20, 51 horses were gathered. The BLM-NV Winnemucca District will gather approximately 1,300 wild horses and 140 wild burros, of which as many as 350 wild horses would be released back to the range following the gather. Of the wild horses released back to the range, approximately 85 to 115 mares would receive a 22-month a PZP vaccine treatment. The AML for the HMA is 572 to 952 wild horses and 39 to 65 wild burros.*

- ***Update:*** **Red Desert Gather:** *As of Nov. 21, 899 horses were gathered by the BLM-WY Wind River/Bighorn Basin District. There were two gather-related deaths. The BLM plans to gather 1,140 wild horses from both inside and outside the HMA and remove about 800 horses. The AML for the HMA is 480-724 horses.*

Timber Sales

- ***New:*** **Oregon Timber Sales:** *The BLM-OR Ashland Resource Area is reviewing five timber sales scheduled for Dec. Three of the sales (Rio Rumble, Rio Sag, and Rio Power) are covered by a single EA. These sales total 480 acres and an estimated 2.6 MBF from density management and mistletoe reduction prescription. The MC Thin sale totals 178 acres and approximately 1 MBF. The O'Lickety sale totals 120 acres and approximately 1.3 MBF.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

- **No Change: Next 5-Year OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program (2012-2017):** The Proposed Program was publicly announced on Nov. 8, and was published in the Federal Register on Nov. 10. The NOA of the Draft PEIS was also published in the Federal Register on Nov. 10. Public hearings for the PEIS will be held on Dec. 5 through Dec. 16 in Washington, D.C.; Houston, TX; Mobile, AL; New Orleans, LA; and in the following locations in Alaska: Wainwright, Nuiqsut, Kaktovik, Fairbanks, Anchorage, Kotzebue, Pt. Hope, Pt. Lay, and Barrow.

- ***Update*****: Western Gulf OCS Lease Sale 218:** *The Final Notice of Sale and the NOA of the ROD were published in the Federal Register on Nov. 14. The Lease Sale 218 is scheduled for Dec. 14. The BOEM has agreed to host a delegation from Uganda at the lease sale, as requested by the BSEE Office of International Programs.*

- ***Update:*** **Mid Atlantic Wind:** *The BOEM expects to finalize the EA and FONSI by the end of Nov. On Nov. 14, a revised draft Programmatic Agreement for Section 106 consultations was sent to consulting parties for a 30-day review.*

- ***Update:*** **Atlantic Wind Connect:** *The BOEM has prepared a Request for Competitive Interest for a right-of-way for transmission to support offshore wind in the mid-Atlantic. The Federal Register Notice is in surnaming within BOEM.*

- ***Update:*** **Alaska Chukchi Exploration Plan**: *The BOEM is preparing an EA of the EP. The BOEM now has 30 calendar days to analyze and evaluate the EP. The public comment period for the EA closes on Nov. 26. The comment period on the EP closes on Dec. 7.*

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

- ***Update:*** **Shell Requests Clarification on BSEE Standards for Well Containment System:** *Shell submitted a matrix delineating BSEE and U.S. Coast Guard authorities for its proposed well containment system for its proposed Beaufort and Chukchi Sea exploratory drilling programs. Shell is requesting confirmation of what the regulatory boundaries are and what design standards will apply to the system. On Nov. 17, the Regional Director and staff met with Shell to continue discussions on capping and containment systems, as well as well capping analysis.*

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

- ***New:*** **Senate Energy & Natural Resources Full Committee Hearing:** *Directors Pizarchik and Abbey accompanied the Deputy Secretary to the Senate Committee Hearing at the Nov. 17 hearing on "the Secretary's Order No. 3315 to Consolidate and Establish the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement within the Bureau of Land Management."*

- ***New:*** **BLM & OSM Consolidation:** *Directors Pizarchik and Abbey have held employee meetings in Denver, CO; Pittsburg, PA; and Alton, IL. On Nov. 21, the Secretary, addressed OSM and BLM employees, along with OSM Director Joe Pizarchik and BLM Director Bob Abbey, discussing the consolidation of OSM within BLM. Approximately 100 employees attended the meeting in person, with almost 150 participating via conference call, and many more participating via streaming video. The Secretary's visit was a follow-up to his October 26th employee meeting, when he first discussed the Secretarial Order with OSM and BLM employees. On Nov. 22, the bureaus submitted a scoping report to DAS Baca. The outreach efforts will now focus on stakeholder meetings, as well as continued internal dialogue and opportunities on the web for both employees and stakeholders to provide input.*

- ***New:*** **OIG Review of OSM Reforestation Program:** *On Nov. 10, the OIG issued a report entitled, "U.S. Department of the Interior Program Startup Inspection: Office of Surface Mining Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative Report." In its report the OIG recommended that OSM develop performance measures for its Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative program. The final response is due by Dec. 9.*

WEEK AHEAD – November 20 to December 3, 2011

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Tuesday, November 29:

- **No change: Public Meetings on Coal Lease:** The BLM-UT Kanab Field Office will hold public meetings on the Draft EIS for the Alton Coal Tract Lease by Auction (LBA). The LBA covers Federal coal on 3,581 acres of public and private land near Alton, UT.

Friday, December 2:

- ***New:*** **Taos, NM RMP Issued:** *The BLM-NM will release the proposed Taos RMP and Final EIS for a 30-day comment period. The proposed RMP covers about 595,100 surface acres and 1,517,850 acres of mineral estate.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

Tuesday, November 29:

- ***Update:*** **Visit with House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee Chair:** *Director Beaudreau is scheduled for a courtesy visit with House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee Chair Mike Simpson.*

Wednesday, November 30:

- ***New:*** **Shinnecock Tribal Meeting:** *Director Beaudreau will hold an initial government to government meeting with representatives of the Shinnecock Indian Nation. Discussion topics will include: program initiatives, ascertaining the programs and geographic areas in which the Tribe has interest, establishing tribal designees/points of contact for future consultation meetings, establishing BOEM designees/points of contact for future consultation meetings; and discussion of any other matters of interest or concern the Tribe has that are relevant to BOEM's renewable energy initiatives.*

Thursday, December 1:

- ***New:*** **Visit with House Energy & Mineral Resources Subcommittee Chair:** *Director Beaudreau is scheduled for a courtesy visit with House Energy & Mineral Resources Subcommittee Chair Lamborn.*

- ***New:*** **Visit with Senate Interior Appropriations Committee Chair:** *Director Beaudreau is scheduled for a courtesy visit with Senate Interior Appropriations Chair Reed.*

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

Wednesday, November 30:

- ***No change:*** **Clean Gulf Conference:** BSEE Oil Spill Response Division headquarters and regional staff will be attending the Clean Gulf Conference in San Antonio, TX. The Conference brings together regulators, operators, responders, and other companies working on the oil and chemical spills, maritime security, and marine salvage industry. It promotes the latest products, services, technologies, and best practices as well as reviews the latest trends and developments in the oil spill response industry. Staff will make presentations at the Mega Session and during the State/Federal Update.

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

- ***Update:*** **Stream Protection Rulemaking (SPR):** *The contractor is scheduled to submit completed drafts of the EIS chapter 4 and the RIA by mid-Dec. OSM will conduct Tribal consultations on the rule in Dec. 2011, and will meet with state cooperating agencies in Jan. to provide an update on the rule's development and to solicit state participation in the review process. OSM is on track to publish a proposed rule by Apr. 2012, and a final rule by Dec. 2012.*

WEEKS AHEAD

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Wednesday, December 7:

- **No change: Oil and Gas Lease Sale in Eastern States:** BLM-ES will auction 45 parcels covering 20,949 acres in OH, LA and MS. The protest period closed on Oct. 7. The BLM received 34 protests on five parcels in Ohio's Wayne National Forest. Issues identified in the protests include the impact of drilling on endangered species and the impact of hydraulic fracturing on water resources.

- **No change: National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A) Lease Sale:** BLM-AK will hold an oil and gas lease sale in the NPR-A. A total of 283 tracts (3,060,176 acres) will be offered. Of those tracts being offered, 178 tracts (1,817,186 acres) are located within the Northeast planning area, and 105 tracts (1,242,990 acres) are located within the Northwest planning area. These tracts are being offered on the same day as a State of Alaska oil and gas lease sale, at which the state will be offering both onshore and offshore parcels.

Thursday, December 8:

- ***New:*** **Meeting on Wilderness Activities in Utah:** *BLM-UT St. George Field Manager Jimmy Tyree will meet with the mayors of Hildale and Colorado City, UT to discuss acceptable activities within the Canaan Mountain Wilderness Area. This meeting was requested by the mayors' through the office of Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT).*

Thursday, December 15:

- ***New:*** **Sage-Grouse Meeting Hosted by Nevada Governor:** *The office of Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval and the Nevada Department of Wildlife are tentatively scheduled to host an open house on sage-grouse issues on Dec. 15. The meeting will be open to the public and key stakeholders will be encouraged to attend. The meeting will coincide with the planned publication of the BLM's National Sage-Grouse Planning NOI, as well as the release of the BLM's National Interim Policy and the National Technical Team report. On Nov. 14, the BLM-NV briefed the governor's staff on the greater sage-grouse timeline.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

Early December:

- **No Change: Offshore Renewable Energy Development Workshop**: The BOEM is planning a workshop to provide a forum to exchange information between offshore energy developers, both traditional and renewable, relating to engineering and operations in the ocean environment. The workshop is scheduled for early Dec. and will be held in Washington, D.C.

Thursday December 8:

- ***Update:*** **Wind Offshore Maine:** *The BOEM has scheduled a BOEM/Maine Intergovernmental Task Force meeting in Portland, ME. A primary point of discussion will be the unsolicited request from Statoil for a commercial wind energy lease.*

December 5-16:

- **No Change: 5-Year program:** Public hearings for the Draft PEIS for the Proposed OCS Leasing Program will be held on Dec. 5 through 16 in the following locations: Washington, D.C.; Houston, TX; Mobile, AL, New Orleans, LA, and in the following locations in Alaska: Wainwright, Nuiqsut, Kaktovik, Fairbanks, Anchorage, Kotzebue, Pt. Hope, Pt. Lay, and Barrow.

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

Monday-Wednesday, December 5-7:

- **No Change: Energy Governance and Capacity Initiative (EGCI):** BSEE staff will provide the second technical assistance workshop for the Government of Papua New Guinea (PNG). The workshop entitled, "Regulating Offshore Field Operations through Exploration and Production and Pipeline Management: The U.S. Model" will be held in the capital of Port Moresby. BSEE expects 30 regulatory officials from the Government of PNG to attend the workshop. The EGCI is under the auspices of the Department of State.

Tuesday, December 6:

- ***New*: First Planned Safety and Environmental Management Systems (SEMS) Audit:** *Pacific OCS Region Field Operations has received the first 30-day notification of a planned SEMS Audit for a platform in the Pacific OCS. The audit will be conducted by a company called "Dcor", which will begin its audit on Dec. 6 at its onshore office, and will then move offshore to Platform Gina on Dec. 7. Consistent with applicable SEMS regulations, BSEE staff intends to accompany Dcor to observe and participate in this audit.*

Wednesday-Friday, December 7-9:

- **No Change: Regional Oil Pollution Preparedness, Resp*onse, and Cooperation (OPRC) Seminar:*** *The International Maritime Organization (IMO) is facilitating a Seminar entitled, "Regional OPRC to Focus on Developing National Plans for Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response Related to Offshore Units and Regional Cooperation," Dec. 7-9, in Nassau, Bahamas. The following countries will participate in the OPRC: the Bahamas, Cuba, Jamaica, Mexico, and the United States. The U.S. delegation will include representatives from U.S. Coast Guard, BSEE, DOJ, the Department of State, NOAA, and EPA.*

Wednesday, December 14*:*

- ***No Change: Interagency Coordinating Committee for Oil Pollution Re*search (ICCOPR):** *BSEE Oil Spill Response Division staff will participate in a meeting of the ICCOPR in Washington, D.C. The committee is currently finalizing a revision to its charter, completing a biennial report to Congress on interagency oil spill research, and initiating the development of a new national research priorities list.*

December 2011:

- **No Change: BSEE Inspection of Saipem's Scarabeo 9 Ultra-Deepwater Drilling Rig:** *BSEE personnel from the Gulf of Mexico Region and Headquarters will review Repsol's application for a permit to drill a well offshore Cuba in the FL Straits between Cuba and Key West, FL. Additionally, BSEE staff are planning to perform an initial inspection of the new ultra-deepwater drilling rig Scarabeo 9 owned by Saipem Drilling before drilling begins off the shores of Cuba.*

- ***Update:* BSEE/Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):** *In Early Dec., BSEE staff will meet with EPA to discuss mutual compliance and enforcement programs. This meeting will include determining appropriate points of contact to re-initiate the MOU between BSEE and EPA.*

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

- ***New:*** **Publication of an Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Navajo Mine Significant Permit Revision*****:*** *On Feb. 15,2011, BHP Navajo Coal Company submitted an application for a significant permit revision for the Navajo Mine, located on the Navajo Reservation. This request proposes to expand mining operations to approximately 800 Acres of Area IV North. By Nov. 30, OSM will release the EA and an unsigned FONSI on OSM's Western Region web site for a 30-day public comment period. The Navajo Mine has generated considerable public interest in the past from the Sierra Club, Dine CARE, and San Juan Citizens Alliance.*

Weekly Report
November 22, 2011

Memorandum

To: Meghan Conklin
Associate Deputy Secretary

From: Anne J. Castle
Assistant Secretary for Water and Science

Subject: Weekly Meeting Issues

Senior Officials' Activities Nov 21-Dec 9:
Anne J. Castle - Nov 22 in DC; (b) (6) Nov 28–Dec 9 in DC.
John Tubbs - (b) (6) ; Nov 28–Dec 9 in DC.
Lori Caramanian - Nov 21 in DC; Nov 22 in Phoenix, AZ for Glen Canyon AMWG meetings; Nov 23-30 in DC; (b) (6) Dec 6-9 in DC.
Tanya Trujillo - Nov 22-23 in DC; (b) (6) ; Nov 28-Dec 9 in DC.
Marcia McNutt - Nov. 14-22, McMurdo and South Pole Stations, Antarctica, National Science Foundation Official Visitors Program, including the U.S. Antarctic Program and the Antarctic Center at McMurdo Station; (b) (6)
Mike Connor - Nov. 21-22 in DC; (b) (6) .

Reclamation

Reclamation – Shasta Lake Water Resources Investigation, Release of Draft Feasibility Report and Preliminary Draft EIS for Public Review (California)
The Mid-Pacific Region is planning to release the Shasta Enlargement Draft Feasibility Report and Preliminary Draft EIS by November 30 for a 90-day public comment period. These documents discuss the results of the engineering, environmental, economic, and financial studies to date, and will inform interested agencies, organizations, and individuals as Reclamation continues to refine and assess the potential benefits and impacts of alternative plans. A Draft EIS incorporating comments received on the Preliminary Draft EIS and updated water project operations studies will be prepared in the spring/summer of 2012.

Reclamation Phasing Out Private Boat Dock Permits at Vallecito Reservoir (Colorado)
Reclamation is phasing out private boat dock permits at Vallecito Reservoir, near Durango. The permits have an expiration date and do not include terms and conditions for renewal. New permits will not be issued in compliance with 43 C.F.R. 429, *Use of Bureau of Reclamation Land, Facilities, and Waterbodies*. On November 9, Reclamation's Western Colorado Area Office met with Colorado Senators Michael Bennet and Mark Udall as well as Congressman Scott Tipton's staffers in Durango, Colorado, regarding private boat dock permitting at Vallecito Reservoir.

Reclamation to Educate Public Opponents on the Closed Basin Project (Colorado)
The Closed Basin Project provides water to the Rio Grande to be sent to New Mexico as part of Colorado's Rio Grande Compact water. Without the project, local farmers would have to leave that amount of water in the Rio Grande. The project also provides water for wildlife mitigation in the area. Reclamation's Albuquerque Area Office has been dealing with a small group of opponents to the Closed Basin Project in Alamosa, Colorado, that continues to post letters in the local newspaper. The latest letter placed in the *Alamosa Valley Courier* criticizes the project and proposes that a documentary be produced to show the impacts of the project on groundwater levels in the San Luis Valley and the tremendous cost for operation. Last year, staff of the Closed Basin Project took a group of the critics out to tour the project and presented a PowerPoint presentation on some of the facts of the project. However, it is clear that the tour did little to sway their position. The Albuquerque Area Office and its Alamosa Field Division are working on a message to release to show the facts of the project. The Rio Grande Conservancy District has also started responding to some of the letters to the editor.

Film Maker to Visit Reclamation's Brackish Water National Desalination Research Facility in New Mexico
Reclamation's Albuquerque Area Office is working with an Albuquerque film producer and his crew who paid a visit to Reclamation's Brackish Water National Desalination Research Facility in Alamogordo, New Mexico, on November 15. The film crew will be conducting interviews and getting footage of the facility for a documentary being produced for New Mexico State University on the life and achievements of former Senator Pete Domenici, who was an advocate for the facility.

Blackfeet Water Rights Settlement Legislation (Montana)
On November 7, DOI met with the Blackfeet Tribal Council regarding the Blackfeet Tribe-Montana Compact and S. 399, the Blackfeet Water Rights Settlement Act of 2011. Great Plains Regional Director Michael Ryan accompanied Del Laverdure and Dion Killsback, from the office of the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, for a tour of the Blackfeet Reservation and the meeting. The group discussed concerns of the Department regarding the Compact and S. 399, as well as the Blackfeet Tribe's recent proposal to the Department which would significantly modify S. 399. Mr. Laverdure indicated additional work would be needed on the proposal before the Department could move forward. The group agreed to work together on the technical and programmatic parts of the proposal.

Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) Biological Opinion (BiOp) Litigation (Oregon, Montana, Washington, Idaho)
A September 27, 2011, meeting at the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) provided a forum to assure government alignment on the response to Judge Redden's August 2, 2011, Opinion and Order in the long-running FCRPS litigation. The judge found the 2008/2010 FCRPS Biological Opinion (BiOp) to be arbitrary and capricious on the grounds that habitat mitigation measures were not specifically identified beyond 2013, i.e., for the last five years of the ten-year BiOp period, and remanded the BiOp with direction to address specific deficiencies by January 1, 2014. The CEQ meeting addressed pros and cons of appealing the ruling and what the scope of activity would be in conducting the remand. The Action Agencies (the Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Bonneville Power Administration) and

the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration proposed a focused and aggressive approach to addressing the court's issues during the remand. The focused approach includes identification of habitat projects through 2018, improving the reporting of habitat research and monitoring results, and, through discipline, resisting efforts to "start over." On September 30, 2011, the Federal government filed a protective notice of appeal regarding the court's August 2, 2011 ruling. The protective notice preserves the government's option to pursue an appeal at a later date. On the same date, the 2010 FCRPS BiOp annual progress report was released to the public and filed with the court. After receiving an extension of time to comment on the 2010 FCRPS Annual Progress Report, Plaintiffs submitted their comments to the court on October 25, 2011. Plaintiffs' comments were highly critical of the FCRPS BiOp Annual Progress Report, claiming that the report does not allow the public to gage progress and asking for additional involvement of the court. The comments include a request that Judge Redden appoint a settlement judge to mediate the scope of the remand with the Plaintiffs and the Federal defendants, and that a panel of independent scientific experts be appointed to assess implementation of the Reasonable and Prudent Alternative. DOJ plans to file a response by November 16, 2011, opposing both of these requests and has provided the agencies with a draft brief for review by November 14.

Reclamation to Participate in Oregon Water Resources Congress (OWRC) 2011 Annual Conference in Hood River (Oregon)

Commissioner Connor will make the initial presentation to kick-off OWRC's annual conference on November 30. Later during the conference, Pacific Northwest Regional Director Karl Wirkus will participate with Robyn Thorson (Pacific Region Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) and others in a December 1 round table discussion on "Meeting Oregon's Water Needs." OWRC is an association of local governments, water districts, and other entities involved with irrigation in Oregon.

Remand Process for Coordinated Long-term Operation of the CVP and SWP Biological Opinion (California)

Parties to the litigation in the Delta Smelt Consolidated Cases and Consolidated Salmon Cases have been working toward December 2, deadlines to file a written report in each case, stating whether the parties have jointly agreed upon a schedule for completing the remand process to develop revised biological opinions (BOs) and complete National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance. If there is not agreement among all parties to the Delta Smelt Consolidated Cases, then the draft BO must be transmitted to Reclamation no later than December 14, and the timeline for NEPA compliance in the final amended judgment stands. If there is not agreement among the parties to the Consolidated Salmon Cases, then the parties must describe in the report to the Court the issues which the parties agree and the parties' separate positions regarding matters on which they disagree. The parties must also file proposed judgments including a schedule for remand on both ESA and NEPA.

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Proposed Rulemaking on Klamath Dam Removal (Oregon)

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality is proposing a rule stating the policy and procedures DEQ would use to evaluate whether or not the removal of J.C. Boyle Dam on the Klamath River would comply with the Clean Water Act, should a water quality certification for

the project be requested. A water quality certification may be requested if the Secretary of Interior determines that the dam should be removed and a federal license or permit is required. A public hearing will be held on December 6 in Klamath Falls. DEQ is seeking public comments by 6 p.m. on December 15.

Congressional Activities

- December 8: Senate hearing on "Water Security, Opportunities and Challenges Related to Technology." Details TBD.

US Geological Survey

International Energy Agency CO2 Storage Workshop, Paris: USGS energy scientists attended an International Energy Agency (IEA) hosted workshop "Second CO2 Storage Capacity Estimation Seminar: Developing Guidelines" in Paris, France, November 16-17, 2011. The IEA intends to recommend the U.S. Geological Survey's geologic carbon dioxide storage assessment methodology as a global standard. The USGS discussed the methodology and will assist in writing the guidelines for the IEA.

New Study to Determine Presence of Hibernating Bats and White-nosed Syndrome: White-nosed syndrome (WNS), a fungal disease that kills cave-hibernating bats, has spread rapidly from the northeastern United States to the mid-Atlantic region, and there is concern that the disease may soon affect western bat populations. There have been few bat surveys and no winter surveys of National Wildlife Refuges (NWRs) in the Pacific Northwest, so it is unknown if any of the potential 16 bat species are present. USGS wildlife biologist Joan Hagar is leading an assessment of the status of wintering bats at selected NWRs because hibernating bats are particularly susceptible to WNS. Study objectives are to determine whether potential hibernation sites at Little Pend Oreille (WA), Sheldon-Hart Mountain (OR/NV), and Mid-Columbia River (OR/WA) NWRs are occupied by bats in winter and by which species; evidence of WNS or other disease will be documented. Results will assist resource managers and scientists to minimize the threat of WNS.

Modeling Forest Disturbances and Carbon Cycling: USGS scientist, Shuguang Liu, is the lead author for the paper "Simulating the impacts of disturbances on forest carbon cycling in North America: Processes, data, models, and challenges," published on November 8 in the Journal of Geophysical Research. This research on the impacts of forest disturbances on the carbon cycle will help quantify regional and global carbon dynamics. This article finds that significant advances have been made in representation, scaling and characterization of disturbances that should be included in regional modeling efforts; there is a need for better modeling capability to quantify the immediate and long-term impacts of disturbances on various scales; and that there are inadequate databases on disturbances at the continental scale to understand their effects on the carbon balance in North America.

USGS Assists Partners in Siting New Idaho Streamgages: The USGS is assisting public utility Idaho Power Company (and the Idaho Department of Water Resources) in siting new Idaho Power streamgages near its hydroelectric projects along the middle Snake River in southern Idaho. Idaho Power operates other gages along the middle Snake, but both the utility

and the State water resources agency want to improve the availability and accuracy of streamflow information by installing gages nearer to dams. The accuracy of streamflow data along the middle Snake is particularly important when streamflow is near the minimum levels for hydropower operations. Area stakeholders need accurate streamflow data to avoid unnecessary curtailment of water rights. The USGS will continue to work with Idaho Power and the Idaho Department of Water Resources to check quality assurance of any newly-installed gages and on a water balance survey of reservoirs along the middle Snake River.

New York Times Conducts Background Interview on Induced Seismicity: USGS scientist William Leith, Associate Program Coordinator for the Earthquake Hazards Program, was interviewed by Henry Fountain of the New York Times and asked to provide background on induced seismicity. Mr. Fountain was not focused on the Oklahoma earthquake, but had been drawn to the question of earthquakes and fracking by the recent induced quakes in England and the recent report on past quakes near Oklahoma City. Dr. Leith explained that the larger earthquakes are triggered, in some cases, by the wastewater injection activity, not the fracking itself. Mr. Fountain asked if it would be prudent to put sensors in at injection sites. Dr. Leith said yes, for long-term high-volume operations--this has been a persistent recommendation of the USGS. Dr. Leith explained that USGS had only recently reestablished a research project on induced seismicity because of the increase in cases due to enhanced recovery activities. It is unclear if Mr. Fountain will publish any of the interviews as he called on the basis of background information only.

USGS TV Interview with NCSE on National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center: Douglas Beard, Chief of the USGS National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center (NCCWSC), received a TV interview request from the National Council for Science & the Environment to discuss the NCCWSC. The exact date of the interview is still being coordinated; however, it will take place at the 12th National Conference on Science, Policy and the Environment in Washington, D.C., January 18-20, 2012. The Science & the Environment Channel is broadcasting at the event and interviewing several organizations, focusing on how changes to the environment and climate may potentially impact key human requirements such as water, food, health, and energy. The conference will address how government, scientific, academic, business and environmental communities can work together to find solutions to these issues.

NPR/BBC Interview on Sea-Level Projections: USGS scientist Virginia Burkett was interviewed by NPR/BBC during the week of November 13, about the latest projections for sea-level rise. Burkett is a lead author of past and forthcoming IPCC chapters on sea level rise, and is involved in the USGCRP National Climate Assessment. The reporter expressed interest in sea-level projections from Harold Wanless of University of Miami and James Hansen regarding rapid pulses of sea-level rise over the period of decades instead of centuries. Burkett was asked questions about her research as well as whether those projections will be considered in the next IPCC report.

FGDC Launches New Geospatial Website: The Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC), in conjunction with several geospatial partners has released a prototype Geospatial Platform website providing an initial view of the future of user-friendly, integrated, Federal data collections on common geographic maps. Through the website, users can create their own maps

by combining their data with public domain data and can collaborate in public and private groups with others who share their interests. Maps assembled through the Geospatial Platform can be shared with others through web browsers and mobile technologies. All of this is possible without requiring users to install software on their own computers.

Memorandum

To: Chief of Staff

From: Chief of Staff, Indian Affairs

Subject: Indian Affairs Weekly Look Ahead Update

FOCUS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23, 2011

INDIAN AFFAIRS

Education

- BIE is developing individual school profiles and BIE "Fingertip Facts" for use by the political team and others wanting to know more about the BIE.
- The BIE Assessment is underway to determine areas of improvement and organizational realignment and it is having weekly meetings to update and monitor progress.
- BIE hosted a Native Language Institute which hosted 70 teachers and administrators providing professional development to assist in planning and designing Oral Native Standards and Assessments to tribes.
- BIE has been notified that it is being sued over the BIE's authority to make and enforce certain disallowed costs determinations and asking for a new policy regarding administrative expenditures of tribal grant schools. This matter has been referred to the Solicitor's office for legal opinion.

Organizational Improvement

- Administration Assessment: The contract completion date has been extended to December 16, 2011; all draft chapters have been provided to the internal IA team.

Economic Development

Leasing Regulations: On November 28, 2011, the Secretary will hold a press call to announce the proposed rule revising Indian Affairs leasing regulations (25 CR 162) to replace outdated provisions with transparent procedures for obtaining BIA approval of residential, business, and wind and solar resource leases on Indian land. This proposed rule would help facilitate leasing on tribal land by adding certainty to BIA approval timelines, eliminating unnecessary reviews, and provides deference to Tribes by approving leases at whatever amount they negotiate. The proposed rule will be available in the *Federal Register* public inspection website on November 28, 2011; it will appear in the *Federal Register* on November 29, 2011. Tribal consultation sessions will also be announced for the targeted dates: January 10, 2012, Seattle, Washington; January 12, 2012, Palm Springs, California; and January 18, 2012, Rapid City, South Dakota.

Indian Reservation Roads: The BIA and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) jointly provided a briefing to the staff of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on "Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century" or MAP-21. This bill as introduced by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works has significant changes for the largest program in the BIA. It will change the name of the program and the negotiated rulemaking of 2004 between the

Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Transportation and the tribes. The most significant change takes the negotiated formula (required by TEA-21, P.L. 105-178) by tribal governments and changes it from a road data/needs based concept to primarily population from the USHUD-based population data. The briefing by BIA and FHWA strictly identified the differences of what is now in the program and what is being proposed. No formula runs were shared, as they are still being reviewed by both BIA and FHWA. When this information is available, a briefing on its impacts will be provided to Indian Affairs leadership.

Outreach

- Planned Events:

  Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs:
  November 23, 2011, Speech, National American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month to FBI staff, Washington, DC.

  December 6 -7, 2011, quarterly meeting of the Tribal Interior Budget Committee, Washington, DC.

  PEPFAR Tribal Consultations:
  November 29, 2011 , Hilton Crystal City National Airport, Arlington, VA.
  December 7, 2011, US Grant Hotel, San Diego, CA.
  December 9, 2011, National Indian Training Center, Albuquerque, NM.
  December 12, 2011, Billings Hotel and Convention Center, Billings, MT

CONFIDENTIAL

November 23, 2011

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
Attn: James E. Anderson, Special Assistant

From: Ray Joseph, Principal Deputy Special Trustee

Re: Assistant Secretary Report for November 21 to November 25 and November 28 to December 2, 2011

Office of the Special Trustee (OST)
Assistant Secretary Weekly Report
November 23, 2011

Schedule and Activities
Principal Deputy Special Trustee Ray Joseph

- Management meetings in Washington (11/21-23,25, 11/28-12/2)

Review – November 14 to November 18

- **Update:** OST is concerned about the 638 appraisal program managed by the Yakama Nation. There has been (since 2003) and continues to be a backlog of appraisal requests. A BIA-OST team drafted a letter with best practices to be implemented by the tribe to reduce the appraisal request backlog. The letter also suggests that the Nation voluntarily return the program if it cannot implement the best practices and it contains an action plan that describes how the Office of Appraisal Services would handle the Yakama Nation appraisal workload in the event of a retrocession. The letter was forwarded to the BIA Awarding Official on November 17. BIA SOL is reviewing the letter for legal sufficiency prior to the Awarding Official sending it to the Yakama Nation.

- **Update:** The annual audit of the Individual Indian Money and tribal and other trust funds was released November 10. It was published on the OST website.

- **Update:** On November 16, the Fiduciary Trust Officer (FTO) at the Northern Cheyenne Agency conducted financial literacy training for at-risk youth in the Second Season Program. The program is funded through a government grant to redirect youth involved with the Northern Cheyenne Prosecution Office.

- **Update:** The trial for the Jicarilla Apache Nation v. U.S. litigation commenced November 8 and concluded on November 17. The Nation is seeking an accounting and to recover monetary loss and damages related to the U.S. government's breach of its fiduciary duty in allegedly mismanaging the Nation's trust assets and other funds.

- **Update:** FTOs at the Osage Agency and the Tulsa Urban Office presented a fourth financial skills workshop at the Wah Zha Zhi Cultural Center in Pawhuska, Okla., on November 19. The event provided general information regarding financial education and was geared to Osage shareholders who anticipate receiving funds from the tribal

litigation settlement signed October 21. However, the workshop was open to the public and covered sudden wealth, credit and debit, investing, avoiding scams, the psychology of money, probate and estate planning, and whereabouts unknown.

Week Ahead – November 21 to December 2

- **New:** DOI and DOJ hope to make offers to 74 Settlement Proposal to the Obama Administration (SPOA) tribes a few weeks after the third White House Tribal Nations Conference on December 2. In support of the settlement work, the Office of Historical Trust Accounting is updating joint account Expedited Settlement Evaluation Methodology (ESEM) results for 11 tribes, providing trust-land acreage information for nine tribes, and summarizing trust fund ESEM results into judgment and non-judgment account categories. (b) (5)

- **New:** The FTO at the Colville Agency is presenting three financial skills training sessions at Grand Coulee High School's career day, in Grand Coulee, Wash. The training will take place November 23.

- **New:** On November 28, the FTO at the Osage Agency will present a financial skills workshop at the Hominy Cultural Center in Hominy, Okla. Another workshop will be held November 30 at the Grayhorse Community Center in Fairfax, Okla. These events will provide general information regarding financial education and be geared toward Osage shareholders' anticipation of receiving funds from a recent tribal settlement. The workshops will be open to the public and cover such topics as sudden wealth, credit and debt, investing, avoiding scams, the psychology of money, probate and estate planning and whereabouts unknown.

- **Update:** OST's Field Operations schedules outreach events, training seminars and meetings at powwows, schools and other venues. More than 20 activities were held in November.

- **No Change:** The OAS Rocky Mountain Regional Office carried over last fiscal year's appraisal request backlog of 153 for a total pending workload of 479. Both the quantity of requests and a period of time when the region lacked full staffing contributed to the backlog. The Office of Appraisal Services proactively addressed the issue by sending a special backlog team to tackle it. Team members were deployed for two weeks, starting October 24. The team's effect on the workload numbers will be available when the appraisal reviews are completed, around late November.

- **No Change:** OST is finalizing information submitted by other DOI offices and bureaus for the quarterly *Status Report to the Secretary of the Interior from the Principal Deputy Special Trustee for American Indians*. OST's IT Manager and IT staff members visited DOI's Advanced Security Operations Center on November 9 to study IT security risks to be reflected in the report. The final report will be available early in December. The report continues to compile a record of trust activities in lieu of the discontinued Quarterly Report to the Court.

On the Horizon

- **New:** The FTO at the Blackfeet Agency will partner with personnel from the Browning Community Development Corporation to provide financial skills training to Browning High School students. The training will be held December 5-6 in Browning, Mont.

- **Update:** Treasury's Financial Literacy and Education Commission (FLEC) was scheduled to meet with OST personnel on November 18 to discuss OST's culturally sensitive financial skills training. The meeting was postponed. OST is seeking to emulate Treasury's best practices and to determine if an OST-Treasury relationship would result in this audience-specific financial skills training being implemented through other agencies.

- **Update:** BIA and OST are working with USDA to create a central point of access and a uniform loan application to improve the loan process in Indian country. OST is participating on the training and technical assistance subcommittee of the working group.

- **Update:** On October 3, Treasury transferred the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Act funds of $290 million principal and $144 million interest for OST to invest. Pursuant to the Economy Act, Treasury requested that OST invest and manage the transferred principal and an interagency agreement (IAA was signed on October 25. Treasury would have incurred expenses for comparable investment services at a higher rate through the private sector. Treasury and OST are working on six additional IAAs and memoranda of understanding for similar legislative settlement act funds. SOL is currently analyzing the on-off budget nature of the six funds.

- **No Change:** Nemont Utility Co. received a USDA grant to use ARRA funds to install a fiber optic infrastructure across the Crow Reservation, the Ft. Peck Reservation and on intervening private lands. The week of November 7, Nemont's contract appraiser and OST's Review Appraiser in Montana appraised Phase I of the fiber optics rights-of-way on the Crow Reservation. Nemont has provided notice that their board of directors has given restart approval, which contains a go-no/go decision in January as a safety precaution to ensure things are all still moving in the right direction.

- **No Change:** Tribes raised the issue last winter about deposits of successful oil and gas bidders being held in interest bearing accounts while leases await approval. BIA and OST personnel met with members of the Fort Peck Tribe to advance resolution of this issue. To reconcile concerns raised by the tribe, discussions continue among the tribe, SOL, AS-IA and OST regarding draft statutory language.

U N I T E D S T A T E S
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

November 22, 2011

Memorandum

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
c/o James Anderson, Special Assistant

From: Rhea Suh, Assistant Secretary-Policy, Management and Budget

Subject: November 22, 2011, Policy and Other Issues

This provides major policy and other issues that fall under the purview of the Assistant Secretary – PMB.

POLICY

Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC) Meeting: The Invasive Species Advisory Committee convenes their fall 2011 meeting December 6-8 in Washington, DC. This is the first meeting for new members who were appointed earlier this fall. The theme of the meeting is invasive species and commerce with presentations on ballast water discharge and regulation and advanced invasive species detection methods. In addition, there will be a special session on e-commerce activities and the sale of many invasive species or potentially invasive species over the internet. Lori Faeth, DAS for Policy and International Affairs will welcome new members to the ISAC.

Senior Officials Exercise. Larry Broun represented the Department at Senior Officials Exercise 3-11, which addressed intentional contamination of the food chain with massive fatalities in the U.S. The exercise was led by the White House National Security Staff; lead agencies were HHS, USDA, FDA, DOJ/FBI and DHS. The exercise highlighted the need for rapid identification of the source of such contamination and the need for effective information sharing across all agencies and levels of government. While DOI does not have specific responsibilities in this scenario, the exercise reinforced our previous lesson-learned during from H1N1 influenza preparedness that DOI should assure that Tribes and DOI bureaus with responsibilities for public safety on Federal lands are effectively wired into the information-sharing process during health emergencies.

MANAGEMENT

ONRR Receives Clean CFO Audit for Fiscal Year 2011: In a clear demonstration of ONRR's effective processes and controls, and for the first time in its history, ONRR did not receive a single financial CFO audit finding for Fiscal Year 2011. This accomplishment reflects ONRR's commitment to continuous improvement and excellence in all aspects of mineral collection and disbursement. Additionally, ONRR was lauded by the CFO auditor for submitting every 'prepared by client' (PBC) deliverable by or before the due date. Timely PBC submissions are an effective indicator of ONRR's strong internal controls and organization.

BUDGET

2012 Continuing Resolution. The government is operating under the second 2012 continuing resolution PL 112-36, which funds government operations through November 18. The third CR (HR 211) that would continue government operations through December 16 was passed by the House and Senate as part of the 2012 Agriculture, Commerce-Justice-Science and Transportation-HUD spending measure. The measure, which the President is expected to sign on Saturday, passed the House by a vote of 298-121 on Thursday afternoon and the Senate passed the measure on Thursday night by a vote of 70-30.

2012 Appropriations. Current thinking is that the remaining nine appropriations bills will be combined into one omnibus spending package. Efforts to build a second minibus package around the Energy-Water bill (HR 2354) stalled in the Senate. The conference agreement set more generous funding levels for certain food programs than those in the House-passed version of the Agriculture appropriations measure. Also, momentum is building in the House against the passage of 2012 appropriations at the level set by the Deficit Reduction Act. Budget Chairman Paul D. Ryan of Wisconsin and Deficit Committee Co-Chairman Jeb Hensarling of Texas, voted against the first minibus because it contains more spending than the House-backed budget resolution (H Con Res 34).

Collapse of Deficit Committee Negotiations. Leaders of the deficit panel on Monday confirmed what had been expected for nearly two weeks: They could not "make any bipartisan agreement" for cutting the deficit by $1.2 trillion before their Wednesday deadline. Although the co-chairmen and several of the other members of the bipartisan panel expressed hope that "Congress can build on this committee's work," it is unclear how the chambers will be able to address the difficult and polarizing issues that drove the 12-member committee to failure.

The Budget Control Act requires that in the absence of an agreement on deficit reduction, there will be $1.2 trillion in automatic budget cuts, known as sequesters. The first automatic cuts will take effect Jan. 2, 2013, and will fall equally on defense and non-defense accounts, including both discretionary spending and some mandatory, or entitlement, spending. The second sequester will occur a month later, when the president submits his budget for fiscal 2014; the sequester will change the caps on that year's discretionary spending levels and impose across-the-board cuts in mandatory programs. Subsequent sequesters will occur each year with the submission of the president's budget request. Medicaid, Social Security, veterans' spending and programs targeted at low-income Americans will be largely exempt from automatic cuts. Medicare cuts can amount

to no more than 2 percent of the program's outlays, and they will affect only payments to providers, not to beneficiaries.

A new law would be required to change the sequesters. After the Thanksgiving recess, some GOP senators, led by John McCain of Arizona and Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, are expected to offer an amendment to the pending fiscal 2012 defense authorization bill that would lift the sequester on defense dollars. But proposals for eliminating those cuts drew rebukes from the White House. President Obama said in a statement Monday evening that he would veto "any effort" to end sequestration and said there should be "no easy off-ramps" to coming up with the $1.2 billion in deficit reduction. Opponents of undoing the sequester are likely to cite a new statement from credit rating agency Standard & Poors that said the committee's failure to reach a deal would not affect the United States' credit rating because spending will still be reduced under the sequester — but the report also noted that could change if the cuts did not stand.

OTHER

2011 Combined Federal Campaign for the National Capital Area (CFCNCA). As of November 17, Interior is one quarter of the way towards our 2011 CFCNCA campaign goal of $600,000, having raised $149,965, an increase of over $47,000 from November 7. Unlike last year, the CFCNCA is indicating that the campaign will end in just over four weeks on December 15. The table below shows the status of contributions and the goals relative to the December 15 date. It is important to note that last year, most of Interior's contributions came in after December 15.

DOI's Got Brains! weekly trivia competition continued to narrow the field to reach the final four teams to compete on November 30. Here are the results:

- November 9: NPS fell victim to the unbeaten OIG Trust, But Verify team and the BLM Brainy Managers beat out the OSM Surface Miners.
- November 10 – Special Veterans Day game: Air Force's Air Superiority finally overtook the Army/Marines Commandos Team after several rounds.
- November 16: Office of Strategic Employee and Organizational Development Team #2 fell victim to the FWS Wise Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Woodchucks, who then in turn were trounced by the Air Force Air Superiority team. The IA Hanging Around the Fort team was victorious over the BOEM/BSEE Refried Brains team.

Upcoming events include:

- November 30 – **Interior's Got Brains! Final Four games**: Air Force Air Superiority against IA Hanging Around the Fort and OIG Brain Trust, But Verify against BLM Brainy Land Managers. Noon in the Bison Bistro.
- December 8 – **DOI's Got Talent!** at 10 am in the Yates Auditorium. Talent is still being sought for this event.
- December 14 – **CFC Extravaganza!** Final event will feature the DOI's Got Brains! championship, an auction, bake sale, karaoke and announcement of the winner of contest to identify the total donations in the CFC change jug.

IG/GAO Reports. The list of current reports and their status is attached.

Attachments:
PMB Office Reports

cc: Deputy Assistant Secretaries—Policy, Management and Budget

Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget
Weekly Office Reports
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POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

New: OEPC Alaska Office Coordinates Information on Bering Sea Storm: During the recent Bering Sea Storm, in accordance with the *DOI Disaster Response Plan for Alaska*, the OEPC Alaska Office served as the Alaska-based single-point-of-contact for providing information to Alaska-based DOI Bureau Emergency Contacts on the storm, collecting information on DOI Bureau employees and facilities at risk from storm-related winds and flooding, and communicating appropriate information to the DOI Watch Office. The OEPC Alaska Office also stood ready to help coordinate DOI Bureau assistance that may have been required.

Update: National Response Framework (NRF). Signed by President Obama in March 2011, Presidential Policy Directive (PPD) 8 aims to strengthen the security and resilience of the United States through systematic preparedness for the threats that pose the greatest risk to the security of the Nation, including acts of terrorism, pandemics, and catastrophic natural disasters. As part of this Directive, a multi-agency workgroup has been assembled to review the NRF and revise the Framework as needed. The OEPC is part of this endeavor due to their role as primary agency for Emergency Support Function #11 – Protection of Natural and Cultural Resources and Historic Properties under the NRF. The first workgroup was held November 7. During the workshop, the OEPC representative was successful in advocating for consideration of response activities to tribal lands and insular areas as issues to be addressed in the rewrite of the NRF.

Update: DEEPWATER HORIZON Oil Spill Response. The OEPC headquarters and regional staff continue to provide support to senior DOI officials, and the Gulf Coast Incident Management Team (GCIMT) based in New Orleans. The GCIMT is targeting an end of phase 3 and 4 operations by the end of this hurricane season, and an end to response operations by late November.

- The OEPC continues to work with the DOI Pollution Removal Funding Authorization (PRFA) Cost Documentation Team to review and improve DOI bureaus/offices' reimbursable cost documentation packages and submit them to the US Coast Guard (USCG) National Pollution Fund Center (NPFC). DOI bureaus and offices have received PRFAs totaling $96.8 Million in reimbursable budget authority. So far, DOI has submitted cost documentation packages totaling $51.49 Million and the USCG has processed and reimbursed in full a total of $14.76 Million.

- The U.S. Coast Guard's Federal On Scene Coordinator (FOSC) Report on the DWH Oil Spill Response was recently submitted to the National Response Team (NRT), which was briefed at its last meeting. The FOSC report refrains from strongly scoring key issues encountered in the DWH spill response and avoids making recommendations. Rather, it

provides a Coast Guard narrative of the DWH spill response, with input from DOI and other agencies that participated in the Unified Command.

- The U.S. Coast Guard submitted its draft Commandant Instruction memo for Spills of National Significance (SONS) response management to the NRT for review, with concurrent review by the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. The memo would institutionalize many features of the SONS response structure and functions that were utilized during the DWH oil spill response, and addresses certain recommendations contained in reports issued by the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling; the National Incident Command; the USCG's Deepwater Horizon Incident Specific Preparedness Review (ISPR); and the FOSC Report on the DWH Oil Spill Response. Finalization and implementation of the draft Commandant Instruction memo for SONS response management is anticipated by Jan 1, 2012.

Office of Policy Analysis

New: Convention on Biological Diversity and Invasive Alien Species. The National Invasive Species Council staff attended the 15th meeting of the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (7-11 November, Montreal) to provide input into the development of recommendations on invasive species as related to: the pet trade, live bait and live food; the use of international standards; and future priorities for work. The recommendations will be considered by the CBD's Conference of the Parties in 2012. Presentations on the development of national invasive species strategies and on linkages between invasive species and the Global Island Partnership were delivered at events during the week.

New: Water Research Foundation. The National Invasive Species Council staff will serve on a Professional Advisory Committee together with the Bureau of Reclamation and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection experts to help guide a Water Research Foundation (WRF) funded project concerning microscopic algae that can disrupt potable water storage reservoirs and drinking water treatment facilities.

Update: Arctic. Policy Analysis is leading intercessional work of the Arctic Council EBM Experts Group; in particular an effort to ascertain the science and traditional knowledge needs for pan-Arctic EBM. The Policy Analysis Director worked with Canadian and Norwegian delegates to the Experts Group to identify process and objectives. Policy Analysis worked with representatives from BOEM, IARPC, the Special Advisor for Alaska Affairs, and the Deputy Secretary's office to help plan a workshop on science needs for offshore policy decisions in the Arctic.

Update: Agency Adaptation Working Group. Policy Analysis is participating in the Interagency Adaptation Working Group, which supports the Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force and is cultivating ongoing interagency coordination on adaptation. The Working Group met on November 17 and discussed possible guidance for agency climate change adaptation planning. In support of the DOI Climate Adaptation Working Group, Policy

Analysis provided information and expertise to revise the High Priority Performance Goals for this Departmental priority.

Update: Technology Transfer. Policy Analysis met this week with USGS and BOR subject matter experts and started drafting a Departmental Manual chapter that would deal with, and update, policies and procedures related to technology transfer.

Update: Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act. Policy Analysis participates on the recreation fee working group, which includes representatives of the five agencies (Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and U.S. Forest Service) authorized under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA). On November 15 and 17, the working group held meetings to discuss a communication strategy and a legislative strategy leading up to sunset of FLREA at the end of 2014.

Ongoing: Estimating the Benefits and Costs of DOI's Fire Program. Policy Analysis, the DOI Wildland Fire Coordination Office, and bureau fire program staff held a teleconference on November 22 to discuss the benefit/cost project, identify contacts, and address any questions regarding the approach to the analysis. Policy Analysis is continuing its work to prepare a review of the literature and fire models.

Ongoing: Economic Report. Policy Analysis is continuing to hold meetings with bureaus to discuss various technical issues related to preparation of the FY 2011 Economic Report. Over the coming 2 weeks, the Office will compile data on grants/payments necessary for the economic contribution analysis. On November 22, Policy Analysis, the USGS, and bureaus held a teleconference to discuss the next steps involved in estimating the number of jobs and economic contribution from DOI-related restoration projects.

Ongoing: Klamath Economic Support. The Economics staff is continuing to review preliminary data and results from the non-use survey and provide additional comments on the economic analysis included in the draft Secretarial Decision Overview Report. Some additional preliminary results were provided by the contractor early in the week of November 14, with a final report from the contractor delivered on November 18. Staff also reviewed a number of draft responses to economics related comments that were received on the draft environmental impact statement.

Office of Native Hawaiian Relations

New: Hawaiian Home Lands – The ONHR is meeting with the Chairman for the State of Hawaii Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to discuss ONHR concerns with the potential improper issuance of leases to non-qualified beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act. The ONHR and the Chairman will also discuss a possible hydrogen/micro-grid project for Hawaiian Home lands on the Island of Hawaii. Initial discussions with the Office of Electrical Reliability and Office of Hydrogen, Fuel Cells, and Infrastructure Technologies at the

Department of Energy regarding the hydrogen/micro-grid project are set for the week of November 28.

New: US Fish & Wildlife Service Cultural Orientation – Diversity Training – The ONHR coordinated and co-presented a Cultural Orientation training for 15 Ecological Services, Law Enforcement, and Fisheries staff and 6 Refuges staff, providing the participants with some history about Hawai‘i and Native Hawaiians, an overview of the various laws protecting Native Hawaiian rights and interests and requiring consultation, and tools and practical guidance on working with Native Hawaiian organizations and the community in general. The training was well-received and greatly appreciated, with participants asking for more. The participants also received diversity credit for the training.

Update: US Fish & Wildlife Service Sharpe Law Fellowships – The ONHR assisted the Region 1 office in conducting interviews of law students at the University of Hawai‘i William S. Richardson School of Law for three fellowship positions in the summer of 2012. One position will be with the Pacific Islands Climate Change Cooperative, another is with Ecological Services, and the third is in Virginia with the Office of ESA Litigation. ONHR will be participating as one of the mentors for the student selected to work with Ecological Services.

Office of International Affairs

New: Colorado River Negotiations: On November 15**,** OIA staff hosted a conference call with Jennifer Pitt, Director of Environmental Defense Fund’s (EDF) Colorado River Project, as well as BOR and Solicitor’s office staff to discuss U.S./Mexico cooperation on the Colorado River. BOR and SOL staff provided an update on negotiations of a new minute for comprehensive management of the Colorado River Basin under the 1944 U.S./Mexico Boundary Waters Treaty. EDF expressed appreciation for the Department’s leadership, and encouraged DOI to take a proactive role, in partnership with the conservation community, to explore options for financing water conservation measures needed to restore the Colorado Delta ecosystem, which has been decimated by inadequate environmental flows in recent decades.

New: Briefings and Discussion on USGS international programs: On November 9, the OIA Director and Policy Division met at USGS headquarters with the Acting Director of the USGS International Office and her staff of regional specialists as well as USGS substantive leads for international work on issues such as biodiversity, Earth observations and water. The discussion and briefings were extremely useful for deepening OIA’s understanding of USGS programs and strengthening DOI/USGS relationships to serve and support coordination with those programs, improve communication, and support information needs of DOI management.

New: Field Coordinating Committee: The OIA staff participated on a Field Coordinating Committee (FCC) conference call on November 16 to debrief last week’s meeting in Silver City, NM and to determine how often future meetings should be convened. The Committee decided that subsequent FCC meetings should be held annually (vs. biannually) due to Department-wide cuts in travel budgets. One suggestion was to “piggyback” or dovetail off of an existing

conference/meeting (e.g. the Trilateral Committee in Santa Fe, NM on May 14-18, 2012) and/or add an extra day to the agenda.

New: Indigenous Peoples in Voluntarily Isolation Regional Workshop: The OIA-ITAP will sponsor an international workshop of Indigenous Peoples in Voluntarily Isolation in Bogota, Colombia on November 24-25, 2011. The workshop objective is to open a multi-country dialogue and review (1) the current status of how these countries approach Indigenous Peoples in Voluntarily Isolation and Initial Contact, (2) existing protection policies and (3) legal frameworks and policies among Andean Amazon countries. Government representatives and technical experts from Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia and Brazil will attend. This work is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

New: Assessment of Indigenous Territories in Peru: The OIA-ITAP will conduct an initial assessment of several indigenous territories in the Loreto Region of Peru to evaluate the general threats to these territories (e.g., deforestation, climate change, extractive industries projects) and their impact on the local economy. DOI will also develop a baseline on the knowledge, use of, and threats to medicinal plants in indigenous territories. The data will help the Loreto Regional Government and the indigenous communities define specific activities to protect their territories, traditional knowledge, and use of medicinal plants. This work is funded by the USAID.

New: Natural Resource Management Curriculum Development in Oman: An OIA-ITAP protected areas management specialist will attend a workshop in Oman in preparation for the creation of Oman's National Field Research Centre for Environmental Conservation. The establishment of this research center is an important part of OIA-ITAP's work in Oman. The specialist will also travel to Jordan in order to initiate dialogue between Omani and Jordanian partners to contribute to cooperation on the national ranger training center being developed in Jordan, with support from OIA-ITAP. This work is funded by the Department of State.

Update: Arctic Policy: The OIA staff attended a November 10 interagency meeting chaired by the State Department to discuss access challenges inherent in working in the Russian Arctic. The agenda covered the documentation and logistical hurdles necessary to work in Russia and the merits of various potential solutions (including revamped bilateral agreements, regular interagency lesson sharing, and specific actions for the US embassy in Moscow). As a next step, DOS is collecting more information from particular agencies. USGS and FWS were also in attendance. OIA has shared meeting notes and next steps with BOEM, BSEE and NPS.

Update: Automation of Foreign Travel Approval Process: On December 1, OIA will launch the automated approval process for the DI-1175 foreign travel request form. The new system will increase efficiencies in the approval process and will allow OIA to store and search data on the foreign travel of DOI employees. The system, based on a SharePoint platform, will cover all bureaus except USGS, whose existing system requires additional development time and is expected to be incorporated by March 2012. The OIA will be hosting demonstrations of the new system for interested parties on December 1 and 2.

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YOUTH, PARTNERSHIPS AND SERVICE

New: Office of the Secretary Interns. The OS internship program has completed its recruitment process for the Spring semester and will be making selections in the coming weeks.

Ongoing: MOU between DOI, USDA, U.S. Army Corps and Wilderness Inquiry. Five year Memorandum of Understanding undergoing revisions to renew agreement between DOI (BLM, BOR, NPS, FWS), Forest Service and the Army Corps of Engineers to cooperate on providing increased opportunities for outdoor recreation for people of all abilities, economic circumstances and cultural backgrounds.

Ongoing: MOU between DOI, USDA and HistoriCorps. DOI SOL and USDA attorneys have completed review of a new MOU between DOI (BLM, FWS, NPS), USDA (Forest Service), HistoriCorps, The Corps Network and the Student Conservation Association to cooperate on projects and activities related to preservation of historic structures, sites, artifacts, landscapes, and other resources and to conduct heritage education at the national, regional, and local levels.

Ongoing: OPM Pathways Program Advisory Council. The Office of Youth in the Great Outdoors represents the Department on the Federal Pathways Advisory Council. The Office plays a key role in advising OPM on the history and future of Federal Internships. The Youth Office representative is chairing a subcommittee on implementation guidance for the Pathways Program.

New: Federal Advisory Committee on a 21st Century Conservation Service Corps. The Office of Youth completed a comprehensive website to share, in real time, information on the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps Federal Advisory Committee. The office worked collaboratively with the Office of the Secretary's New Media Office.

New: Federal Advisory Committee on a 21st Century Conservation Service Corps. Lisa Young and Eugenie Bostrom participated in a two day training to become familiar with rules, regulations and workings of Federal Advisory Committees.

Renewed: Veteran/Youth Fire Corps. The Office of Wildland Fire, Youth Office, SOL staff and ASPMB Acquisitions & Property Management are working together to develop guidance to DOI Offices and Bureaus on the use of "multi-bureau cooperative agreements." A pilot agreement focused on Veteran/Youth Fire Corps will be one of the first model agreements to distribute as an example.

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TECHNOLOGY, INFORMATION AND BUSINESS SERVICES

Office of the Chief Information Office

New: IT Shared Services Strategy. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provided its draft Information Technology (IT) Shared Services Strategy document to federal agencies in the Executive Branch for comment. This is in alignment with the "Shared First" concept, presented by the Federal Chief Information Officer (CIO). The strategy calls upon agencies to achieve some key deliverables within one year. Agencies are asked to identify three functional (administrative) areas for migration to a shared service by April 2012, and complete these migrations by December 2012. The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) compiled comments to OMB on the draft document from the Department of the Interior (Department), and Bureau and Office stakeholders. While the Department is supportive of the overall shared strategy concept, concerns were voiced over the practicality of the aggressive timeline set by OMB, as well as need to take a more business-centric approach. The Department recommended that the document be reviewed by other federal governance bodies including financial, acquisition and human resources officers before being issued in final version.

New: Electronic Mail Outage. At approximately 11:50 a.m., on Thursday, November 10, 2011, the Office of the Secretary Exchange Mail System failed due to a server problem. This outage affected both internal and Outlook Web Access users. The operations staff restored service at approximately 12:45 p.m. Some customers lost electronic mail credentials during the outage and needed assistance.

New: Mandatory Compliance with Enterprise Information Technology Solutions Released. The CIO issued a memorandum mandating compliance with enterprise IT solutions. The memorandum was issued in response to several Bureaus and Offices expressing their intention to pursue their own IT product purchases independent of the Department. Several Bureaus and Offices have also indicated their plans to make their own IT standardization decisions rather than participating or leading Department-wide IT product decision-making and policy activities. The memorandum reminds Bureaus and Offices that in order for the IT Transformation to be successful, all organizations within the Department must participate in and adhere to enterprise IT initiatives. This will drive standardization for the overarching IT infrastructure, which will reduce costs and improve performance over time. Bureaus and Offices were reminded that they are not to pursue independent IT infrastructure acquisitions and implementation activities, but must work in collaboration with Department-wide efforts.

Update: IT Transformation Quick Wins. The OCIO announced the completion of four Quick Wins: (1) Collaborative IT Support in the Field, (2) the Interim Unified Messaging Solution, (3) the procurement of an enterprise Mobile Device Management solution to expand the deployment of tablet computers and (4) the migration to an External SharePoint infrastructure that fosters collaboration with DOI partner organizations. The email also announced the next round of Quick Wins for first quarter of fiscal year 2012. These will be completed by December 31, 2011, and include:

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1. Secure web access to Quicktime for all Department employees;
2. The implementation of instant messaging across all Departments;
3. Bureau of Indiana Affairs (BIA) and the Office of Special Trustee for American Indians (OST) activities with the OCIO to streamline the Department IT network for greater interoperability and reduced cost of operations; and
4. The implementation of the recently acquired enterprise Mobile Device Management solution.

Update: IT Workforce Planning. OCIO staff held a joint meeting with SRA, the consultant engaged to lead the IT workforce planning for the IT Transformation and McKinsey Consulting, who is leading the development of the detailed IT Transformation implementation plan. The purpose of the meeting was to coordinate work between the two consultants, eliminate any gaps in deliverables, and ensure a smooth integration between their respective bodies of work.

Update: Enterprise Asset Discovery Initiative (EAD). The EAD project is on track for the November 30, 2011, completion. USGS and BIA preliminary scans are complete. NPS is still seeking approval from its officials to proceed. All participating Bureaus are awaiting the risk acceptance document from the Department's CIO to proceed with more detailed scans of their infrastructure. The risk acceptance document has been submitted to the CIO for signature.

Update: FY11 Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) Report. The metrics for this year's FISMA report to OMB and Congress were distributed by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and validated by the CIO Council. The completed report is was submitted to OMB on November 15, 2011. While the FISMA report identified potential areas to work on for next year, no material weakness were identified by KPMG, our external auditors, or by the OIG.

Office of Valuation Services

New: NACT Meeting. The NACT meeting is scheduled for Thursday, where we will be updating the OVS performance metrics through FY 2011.

Update: OVS Appraiser Positions. We have received the list of eligibles for the GS-13 review appraiser vacancies. The applications are being reviewed this week.

Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution.

New: Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative. CADR is providing process guidance and support for the team staffing Assistant Secretary Rhea Suh on this Open Government initiative.

New: OSM-BLM employee meetings. CADR is providing advice and facilitation services to senior managers holding employee meetings to discuss the possible merging of the OSM and the BLM. Field office meetings were held last week and an a DC meeting will be held next week.

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New: Youth program needs assessment. CADR is assisting in a process for gathering feedback and input on the current and future state of the youth program and office.

Update: FOIA ADR training. The first FOIA ADR training was delivered last week for DOI FOIA practitioners and attorneys. The goal of the conflict resolution training is to improve communication and efficiency in processing FOIA requests and reduce complaints and delays.

Update: National Indian Gaming Commission Tribal Advisory Committee. CADR continues to provide process design and facilitation services for the NIGC's Tribal Advisory Committee. The committee is working on regulatory revisions.

Ongoing: Geospatial Project. CADR is facilitating the coordination between DOI's core team and the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution in support of the joint effort to select a vendor and deliver the phase 1 prototype of a landscape geospatial information tool for use by senior leadership.

Update: Landscape Conservation Cooperatives. To reduce contract costs, CADR is facilitating a meeting of the 21 LCC regional coordinators next week to gather input on the LCC National Council.

National Business Center

New: AMD Assists FEMA in Continuity of Operations Planning for Bering Sea Storm. An AMD employee who has trained extensively in emergency management was lauded for her assistance this past weekend in Alaska. This employee responded to a call for her expertise when western Alaska experienced some of the highest winds and surf on record. Our employee was mission assigned by FEMA to provide aircraft scheduling and support. Her efforts were recognized by the DOI Regional Environmental Officer.

New: **AMD Participates in USGS/OSM Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Operations.** AMD personnel participated in a joint USGS/OSM Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Proof of Concept mission in Charleston, WV. The operation involved operation of the Raven RQ-11A Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) in airspace over the Powelton Mine, Fayette Co, West Virginia. The flights were used to determine the operational effectiveness, cost-benefit and future use of remote sensors to provide assistance with oversight of the West Virginia coal regulatory and abandoned mine land programs designed to ensure that surface coal mining operations are conducted in accordance with the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977.

Update: Financial and Business Management System implementation. The NBC has been and will continue to provide off hours support for FBMS processing for the Fish and Wildlife Service and Office of the Secretary implementations. We have worked with the FBMS Project Management Office to process and complete all catch up files for all Deployed bureaus.

Update: Fiscal Year 2011 financial services year-end close. The NBC successfully completed

the End of the Year close for its financial services customer the Federal Trade Commission, and International Trade Commission.

New: Interior financial services. The Bureau of Indian Affairs contacted the NBC for financial management services. BIA is considering using NBC's Permanent Change of Service (PCS) and Travel Payment services, with work to begin in January 2012. Also, if approved, the NBC will assist BIA with their FBMS implementation in these areas.

New: NBC Administrative Operations and GSA hosted the International Editorial Food Service Council (IEFSC) Briefing and Tour of the Bison Bistro. The facilities management staff provided coordination and logistics for the meeting on November 9th. The DAS-TIBS, representatives from GSA, and Sodexo welcomed the 27 members of the IEFC and briefed them on the vision for the Café, construction, innovative food service contract, health and sustainability in menu offerings and earning the LEED Platinum certification by the Green Building Council. A tour of the facility followed with an emphasis on the composting equipment and program.

New: Administrative Operations Schedules Bureau and Office Administrative Contact Meeting for November 17th. An invitation was sent to DOI Bureaus and Offices administrative contacts on Nov 8th. The purpose of the meeting is to inform contacts of upcoming projects and changes impacting operations and services, reacquaint with contacts to ensure they know who to contact and how to obtain our services, answer questions, and receive feedback on NBC services.

New: LED Lighting Project for the MIB Garages and Cooling Tower Space. The contractor, PFD Mechanical, Inc., completed installing LED lighting in approximately 80% of zones 3-5; this is being pursued as a means for realizing energy efficiency. The work is expected to be completed by mid-November.

Update: Meeting with DOI University to discuss Field Office Locations: DOIU is planning to close the Anchorage training facility and relocate to Sacramento, CA. The facility will be in a building that NBC has a delegated authority lease. Space for staff and training is expected to be approximately 2,000 square feet.

Update: Secretary's Garage Door: Overhead Door Company replaced the detector loop on and the door is now working properly.

Update: SIB organic garden planting and maintenance. NBC Staff is continuing to monitor the recently planted fall garden, and will likely be able to harvest some of the vegetables (lettuces, chard and kale) in as soon as a few weeks. We are working to determine the best use, rather the harvest be donated or featured as a special dish/demonstration in the cafeteria. Our Project Search students continue to work in the garden on a regular basis during this critical growing phase.

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Update: Implementation of the Capital BikeShare program. The Capital Bikeshare membership codes were issued by Administrative Operations staff to approximately 135 DOI employees. We have scheduled the Confident City Cycling class, taught by Washington Area Bicyclist Association, for December 13th in the Yates Auditorium. A LAN message notification of the safe bicycling training will be distributed.

HUMAN CAPITAL AND DIVERSITY

Office of Human Resources

New: electronic Official Personnel Folder (eOPF) Access. The Accountability team has arranged for each of its members to have access to eOPF department-wide, now that eOPF has been rolled out across the entire department. This access will facilitate accountability reviews, but also will allow team members to review files remotely and follow-up on ongoing actions.

New: New Senior Executives, Professionals, and HR Specialists. Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget Rhea Suh welcomed forty Senior Executives, Professionals, and HR Specialists to the FY 2011 Senior Executive Service (SES) / Senior-Level (SL)/ Scientific/Professional (ST) Performance Review Board briefing on November 4, 2011. Speaking on behalf of the Executive Resources Board, she provided guidance to Performance Review Board members on the importance of their role in making recommendations for recognition (performance awards) for those individuals who made significant contributions to organizational performance. Performance Review Boards are expected to finish their work the week of November 21, 2011 which will allow for final recognition decisions to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

Update: Human Capital Management Report – The Human Capital team has started gathering information to be placed into OMB MAX HCMR system. Accountability Program Manager Lin Cord has begun transferring some data in to OMB MAX.

Update: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) Human Capital Accountability Review. The Accountability team is preparing for an upcoming review, to be led by the Office of Human Resources (OHR), of the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM). The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE), and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) are all sending volunteers to participate on the review. The review team leader conducted a telecom with the team to go over logistics and other details. In addition, the review team issued a customer perspective survey to all OSM employees and supervisors. OHR also issued a questionnaire to selecting officials and selectees as part of the delegated examining portion of the review. Advance information is due to OHR no later than close of business November 18, 2011. OHR has arranged for the entire team to have access to OSM's eOPF files. This will greatly facilitate the review process because of the elimination of paper records. The Accountability team will also conduct a survey, using Zoomerang, of all selecting officials and employees selected through the delegated examining process by OSM.

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Update: Upcoming Accountability Reviews. All of the bureaus have submitted their accountability review schedules for FY 2012**.** In addition to the OSM review mentioned above, the Accountability team will be participating in the following reviews scheduled over the next several months:

- Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Region 5, Hadley, MA, date TBD
- National Park Service (NPS), Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, MS, date TBD

Update: USAJOBS 3.0 Teleconference Meetings – The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has requested assistance in having agency OHRs review the current "override" locations to determine if it is of better use than the established geographic location codes.

Update: Pathways Programs – Pathways continues to advance in the effort to refine the draft Implementation Guidance. OPM plans to notify the CHCOs of the Subcommittees' progress sometime in January.

Completed: Presidential Rank Awards. Following an extensive nomination process in the spring and a government-wide competition that occurred over the summer months, on September 30, 2011 the President approved two Rank Awards for DOI Executives. Rowan Gould (FWS) will receive the President's rank of Distinguished Executive, with a monetary award of 35% of his pay, and William Dickinson (NPS) will receive the President's rank of Meritorious Executive, with a monetary award of 20% of his pay. Congratulations may be offered now to these deserving executives, however, no public announcements (such as a Departmental Notice or a Press Release) are permitted until the Office of Personnel Management grants permission.

Office of Civil Rights

New: White House Initiative Office on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (WHI-HBCU). On November 15, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) is participating in a strategic planning meeting with the WHI-HBCU. Attendees include Mr. Robert Stanton, Senior Policy Advisor to the Secretary, and the National Park Service Minority Serving Institutions Office. The focus of the meeting is to review existing and develop new strategies to strengthen DOI partnerships with HBCU students and faculty. The meeting is being held in the Main Interior Building, North Penthouse.

New: Diversity Training Event for HR & EEO Community. On November 16, 2011, OCR, Bureau EEO Officers, and HR Practitioners participated in transgender training in the Main Interior Building in the North Penthouse. The training was conducted by Donna Rose, a world class educator on transgender issues. This training is designed to sensitize HR/EEO Practitioners to transgender issues and to provide technical competency for practitioners to handle transitions or complaints based on gender identity.

New: Federal Interagency Diversity Partnership Inaugural Training Day. On November 17, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights participated in the Federal Interagency Diversity Partnership Inaugural Training Day. This training event, entitled *"Promoting Diversity and Inclusion Throughout the Federal Workforce,"* took place at the U.S. Department of Health and Human

Services, Hubert H. Humphrey Building located in Washington, D.C. The training brought together Diversity, EEO, and HR practitioners from Federal agencies to learn best practices and address emerging issues in the areas of Diversity and Inclusion. The keynote speakers and workshop facilitators were senior officials from Federal agencies, including the Office of Personnel Management, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and the Office of Management and Budget.

New: Harpers Ferry Compliance Review. On November 22, 2011 Public Civil Rights Division Chief Sloan Farrell and Senior Equal Opportunity Specialist David Quirino will participate in the first "Feasibility Study" for potential accessibility upgrades to the Goodloe E. Byron Bridge and Spiral Staircase at the Jackson House located at Harper's Ferry Historical National Park (HNP), West Virginia.

New: Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's (EEOC) Office of Federal Operations (OFO) meeting. This week, OCR Director Sharon D. Eller and DOI's Chief Diversity Officer (CDO) John Burden met with EEOC's OFO to begin discussions around building a curriculum for the EEO professional community that addresses diversity and affirmative employment competencies. Their objectives are to improve the affirmative employment programs' capability to instantly connect their managers and supervisors to diverse candidate pools, particularly college graduates in the fields of study in the categories of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), and the Hispanic/Latino community.

Maintaining a citizenry that is well versed in the STEM fields is a key portion of the public education agenda in the United States. The end result of building this course will be a two day training class taught by EEOC, and the CDO to further develop skills in affirmative employment and outreach to minority communities. They also want to teach their EEO professionals how to leverage the active leadership engagement and accountability that the Diversity Change Agent Program has generated. The program will be piloted with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in February 2012.

Update: National American Indian Heritage Month. The Department of the Interior joins the Nation in observing National American Indian Heritage Month, November 1- 30, 2011. The theme for the observance is *"Service, Honor, Respect: Strengthening Our Cultures and Communities."* Since 1976, Presidents of the United States have proclaimed a day, week or month of recognition for Native Americans. During National American Indian Heritage Month, Interior celebrates the rich cultural traditions and proud ancestry of American Indians and Alaskan Natives and recognizes the vital contributions these groups have made to the strength and diversity of our society. In observance of American Indian Heritage Month, Indian Affairs is sponsoring a program on Tuesday, November 29, 2011 in the Sidney Yates Auditorium, Main Interior Building.

Completed: Public Civil Rights Coordinators Meeting. On November 17, 2011, new Public Civil Rights Division Chief Sloan W. Farrell presided over the Public Civil Rights Coordinators meeting held at the Main Interior Building. Sloan, who joined OCR from the General Services Administration (GSA), was introduced to the group by OCR Director Sharon D. Eller. He

discussed his philosophy and explained the importance of compliance reviews. In addition, it gave the group an opportunity to share best practices and where there is need for improvement. The agenda also included the Age Reports which needs to be submitted to the Department of Justice by December 1, 2011. This is a report that deals with age discrimination in Federally-assisted programs, services, or activities.

Completed: Federal Interagency Diversity Partnership Inaugural Training Day. On November 17, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights attended the Federal Interagency Diversity Partnership Inaugural Training Day. This training event, entitled *"Promoting Diversity and Inclusion throughout the Federal Workforce,"* took place at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Hubert H. Humphrey Building in Southwest, Washington, D.C. The event brought Diversity, EEO, and HR practitioners together from various Federal agencies to learn best practices, and address emerging issues in the areas of Diversity and Inclusion. The keynote speakers and workshop facilitators were senior officials from Federal agencies, including the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Office of Strategic Employee and Organizational Development

New: Chief Learning Officers (CLO) Council Meeting: This week, the Office of Strategic Employee Organization Development (OSEOD) Director Sandy Wells attended a CLO meeting at OPM's Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, VA. The group is discussing learning and development initiatives that support cost and operational efficiencies across the federal landscape.

New: Organizational Initiatives: OSEOD has made temporary organizational changes due to a crisis situation at the National Indian Program Training Center (NIPTC) in Albuquerque, NM. We have convened a NIPTC Recovery Team lead by DOIU President Lynn McPheeters to conduct a partial Reduction in Force (RIF) at NIPTC, develop a business plan for future training to be provided by NIPTC, and ensure the stability of NIPTC space issues.

Office of Occupational Safety and Health

New: Industrial Hygiene Workgroup: The Industrial hygiene Workgroup met to review the Departmental Manual (DM) Chapter 21 on Radiation, the National Radon Action Plan, the HPS Welfit earplug testing device provided by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health and the fiscal year (FY) 2012 Exposure Assessment Initiative.

Completed: Safety and Health Council Meeting: The Safety and Health Council met in Herndon on November 17-18, 2011. The agenda included the bureau action plan chapter, the Safety Management Information System (SMIS) progress, radiation safety, and safety week activities for 2012. The council decided to hold two three day meetings in FY 2012 instead of four two day meetings because three of the bureaus have very tight travel budgets. The council

members also toured the National Park Service's Manassas Battlefield Park located in Manassas, VA.

LAW ENFORCEMENT, SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Immediate Office of the DAS

No Change: Short-term Access to Government Computers for Emergency Response. Fire program representatives from Interior and Forest Service hosted a meeting at the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise on October 27-28 for DOI and USDA IT security staffs to see first-hand the set of use cases and business requirements that wildland fire has. The group toured parts of the Fire Center and the next door Boise Interagency Dispatch Center. The meeting was highly successful, with all attendees gaining a greater appreciation of the business requirements and security requirements. As a result of the meeting a formal presentation of the business issues and proposed compensating controls is being developed. This will be presented to the Chief Information Officers in Interior and Agriculture by the end of the year for their approval.

No Change: Radio Transformation. The senior steering group met on November 1 to review the project planner's draft scope and project outline documents. Feedback was given by the group and new drafts will be prepared.

No Change: Fire IT Project. The Roadmap Team met in Boise the week of October 24 to continue development of the strategic goals and objectives and to identify associated action steps. Next meeting is the week of November 28.

No Change: Gulf Coast Response Staffing. The DOI Incident Commander in New Orleans briefed the Senior Advisor in OLESEM and the NPS/FWS regional offices on Coast Guard planning for "Stage 5" organization and the associated Interior staffing that will be required. Interior presence at the incident command in New Orleans is expected to continue through early 2012.

No Change: Interagency Interoperability. The Service First Leadership Team was briefed on the Interagency Interoperability Oversight Group and the current status of addressing barriers to interconnection between agencies (for such things as computer sign-on, video teleconferencing, and connection to other agency peripheral devices). Solutions to these problems require both technical changes and changes in agency policies. The Service First Leadership Team expressed a strong desire for interconnection to enable interagency work to take place more efficiently. A detailed report on status and required resources/actions will be delivered to the Team within 30 days in order for them to assist with resolving the issues.

No Change: Use of National Technical Means (NTM) in Support of Wildland Fire. On August 10 an interagency meeting of representatives from wildland fire, geospatial programs, and the intelligence community took place to discuss opportunities to better utilize information from national technical means assets of the intelligence community in support of various aspects

of the wildland fire program. An interagency governance group to identify requirements and opportunities and to coordinate better delivery of services will be created.

No Change: Civil Applications Committee Coordination. The chair of the CAC (USGS Deputy Director Suzette Kimball) and the Interior CAC representative (Deputy Assistant Secretary – Water and Science) briefed the Deputies Operating Group in March on the mission and purpose of the CAC and solicited bureau input on improving coordination within Interior.

No Change: Interagency Dispatch Improvement. All bureaus/agencies have signed the charter. Plans for a meeting or conference call of the Steering Committee are underway

Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES)

New: OLES is Participating in an Arctic-Issues Meeting. OLES, in collaboration with the Office of International Affairs, it is participating in a State Department-sponsored meeting with Dr. Lawson W. Brigham—one of the foremost experts on Arctic issues—to discuss Arctic-related issues of interest to the U.S. Government.

New: OLES is Coordinating Interagency Threat Analysis. In response to OLES' efforts to educate interagency partners on the intelligence needs of the Department of the Interior, OLES has fielded initial inquiries from both the Department of Homeland Security's Intelligence and Analysis Directorate and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's National Maritime Intelligence Center offering to support the intelligence requirements pertaining to the DOI's land and maritime borders. OLES will schedule meetings to scope the level of support and identify the appropriate representatives to participate in this process.

Update: The OLES is Collaborating with Interagency USG Partners - OLES continues to reach out to its interagency partners to explore shared resourcing and leveraging best practices to achieve cost-effective solutions to its counterintelligence and insider threat programs.

Update: Main Interior Ramps/Bollards. Ramp D is currently closed for the installation of the new bollard system and all deliveries are currently being re-routed to Ramp G.

Update: Updated Security Equipment. OLES purchased and received seven (7) new magnetometers (walk through metal detectors) for MIB and SIB. The new magnetometers are in the process of replacing the current outdated systems located in the lobbies and mailroom. In addition, the Physical Access Control System (PACS) contract will be awarded once FBMS is out of blackout.

No Change: Interagency Security Committee (ISC) Prohibited Items Working Group. OLE, Security Division, is participating in an interagency committee addressing prohibited items in Federal facilities. The Prohibited Items Working Group is chartered to:

- Develop Interagency Department standards prohibiting specific items for entry into all Federal facilities.

- Provide a forum for the ISC to identify by a consensus a list of all prohibited items and an explanation as to why those items are prohibited.
- Develop a process for denying prohibited items into Federal facilities once a list has been agreed upon.
- Obtain a consensus from the Federal community for the standards and/or best practices for the denial process.

No change: The IMARS Cloud Computing Solicitation Issued. The IMARS contracting officer issued the solicitation for IMARS Cloud Computing on October 21. Proposals are due by November 18. The Cloud Computing Initiative is required by the 25 Point Implementation Plan to Reform Federal IT released by the Federal Chief Information Officer from the Office of Management and Budget.

Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

New: Domestic Resilience Group (DRG) Interagency Policy Committee. On November 21, department and agency representatives at the DRG will be asked to concur on a new National Preparedness System Description, a milestone in the implementation of the Presidential Policy Directive 8 on National Preparedness. The DRG will also be briefed on Presidential Policy Directive 7 on Critical Infrastructure, the National Security Professional Development Emergency Management Pilot program, and results of Senior Officials Exercise 3-11 (see item above). Larry Broun will attend.

New: American Council for Technology/Industry Advisory Council. On November 10, Larry Broun participated in a panel discussion at the human capital shared interest group of the American Council for Technology/Industry Advisory Council. ACT/IAC is a non-profit, public-private partnership dedicated to improving government through the application of information technology. The topic involved emergency management activities during the recent earthquake in the Washington, DC, area and methods used by emergency managers to rapidly provide guidance to employees and the public in such situations.

Update: Emergency Response Activities. The Interior Operations Center (IOC) monitored the following activities during the past week:

- *Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Response:* Sixty-six DOI personnel continued to work full-time on Deepwater Horizon cleanup planning and operations. Response activities continue to move forward as the operations transition to USCG Region VIII management, which is described as 90% complete.
- *Dengue Fever Outbreak:* Outbreaks of Dengue Fever have been reported in the Republic of the Marshall Islands and on Yap in the Federated States of Micronesia. Two deaths have been associated with this outbreak on Yap. The CDC, World Health Organization and local health authorities are working to contain these outbreaks.
- *Bering Sea Storm:* On November 8, western Alaska was hit with a huge coastal storm that brought hurricane-force winds, coastal storm surge and blizzard conditions. The storm caused flooding and wind damage to some coastal communities as storm conditions persisted

for more than 24 hours. No significant damage was reported to DOI facilities and no injuries of DOI personnel were reported.

- *Kilauea and Volcano:* Kilauea Volcano remains at Alert Level "Watch," Aviation Color Code "Orange."
- *Wildland Fire Issues:* Nationally, the Wildland Fire Preparedness Level is 1 with light Initial Fire Attack activity. The number of DOI personnel participating on Interagency Firefighting teams averaged around 165 persons daily last week.
- *Earthquake activity:* Aftershock activity continues in Oklahoma from the Magnitude 5.6 earthquake that occurred on November 5. The previous record for the largest Oklahoma quake was a magnitude 5.5 that occurred near El Reno on April 9, 1952.

Update: Indian Affairs Emergency Management Expert Study. The Director of OEM and Bureau of Indian Affairs Chief of Staff will meet again on November 17 to discuss progress on action items identified by the Expert Study. OEM has provided comments on the draft Indian Affairs Policy Manual chapter developed for the Indian Affairs Emergency Management Program. The manual defines the purpose, scope, responsibility and organizations structures needed for the program when responsibility shifts from ASIA to BIA.

Update: Continuity of Operations (COOP) Plan Update. Coordination of the 2011 DOI COOP Plan with bureaus and offices was completed this week. The COOP Plan is now being submitted to the Assistant Secretary – Policy, Management and Budget approval. The new plan contains revisions based on new interagency requirements, lessons learned from exercises, and suggestions from bureau and office team members who have deployed to work from Site C throughout the past year.

Update: Exercise Eagle Horizon-2011 (EH-11). OEM will host a "Concepts and Objectives" meeting for the National Level Exercise (NLE) 2012 on November 15 in the IOC. Bureaus and offices representatives will discuss DOI participation in NLE 2012 events and draft department-level objectives. NLE 2012 will consist of four distinct exercises taking place March-June. The theme tying all of the exercises together is cyber security and response to cyber attack. Eagle Horizon 2012 will be the final exercise in the series, and will focus on COOP operations following cyber and possibly other attacks.

Update: Interagency Emergency Health Policy. LCDR Elaine Bond is currently participating in daily conference calls led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) related to the dengue fever outbreak on the Marshall Islands. LCDR Bond will also be participating in the National Infrastructure Protection Plan's Health/Medical sector quarterly meeting.

Update: Occupant Emergency Planning (OEP). OEM has begun planning for Shelter-in-Place emergency drills in MIB and SIB. OEP Planner Dave Vanderweele OEM is also supporting OLES and OHR on a presentation to MIB and SIB employees on Violence in the Workplace. The NBC Modernization team cancelled a meeting this week to address required modifications to the elevators for emergency egress for people with disabilities; OEM awaits rescheduling of this meeting.

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Update: Online Training Development. OEM met November 7 with DOI University to begin development on "Emergency Management – 101" for DOI EM practitioners. OEM and DOIU are now working to collect content from existing sources and draft an outline of the roles that will be presented in the training course. Two online emergency management training courses are planned for development over the next several months.

Update: Secure Video Teleconference (SVTC). This week, POB provided funding to OCIO to upgrade outdated SVTC equipment at MIB and our alternate site. SVTC is required to coordinate interagency response during continuity events and other emergencies. OCIO will work with the Defense Information Systems Agency to install equipment which is compatible with the interagency Crisis Management System. OEM will continue coordination with POB to address operations and maintenance requirements in FY13 and beyond.

No Change: All-Hazard Incident Management Planning. OEM continues to schedule meetings with BLM, BIA and FWS emergency coordinators to determine how those bureaus will implement the requirement from the Deputies Operating Group to have a single system for dispatching resources. OEM will be working closely with all bureaus to develop business rules as the Department implements the use of IQCS and Resource Ordering Status System (ROSS) for DOI responders.

No Change: National Preparedness Directive/Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8). OEM is working with the FEMA-led PPD-8 Implementation Team to develop the "National Preparedness System Description." This narrative is due to the President in November and was circulated to the Domestic Resilience Group (DRG) for their initial review this week. OEM participated in the PPD-8 Implementation Team's meeting on November 3 to adjudicate comments from the interagency. OEM continues to work with USGS and OEPC to develop the policy to guide PPD-8 related mitigation and recovery planning activities within DOI.

No Change: Exercise Eagle Horizon-2011 (EH-11). OEM and the Site E team finalized the after action report last week, and will publish the report to all participants in November. Participants included most bureaus and several OS offices; discussions included decisions about corrective action planning as well as lessons learned during the successful exercise. Lessons learned from EH-11 will provide a framework for EH-12 planning.

No Change: Multipoint Video Teleconferencing (VTC). OEM and NBC are coordinating the installation of a multipoint VTC capability in the IOC Conference Room. OCIO is working to identify a location for installing a server at its Virginia facility. This capability will provide for internet (IP) and ISDN video teleconferencing in the IOC conference room and at other VTC locations in the Main Interior Building, with no incremental costs for departme

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Final: Corrective Action Program (CAP). The FY11 CAP Status Report has been approved by the Assistant Secretary, Policy, Management and Budget. This report includes an overview of outstanding Corrective Action Recommendations (CAR) and a summary of new issues. Bureaus

and offices identified as leads for CAP issues are tasked to prepare Improvement Plans to guide corrective actions during the next CAP cycle. The new CAR items emanated from the Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill, the National Level Exercise (NLE)-11 catastrophic earthquake exercise, interagency exercise Dark Zephyr which explored readiness for an anthrax emergency, and lessons learned which were compiled for the National Security Staff exploring DOI emergency planning shortfalls should the U.S. suffer an event similar to the tsunami and nuclear power plant emergency in Japan.

Office of Wildland Fire (OWF)

New: LANDFIRE – Monthly Users Conference Call. The LANDFIRE program will hold its monthly user's conference call on November 15 at 3 p.m. EST. This is a reoccurring call which takes place the third Tuesday of each month to discuss progress with improvements, enhancements, and updates to the data products and discuss user feedback on applications and areas of concern.

New: LANDFIRE – Alaska Calibration Workshop. LANDFIRE program representatives met with agency employees from (BIA, BLM, NPS, FWS, and Forest Service) in Fairbanks, AK, last week to review the data products. The workshop had excellent participation with both the meeting and live webinar. Feedback received focused on existing vegetation data and succession disturbance pathways and updates. Workshop also touched on November 15 data contribution opportunity where data stewards and land management leaders can contribute data on this annual cutoff date for data submissions from national/regional/local data sources. Data submitted after November 15 will be considered in future LANDFIRE update cycles

New: Integrated Reporting Wildland Fire Information (IRWIN). IRWIN project is entering its second year. This project is intended to provide data exchange capabilities between existing wildland fire applications, thereby reducing redundant data entry and improving consistency. It will also provide a dashboard capability that will provide a single location to access data operational wildland fire data. The charter has been signed by DOI and USDA FS paving the way for refinement of system requirements. Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) has been selected to develop a conceptual architecture and prototypes in early spring. Stakeholder interviews with various business and application leads will take place in Boise, ID the week of November 14. Additional interviews will occur in the near future with executive leadership in Boise, ID and Washington DC.

Update: **Wildland Fire Cost and Benefits Assessment.** OWF leadership has coordinated with Office of Policy Analysis providing assistance to the OWF for a cost and benefits assessment. During planning meetings a draft strategy has been developed to focus on work and timelines. A conference call will be held in the near future to review the developed draft strategy which outlines work and timelines to address questions that have been raised by GAO, OMB and Senate such as, "Is the Department of the Interior's Wildland Fire management Program cost effective?"

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Update: Wildland Fire Program - Veterans / Youth Opportunities. OWF is working to support veterans and youth employment in the Department's wildland fire programs. Coordination through the Interior Fire Executive Council, OWF is identifying opportunities to increase employment through a multi-bureau cooperative agreement. A draft cooperative agreement is being work through collaboration with the Youth Office, Office of the Solicitor, and Office of Acquisition and Property Management staffs. OWF attended meetings last week focused on veteran hiring options sponsored by the Departments Veterans office.

Update: Hazardous Fuels Reduction (HFR): Activities this week centered on preparations for the Hazardous Fuels Prioritization and Allocation System (HFPAS) After Action Review (AAR). An AAR is to be conducted at the end of each HFPAS cycle, according to policy, as part of the Evaluation and Process Adjustment component. Previous AARs and other reports were reviewed for issues and then consolidated into a package that is intended to serve as the starting point for revising the process for the next analysis cycle. The AAR is currently scheduled for December 2, at the OWF office in Boise, ID. Many field units around the country have been able to implement HFR treatments this fall. More than 25,000 acres of accomplishment has been reported already in FY 2012.

No Change: Wildland Fire Outlook – November 2011 through February 2012. Although significant rainfall has occurred across Oklahoma and Texas during the past month, extreme to exceptional drought conditions continue to persist in both States also in parts of Louisiana, New Mexico, Arizona, Kansas and Arkansas. Extreme drought also persists across most of Georgia and parts of South Carolina and Alabama. For the Southern Geographic Area above normal significant fire potential will continue due to fuel moistures remaining near or worse than critical thresholds. For the Okefenokee Swamp and the site of the previous Honey Prairie Fire, the threat for fire reemergence will remain in place.

No Change: International Fire Program - OWF collaborated with the Office of International Affairs in developing a portion of the draft International Program Strategy. Focus area was centered on the goal of "*Promoting International Cooperation to Manage the Impacts of Wildland Fires*".

No Change: National Wildland Fire Management Cohesive Strategy - Phase II. The Wildland Fire Executive Council (WFEC) finalized the agenda and logistics for the November 9-10 Wildland Fire Leadership Council (WFLC) meeting in Denver, CO. WFLC will meet this week to review Phase II of the National Cohesive Fire Management Strategy, and plan Phase III with the WFEC, the Regional Strategy Committee Chairs, and the National Science and Analysis Team.

Final: Processing Miscellaneous Travel Expenses For a Casual (AD) Hired Under the AD Pay Plan. OWF and the Bureau Incident Business Leads are working with the Office of Financial Management to seek approval for exemption from GovTrip. In early 2009, the FS successfully implemented business rules for paying miscellaneous travel expenses for FS casuals off of the OF-288s. If an exemption is approved specific instructions developed by the interagency business leads will be distributed in the 2012 AD Pay Plan.

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BUDGET, FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND ACQUISITION

Office of Acquisition and Property Management

New: Suspension and Debarment.

- **Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Hearing.** On November 16, 2011, David Sims, the DOI Debarment Program Manager, in his capacity as Chair of the Interagency Suspension and Debarment Committee, participated on a hearing panel before the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee. Mr. Sims' testimony offered observations regarding the role of the Federal procurement and non-procurement suspension and debarment system; and provided an overview of the role of the Interagency Suspension and Debarment Committee.
- **Recent Actions.** On November 7, 2011, DOI issued Notices of Proposed Debarment to Larry Dees, Sr., and Larry Dees, Jr. The proposed debarments are based on the Dees' criminal convictions for violation of the Lacy Act.
- On November 7, 2011, DOI debarred the following individuals:
    - Arthur Greybull, III, based on the fact of his conviction for theft of funds from a tribal organization;
    - Edith M. Kadlec, based on her state conviction for participation in a theft from a nonprofit organization which received DOI funding;
    - Linda Longee Christiansen, based on her conviction for theft of tribal organization funds;
    - Orvel Smith, based upon the fact of his theft of funds from a tribal organization;
    - Jeffrey Brown, based upon the fact of his criminal conviction for violating the Lacy Act; and
    - Mike Kee James, based upon the fact of his conviction for embezzlement of tribal funds.

New: Asset Management Team Meeting. On November 17, 2011, PAM staff and the DAS-Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition led the DOI Asset Management Team meeting. Agenda items included a discussion on the OMB/GSA Utilization Metric for Prospectus Level Leases and briefing on a new GAO engagement on Federal building preservation issues. Other agenda items included status updates on the DOI Real Property Cost Savings and Innovation Plan, Attachment G, Capital Planning and Investment Control (CPIC), and the Condition Assessment System pilot project. The team agreed on a plan going forward to finalize the DOI Real Property Cost Savings and Innovation Plan.

New: Disclosure of Agency Executive Fleet Vehicles on PAM Website. In compliance with President Obama's May 24, 2011, Memorandum on Fleet Performance, PAM posted information on two gasoline/hybrid electric SUVs in the DOI executive fleet on its website. The President's Memorandum requires that within 180 days of the date of issuance, any executive fleet vehicle larger than mid-size sedan, or which does not comply with the requirements for alternative

fueled vehicles, must be disclosed on the agency website. The Memorandum on Fleet Performance requires agency executive fleets to achieve maximum fuel efficiency, be limited in motor vehicle body and engine size, and ensure that optional equipment is limited to that which is essential to meeting agency mission requirements.

Office of Budget

No Change: 2012 Interior Appropriations. On October 14, 2011 the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies released a draft appropriations bill. The Senate mark is $372 million or 3.7 percent above the House mark. The Senate mark provides $10.3 billion for Interior programs, which is $350 million or 3 percent below the 2011 enacted level and $844 million or 7.5 percent below the 2012 President's budget. If the discretionary amounts are adjusted for an additional $93 million in BEOM/BSSE inspection fees and $32.5 million in BLM permit processing fees, the change from 2011 is $224 million or 2.1 percent below the 2011 level.

Report language supporting the draft bill has not been made public. The draft legislation is to serve as the Chairman's mark for the subcommittee and constitutes a starting point for further discussions within the Senate and future negotiations with the House.

Update: 2013 Budget Formulation. OMB Directors' Review is underway as the OMB branches provide their recommendations to OMB Director Jacob Lew in preparation for passback, scheduled for Monday, November, 28, 2011. Key issues anticipated in passback include funding for LWCF and PILT, and the OSM/BLM consolidation proposal.

Office of Financial Management

Update: FY 2011 Financial Report. DOI's FY11 Annual Financial Report was officially released and filed with appropriate entities on the November 15. Congratulations and appreciation to the financial community.

The AFR is an achievement of the entire DOI financial community and includes two noteworthy items that no other Federal agency has accomplished before.

- A Cost-Benefit schedule showing the costs of individual DOI Bureaus compared to the values the Bureaus provide. It is my hope that AFR readers reach the same conclusions we do that the benefits of Interior's programs are worth the taxpayer dollars they consume.
  A video with Rhea Suh discussing the highlights of DOI's efforts and financial achievements. This is one example of our efforts to find innovative ways of communicating DOI financial and program performance in a manner that readers will find useful.
  The FY 2011 Consolidated AFR and Rhea Suh's Video is now posted to the PFM website. http://www.doi.gov/pfm/par/afr2011/index.html

Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget
Weekly Office Reports
November 21, 2011

New: Payment Recapture Audits. The Department is submitting to the Congress a plan approved by OMB on its compliance with the Improper Payment Elimination and Recovery Act of 2010. PFM submitted a procurement package to the National Business Center Acquisition Directorate (AQD) to obtain contractor services to perform payment recapture audits (formerly known as recovery audits). Office of Management and Budget guidance states reporting on payment recapture audits efforts is necessary in order to meet the new criteria outlined in the Improper Payment Elimination and Recovery Act of 2010. AQD is currently reviewing the statement of work, independent government cost estimate, suggested sources and prior recovery audit contract that PFM administered under the former improper payment legislation, the Improper Payment Information Act of 2002. PFM anticipates commencing payment recapture audits through the Departmental Offices, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, and Bureau of Reclamation in January or February 2012.

New: General Administration Service's (GSA) Independent Validation and Verification (IV&V) Testing. PFM participated in General Administration Service's IV&V testing on the new government-wide master contract of the electronic travel system (ETS2) in Arlington, Virginia. During the IV&V sessions, agency representatives executed different travel scenarios to test the functionality, usability and security of the travel systems offered by the industry vendors. Recommendations and feedback submitted by the agency testers will enable GSA to work with the ETS2 vendors in developing the next generation of travel systems that will be offered to Federal agencies when the current ETS1 master contract expires in 2013.

Update: GAO Reports and Entrance/Exit Conferences.

- PFM submitted signed letters to GAO in response to their report on *Interagency Contracting* (GAO-11-784), and added one recommendation to the tracking system for implementation.
- PFM attended the GAO exit conference regarding their review--*BLM Hardrock Financial Assurances*. The draft report is expected to be issued next week for agency comments with one recommendation for BLM. This is an update of the report issued in 2008 where GAO found that the financial assurances that were in place as of November 2007 were inadequate to cover estimated reclamation costs. GAO also found that BLM's approach for determining the adequacy of financial assurances was not useful because it did not clearly lay out the extent to which financial assurances are inadequate.
- PFM attended the GAO entrance conference regarding the *Review of Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Oversight of Risks Posed to Nuclear Reactors by Natural Disasters*. Although NRC is the focus of this review, GAO wants to understand USGS role in developing and assessing data on natural hazards.

<u>Office of Planning and Performance Management</u>

Update: Priority (Performance) Goals. The final fourth quarter (FY 2011) status reports for the FY 2010-2011 Priority Goal targets have been integrated and were used by the Deputy Secretary for the quarterly status reviews held on November 9 and 15. Results are being posted to www.performance.gov in accordance with OMB's timeline.

Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget
Weekly Office Reports
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Update: Annual Performance Plan and Report (APP&R). PPP issued guidance for preparation of an integrated Annual Performance Plan/Performance Report and will be seeking review and update of FY 2012 targets by the Performance Management Council membership on a draft APP&R by December 6.

Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization

New Item: Improving Small Business Procurement Data – Quality and Process. In accordance with an Office of Procurement Policy (OFPP) memo signed on November 14, 2011 the Small Business Administration will continue to provide agencies with anomaly reports for Fiscal Year 2011 data reviews. The reports will focus on high risk and high impact contracts. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2012 the process will focus on review of contracts with the highest potential for questions or errors.

Update: Small Business Goals and Accomplishments. As of November 15, the Department had awarded **54.58 percent** of its Fiscal Year 2011 contract dollars to small business. Initial results reported from the Federal Procurement Data System, Next Generation (FPDS-NG) indicate that BIA, BLM, FWS and USGS all exceeded their annual goals for small business contracting. The Department's overall small business goal agreed upon with the Small Business Administration (SBA) is 51.5 percent.

Update: Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Zone Changes. The Small Business Administration issued a memo regarding updates to the HUB Zone Program on November 8, 2011. Approximately 2,600 HUB Zone small businesses have been proposed for decertification as a result of the 2010 census data. Agencies with contracts with firms that may be decertified will continue to receive HUB Zone credit if the firm was a HUB Zone firm at the time of award. Agencies will continue to receive HUB Zone credit until the five year recertification process is completed.

FBMS Program Management Office (PMO)

Update: FWS Go-Live. On November 10, 2011, FBMS was deployed to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and deployment to the Departmental Offices took place on November 14. The deployment made available the following business management functions: acquisition, core financials, financial assistance, fleet management, and personal property management. The FWS deployment was delayed three days to ensure the highest quality conversion possible.

Update: FBMS Executive Steering Committee (ESC) Meeting. On November 8, the monthly FBMS ESC meeting was held. The primary discussion topics of the November 8 meeting were the status of D6 Go-Live, Value Capture Pilot Initiatives, three-way match versus two-way match for reimbursable agreements, and data protocols related to FBMS. The delay of FBMS Go-Live at FWS and DO, when the issues were expected to be resolved, and the process for approving Go-Live once they were resolved were discussed. During the meeting, updates were also presented by the FBMS PMO on FBMS production and deployment activities; and by

the Departmental Offices and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on their deployment statuses; and by the NBC on the status of their FBMS support activities. The next FBMS ESC meeting is scheduled for December 13, 2011.

Departmental Offices FBMS Implementation Office (OS IMO)

New: D6 FBMS Go-Live in the Office of the Secretary and Departmental Offices! On November 14, the Departmental Offices achieved the final approval to go live. DO began loading budget and catch-up activities will follow. Thanks to everyone who worked tirelessly to ensure the successful go-live for DO.

New: Daily OS Catch Up Conference Call. Beginning November 15, the OS FBMS IMO will be hosting a daily conference call with the 300+ users who were identified as "Catch Up" users after "Go Live". This daily conference call will be held at noon for one hour until end of month November.

No change: Training for Go-Live. The FBMS IMO D6 training continues. Currently over 500 users have completed training with very few instances of "no show". The IMO continues to provide tailored, course specific communications with critical class related information from the generic mailbox – OS_FBMS_IMO@ios.doi.gov.

No change: Project Status Meetings. The FBMS IMO D6 team continues to host weekly project status meetings with FBMS stakeholders every Friday beginning at 11:00 am – 12:00 pm in the Herndon Atrium Bldg, Reston Conference Room. WebEx and call in will be available.

No change: OS Implementation Office is *Tweeting*! Follow us on Twitter "*@OSFBMS*". This social media forum is an opportunity for our OS community to ask questions, send comments, and learn more about the Deployment 6 Financial and Business Management Systems and the Implementation Management Office

OFFICE OF NATURAL RESOURCES REVENUE

Office of Natural Resources Revenue

Indian Oil Negotiated Rulemaking (Update): ONRR is in the process of forming a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee (Committee) to address the valuation of crude oil produced from Indian leases. ONRR worked with the Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution and the Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to obtain a third party neutral to serve as facilitator for the Committee. The Secretary signed a second *Federal Register* Notice of Intent, published August 22, 2011, to establish the Committee and propose the membership. The comment period on this notice expired September 21, 2011. **ONRR received three additional nominees for committee membership and is vetting them through the White House liaison. We have also routed the Notice of Establishment and the Charter for the Secretary's signature.** The target date for the first meeting of the Committee is now February 2012.

Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget
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Strategic Review Implementation Work Groups (IWGs) Update (New): The ONRR Strategic Review FY 2012 IWGs continue to make progress. On November 10, 2011, five of the six IWGs – *Performance Accountability, Integrated Approach to a Large Independent Producer (Apache), Define Common Outcomes and Establish Joint Strategies, Formalize Job Rotations and Cross Training, and Develop a Collective Knowledge Strategy* – presented an overview of their project plans to the ONRR Senior Managers with a primary focus on key milestones and project deliverables. The remaining FY 2012 IWG – *Compliance Risk Tool Enhancement* - will present an overview of their project plan to the Senior Managers on a future date.

On November 21, 2011, the QSC is meeting with the Institutionalize Strategic Review/Enhance Measures Implementation Work Group (ISR IWG) to review the data provided by sponsors for proposed measurement areas and metrics. One of the strategic initiatives for the ISR IWG is to ensure ONRR is measuring the right things, especially related to the three strategic outcomes:

- *Companies timely comply with laws, regulations, and lease terms and pay every dollar due*
- *States, Tribes, Indian mineral owners, U.S. Treasury, and other entities receive timely, accurate revenues and data*

The public trusts ONRR's professionalism, integrity, efficiency, and quality.

OIG - Reports Awaiting Management Response

November 18, 2011

Reports	Report Title	Bureau/ Office	Status	Response Due Date	Contact	Comments	PFM Action/Remarks
ER-IS-BIA-0010-2011	U.S. Department of the Interior Program Startup Inspection: Bureau of Indian Affairs Youth Initiative Program	IA	Due	12/14/2011	Patty Vendzules 703-390-6458		
ER-IS-BOR-0012-2011	U.S. Department of the Interior Program Startup Inspection: Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Grant Program	USBR	Due	12/14/2011	Elaine Ferrari 303-445-2788		
ER-IS-OSM-0011-2011	U.S. Department of the Interior Program Startup Inspection: Office of Surface Mining Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative	OSM	Due	12/14/2011	Towanna Thompson 202-208-2726		
Final R-GR-FWS-0004-2011	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Grants Awarded to the State of Georgia, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, From July 1, 2008, Through June 30, 2010	FWS	Complete	11/7/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		Response received by the OIG on 11/17/11.
Draft R-GR-FWS-0007-2011	Maryland Dept of Natural Resources	FWS	Extension	11/21/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0008-2011	Michigan Dept of Natural Resources & Environment	FWS	Extension	11/21/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0009-2011	Hawaii Dept of Land and Natural Resources	FWS	Extension	11/29/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0010-2011	Maine Dept of Marine Resources	FWS	Extension	11/21/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0011-2011	North Dakota Game and Fish	FWS	Complete	11/17/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		Response received by the OIG on 10/31/11.
Draft WR-EV-FWS-0003-2011	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Conservation Easement Monitoring and Enforcement	FWS	Complete	11/14/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		Response submitted to the OIG on 11/15/11.
Final WR-EV-OST-0010-2011	Indian Land Consolidation Advisory: Need for an Appraisal Tracking System	OST		12/31/2011	Ray Joseph 202-208-3947		

Early Alert - Coming up
Due - Due within 10 business days or less of the response due date.
Late - After the response due date.
Extension - Reports that have been granted a response due date extension.
Completed - Response sent to OIG.

From: Burke, Marcilynn
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Fw: EPAP and 2011 Accomplishments
Date: Sunday, November 06, 2011 9:50:12 AM
Attachments: Final 2011 EPAP_11_05_11.pdf
Accomplishments for 2011 EPAP_11_05_11.docx

Thanks,

Marcilynn A. Burke
Acting Asst. Secretary, Land and Minerals Mgmt.
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-6734 (voice) (202) 208-3619 (fax)
Marcilynn_Burke@ios.doi.gov

From: Burke, Marcilynn
Sent: Saturday, November 05, 2011 08:31 PM
To: Burke, Marcilynn; Burke, Marcilynn A; (b) (6)
Subject: EPAP and 2011 Accomplishments

Thanks,

Marcilynn

Marcilynn A. Burke
Acting Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management
U.S. Department of the Interior • 1849 C St., NW • Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-6734 (voice) • (202) 208-3619 (fax)
Marcilynn_Burke@ios.doi.gov

Accomplishments for 2011 EPAP

Element 1

Strategic Alignment

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Leadership, Integrity and Effective Supervision

(b) (5), (b) (6)

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Diversity Advocacy and EEO

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 2

Internal Controls and Business Results

(b) (5), (b) (6)

(b) (5), (b) (6)

IT

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Customer Feedback (including transparency and collaboration)

(b) (5), (b) (6)

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 3

Native American Communication and Consultation/Cultural and Historic Preservation

Tribal Consultation

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Historic Preservation

(b) (5), (b) (6)

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 4

Oil and Gas

Leasing Reform

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Fracking

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Royalty

(b) (5), (b) (6)

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Air MOU

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 5

AGO and the National Landscape Conservation System

AGO

(b) (5), (b) (6)

LWCF

(b) (5), (b) (6)

NLCS

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Lands with Wilderness Characteristics

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 6

Governmental Affairs

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Form Fillable Version

Performance Agreement and Appraisal
Department of the Interior Senior Executive Service

Executive's Name: Marcilynn A. Burke		Bureau/Office: Bureau of Land Management/Office of the Secretary
Title: Deputy Director, Programs & Policy/Acting ASLM	Location: Washington, DC	Rating Period: Oct. 1, 2010 - July 27, 2011/July 28 - Sept. 30, 2011

Executives in the Department of the Interior are accountable for supporting DOI strategies, objectives and goals. This Agreement identifies critical job elements and establishes performance requirements for each element. As described below, executives will be appraised on critical elements in two categories: 1) Two *Departmentwide Elements*, which include responsibilities shared by all executives, and 2) up to six *Position-specific elements*, which are specific to individual executives and are linked to organizational goals and objectives. Each executive's performance must be appraised against these performance requirements (set at the beginning of each appraisal period).

Part I: Consultation

The signatures below certify that the supervisor has developed the performance agreement in consultation with the executive, discussed the agreement with the executive, and provided examples of behaviors that would/would not meet the performance standards. The discussion occurs at the beginning of the performance rating period. The executive is given a copy of the agreement.

Executive's Signature:	Date:
Rating Official's Name: Signature:	Date:
Reviewing Official's Signature (Optional):	Date:

Part II: Progress Review

Executive's Signature:	Date:
Rating Official's Signature:	Date:
Reviewing Official's Signature (Optional):	Date:

Part III: Annual Summary Rating

Rating Official: ☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Rating Official's Signature:	Date:
Reviewing Official's Signature (Optional):	Date:

This evaluation has been discussed with me and I have been given a copy. I am aware that if I decide to submit a narrative response and/or request a higher level review, one or both must be submitted in writing within 10 workdays of receipt of my evaluation (see instructions).

Employee's Signature:	Date:

Check if applicable: ☐ *I request a higher level review.*

Performance Review Board Recommendation:
☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

If recommended rating differs from initial summary rating, the Board must identify specific elements where there is disagreement and rationale for recommendation.

PRB Chairperson's Signature:	Date:

Final Rating: ☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Recognition: _____% Pay Increase _____% Performance Award $_____Special Act Award _____Hours Time Off

Appointing Authority (or Designee) Signature:	Date:

Clear Form Print Form Save Form

Element Rating Definitions

Exceptional - Consistently delivered on assignments and commitments; displayed outstanding leadership in promoting the organization's strategic goals and initiatives; demonstrated the highest level of integrity and accountability in achieving program and management goals. Contributions had an impact beyond his or her immediate purview. Executive exerted a major positive influence on management practices, operating procedures or program implementation, which contributed substantially to organizational change, growth and recognition. This executive's expertise, advice and opinions are sought and respected by peers.

Superior - Performance is between the levels described for Exceptional and Fully Successful. Performance outcomes and results of the executive's leadership surpassed expectations by exceeding the majority of performance requirements. Effectiveness and contributions may have had an impact beyond the executive's purview and performance is well beyond what is expected or required for the position. Consistently demonstrated the highest level of integrity and accountability in achieving program and management goals. Served as a source of leadership and motivation for peers and subordinates.

Fully Successful – Performance demonstrates the Fully Successful level of accomplishment through observable outcomes or achievement of or substantial progress toward agreed-upon critical action, objective, and/or desired result. Expectations were consistently met with solid, dependable performance. Performance reflects notable achievements and the executive regularly demonstrated the ability to meet the difficult and complex requirements inherent in SES positions, while consistently demonstrating the highest level of integrity and accountability in achieving all program objectives and management goals; *no areas of performance are deficient.*

Minimally Successful - Performance is between the levels described for Fully Successful and Unsatisfactory. Overall performance was marginally acceptable and occasionally less than Fully Successful. The executive had difficulties in meeting performance expectations. Actions taken by the executive were sometimes inappropriate or marginally effective. Immediate improvement in performance is essential.

Unsatisfactory - Performance fails to demonstrate the Fully Successful level of accomplishment or progress toward the agreed-upon critical action, objective and/or desired result to such an extent that *it results in demonstrable negative consequences for the organization*. Removal from the position is required.

Part IV: Rating Calculation

Reason for Rating ☐ Annual Rating ☐ Departure Rating ☐ Other _____

Mandatory Departmentwide Elements					
Element 1	☐ Exceptional	☐ Superior	☐ Fully Successful	☐ Minimally Successful	☐ Unsatisfactory
Element 2	☐ Exceptional	☐ Superior	☐ Fully Successful	☐ Minimally Successful	☐ Unsatisfactory
Position-specific Elements					
Element 3	☐ Exceptional	☐ Superior	☐ Fully Successful	☐ Minimally Successful	☐ Unsatisfactory
Element 4	☐ Exceptional	☐ Superior	☐ Fully Successful	☐ Minimally Successful	☐ Unsatisfactory
Element 5	☐ Exceptional	☐ Superior	☐ Fully Successful	☐ Minimally Successful	☐ Unsatisfactory
Element 6	☐ Exceptional	☐ Superior	☐ Fully Successful	☐ Minimally Successful	☐ Unsatisfactory
Element 7	☐ Exceptional	☐ Superior	☐ Fully Successful	☐ Minimally Successful	☐ Unsatisfactory
Element 8	☐ Exceptional	☐ Superior	☐ Fully Successful	☐ Minimally Successful	☐ Unsatisfactory

Conversion to Initial Summary Rating:

The executive's rating is determined by using the formula below, taking into consideration the ratings for the two Departmentwide elements and each Position-specific element. The definitions below describe the minimums for each rating level. If the individual ratings on the elements meet the definition for a higher summary rating level, the higher summary rating level applies.

☐ **Exceptional**	☐ **Superior**	☐ **Fully Successful**	☐ **Minimally Successful**	☐ **Unsatisfactory**
Rated Exceptional on 75% or more of the elements; no elements rated below Superior.	Rated Superior on 75% or more of the elements; no elements rated below Fully Successful.	Rated Fully Successful or higher on all elements.	Rated Minimally Successful on one or more elements, no elements are rated Unsatisfactory.	Rated Unsatisfactory on any element.

If plan has 8 elements total, 75% = 6 elements; If plan has 7 elements total, 75% = 6 elements
If plan has 6 elements total, 75% = 5 elements; If plan has 5 elements total, 75% = 4 elements

Part V: The Performance Elements

All Interior executives share certain critical responsibilities that are instrumental for achieving results. Set forth below, Mandatory Department-wide Elements 1 and 2 reflect the core competencies of Department executives—what is important to Interior as an organization. These Mandatory Department-wide responsibilities guide the achievement of the incumbent's Position-Specific Elements (Elements 3-8). The Executive and immediate supervisor jointly review all elements at the beginning of the rating period and during at least one mid-term progress review to ensure mutual understanding of performance expectations.

Element 1: Mandatory Department-wide Executive Responsibilities—Leadership, Employee Perspective, and Collaboration (Fully Successful Standard)

Strategic Alignment: Develops, prioritizes and aligns strategies, objectives and goals, taking into account key influences on organizational performance. Successfully leads organizational change to achieve Secretarial initiatives and high priority goals, effectively communicating the organization's mission, core values, and strategic goals to employees and stakeholders. Engages stakeholders and employees in change efforts, problem solving, streamlining, and/or reengineering of processes or procedures to improve organizational effectiveness.

Leadership, Integrity and Effective Supervision: Creates and sustains a positive workplace that promotes employee engagement to support Interior's high priority performance goals and Secretarial initiatives. Exhibits leadership style that demonstrates integrity and high ethical standards of public service. Motivates others to achieve high performance through open and honest communication. Promotes a learning organization through feedback and coaching; required employee development plans; access to training; and timely completion of all mandatory training (ethics, security, etc.) Establishes and maintains a culture of professionalism and integrity where employees are treated with dignity and respect. Fosters inclusion, creativity, innovation, initiative, risk-taking, and trust among employees and peers. Implements recruitment, retention and developmental strategies that support organizational objectives, agency hiring goals and successful transition of highly qualified employees into Federal service, and workforce and succession planning to develop the next generation of leaders. Sets effective workforce performance standards aligned with organizational goals and engages in accountable performance management of subordinates. Uses feedback, coaching and timely evaluations of performance to promote teamwork and goal accomplishment. Provides appraisals that make meaningful distinctions in performance of subordinates. Appropriately recognizes and rewards performance of subordinates. Advocates a safe and healthy workplace by promoting awareness of appropriate policies, practices and procedures to avoid preventable injuries and loss of work.

Diversity Advocacy and EEO: Promotes an inclusive workplace, recognizing differences and varied perspectives; is a role model for inclusion, acceptance, and accountability; provides fair and equitable recognition and equal opportunity, and promptly and appropriately addresses allegations of harassment or discrimination. Demonstrates a commitment to equal employment opportunity and implements the EEO and affirmative employment goals. Makes employment decisions without regard to sex, race, color, national origin, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation or identification, prior participation in the EEO process, or any other non-merit reason. Ensures subordinate supervisors have effective managerial, communication and interpersonal skills to supervise and promote a diverse workforce. Actively supports policies on anti-harassment and reasonable accommodation.

Element 1: Executive Provides Highlights of Accomplishments at the End of the Rating Period

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 1: Supervisor's Rating of Executive's Performance and Supporting Narrative Justification

☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Element 2: Mandatory Department-wide Executive Responsibilities—Business Acumen (Fully Successful Standard)

Internal Controls and Business Results: Achieves the goals of the acquisition improvement plan, advances strategic sourcing, advances asset management through improved FCI/increased disposition/reducing backlogs, takes steps to reduce travel and administrative costs, improves internal controls and audit results, advances transparency and accountability. Contributes substantially to improving energy conservation, sustainability, and environmental justice.

IT: Ensures awareness of and compliance with applicable IT security, records management, FOIA and privacy laws, regulations and policies. Implements technical, managerial and operational controls commensurate with risks and values to be protected; identifies and protects sensitive information; completes required training; produces quality certification and accreditation packages; ensures timely and effective response or remediation of IT security weaknesses or privacy incidents. Identifies opportunities to reduce IT complexity and cost.

Customer Feedback: Listens to, colleagues, customers, labor organizations with exclusive employee representation to identify needs and expectations. Builds alliances, involves stakeholders in making decisions, and gains cooperation to achieve mutually satisfying solutions. Pursuant to Executive Order 13175, actively engages, where appropriate, with Tribes in consultation to promote enhanced communication to emphasize trust, respect and shared responsibility. Understands and uses organizational realities, networks, and accepted practices to achieve desired business results. Uses collaborative techniques and tools such as alternative dispute resolution, adaptive management or structured decision-making to foster partnering and collaboration. Builds trust and cooperative working relationships with stakeholders within and outside the organization. Promotes openness, transparency and collaboration, observing the "open government" initiative.

Element 2: Executive Provides Highlights of Accomplishments at the End of the Rating Period

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 2: Supervisor's Rating of Executive's Performance and Supporting Narrative Justification

☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Position-Specific Elements

In the spaces below, the executive and his or her immediate supervisor must describe *at least three, but no more than six* critical actions, objectives—including expected results—that the incumbent will be expected to accomplish during the performance rating period. These elements must be derived from and directly contribute to the Government's, Department's, bureau's or office's or program priorities and tier from the Department's Strategic Plan, the President's Priority Goals, bureau strategic or operational plans, program-specific plans, legislative and/or budgetary requirement, and/or specific discipline goals. These elements may be modified during the evaluation period if circumstances warrant. Changes must be made at least 90 days before the end of the evaluation period to prevent having to extend the evaluation period.

Element 3: Position-Specific (Mandatory)

Describe Commitment and Expected Results:

(b) (5), (b) (6)

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 3: Executive Provides Highlights of Accomplishments at the End of the Rating Period

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 3: Supervisor's Rating of Executive's Performance and Supporting Narrative Justification

☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Element 4: Position-Specific (Mandatory)

Describe Commitment and Expected Results:

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Describe the Link to Strategic or Organizational Goals:

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 4: Executive Provides Highlights of Accomplishments at End of the Rating Period

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 4: Supervisor's Rating of Executive's Performance and Supporting Narrative Justification

☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Element 5: Position-Specific (Mandatory)

Describe Commitment and Expected Results:

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Describe the Link to Strategic or Organizational Goals:

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 5: Executive Provides Highlights of Accomplishments at the End of the Rating Period

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 5: Supervisor's Rating of Executive's Performance and Supporting Narrative Justification

☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Element 6: Position-Specific

Describe Commitment and Expected Results:

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Describe the Link to Strategic or Organizational Goals:

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 6: Executive Provides Highlights of Accomplishments at the End of the Rating Period

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Element 6: Supervisor's Rating of Executive's Performance and Supporting Narrative Justification

☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Element 7: Position-Specific

Describe Commitment and Expected Results:

Describe the Link to Strategic or Organizational Goals:

Element 7: Executive Provides Highlights of Accomplishments at the End of the Rating Period

Element 7: Supervisor's Rating of Executive's Performance and Supporting Narrative Justification

☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Element 8: Position-Specific

Describe Commitment and Expected Results:

Describe the Link to Strategic or Organizational Goals:

Element 8: Executive Provides Highlights of Accomplishments at the End of the Rating Period

Element 8: Supervisor's Rating of Executive's Performance and Supporting Narrative Justification

☐ Exceptional ☐ Superior ☐ Fully Successful ☐ Minimally Successful ☐ Unsatisfactory

Privacy Act Notice
This statement is provided pursuant to the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, for individuals who have been requested to submit a statement of accomplishment/self-assessment. The authority to solicit this information is derived from 5 USC 4301, et seq., and 5 CFR Part 430, Performance Management. In order to allow you the opportunity to provide input into the evaluation process, management may request this information from you. Your supervisory officials will consider the information you furnish in preparing an evaluation of your performance or conducting periodic progress reviews. The information contained in your performance evaluation may be disclosed to Department employees who have a need for the record in their official duties. Disclosures may also be made under routine uses published in the Federal Register for Privacy Act system of records, OPM/GOVT-2, Employee Performance File System of Records. Disclosures may be made to the Office of Personnel Management, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Federal Labor Relations Authority and others, when relevant and necessary to the performance of their authorized duties. Failure to furnish any or all of this information may result in your supervisors preparing your evaluation, or conducting a progress review, without considering information you may feel is relevant or significant.

From:	Burke, Marcilynn
To:	"maburke@uh.edu"
Subject:	Fw: Meeting tomorrow on Grand Canyon/Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS
Date:	Wednesday, September 07, 2011 1:09:43 PM
Attachments:	Northern Arizona Grand Canyon - Explanation of Changes in Econ Analysis-2011-09-02.pdf

---

Thanks,

Marcilynn A. Burke
Acting Asst. Secretary, Land and Minerals Mgmt.
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-6734 (voice) (202) 208-3619 (fax)

From: Lin, Janet H
Sent: Wednesday, September 07, 2011 12:43 PM
To: Moody, Aaron; Castle, Anne; 'CN=Benjamin Tuggle/OU=RO/OU=R2/OU=FWS/O=DOI@FWS' <CN=Benjamin Tuggle/OU=RO/OU=R2/OU=FWS/O=DOI@FWS>; 'CN=Bert Frost/OU=WASO/O=NPS@NPS' <CN=Bert Frost/OU=WASO/O=NPS@NPS>; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Screnar, Brian; Horyza, Christopher L; Mansour, Christopher; Walker, Claudia B; 'CN=Corbin Newman/OU=R3/O=USDAFS@FSNOTES' <CN=Corbin Newman/OU=R3/O=USDAFS@FSNOTES>; 'CN=Dan Ashe/OU=ARL/OU=R9/OU=FWS/O=DOI@FWS' <CN=Dan Ashe/OU=ARL/OU=R9/OU=FWS/O=DOI@FWS>; Laverdure, Del; 'Edward_A_Boling@ios.doi.gov' <Edward_A_Boling@ios.doi.gov>; Urban, Heather; 'CN=Jane M Lyder/OU=GRCA/O=NPS@NPS' <CN=Jane M Lyder/OU=GRCA/O=NPS@NPS>; Whitlock, Jenna; Kenna, James G; 'CN=John Wessels/OU=DENVER/O=NPS@NPS' <CN=John Wessels/OU=DENVER/O=NPS@NPS>; 'CN=Jon Jarvis/OU=WASO/O=NPS@NPS' <CN=Jon Jarvis/OU=WASO/O=NPS@NPS>; 'CN=Judy J Nowakowski/OU=DO/OU=USGS/O=DOI@USGS' <CN=Judy J Nowakowski/OU=DO/OU=USGS/O=DOI@USGS>; Hawbecker, Karen; Lane, Kenneth; Haugrud, Jack; Echohawk, Larry; Luckey, Lauren; Faeth, Lori; Burke, Marcilynn A; 'CN=Martha Hahn/OU=GRCA/O=NPS@NPS' <CN=Martha Hahn/OU=GRCA/O=NPS@NPS>; 'CN=Maureen Foster/OU=WASO/O=NPS@NPS' <CN=Maureen Foster/OU=WASO/O=NPS@NPS>; Conklin, Meghan M; 'CN=Michael V Shulters/OU=DO/OU=USGS/O=DOI@USGS' <CN=Michael V Shulters/OU=DO/OU=USGS/O=DOI@USGS>; 'CN=Mike R Williams/OU=R3/O=USDAFS@FSNOTES' <CN=Mike R Williams/OU=R3/O=USDAFS@FSNOTES>; Nedd, Michael D; Pool, Michael J; Tsosie, Paul; 'CN=Peggy O'Dell/OU=WASO/O=NPS@NPS' <CN=Peggy O'Dell/OU=WASO/O=NPS@NPS>; Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor; Cardinale, Richard; Abbey, Robert V; Florence, Scott R; 'CN=Suzanne D Weedman/OU=DO/OU=USGS/O=DOI@USGS' <CN=Suzanne D Weedman/OU=DO/OU=USGS/O=DOI@USGS>; 'CN=Suzette M Kimball/OU=DO/OU=USGS/O=DOI@USGS' <CN=Suzette M Kimball/OU=DO/OU=USGS/O=DOI@USGS>; Baca, Sylvia; 'CN=Tim DeCoster/OU=WO/O=USDAFS@FSNOTES' <CN=Tim DeCoster/OU=WO/O=USDAFS@FSNOTES>; 'CN=Tom Tidwell/OU=WO/O=USDAFS@FSNOTES' <CN=Tom Tidwell/OU=WO/O=USDAFS@FSNOTES>; 'CN=Doug Crandall/OU=WO/O=USDAFS@FSNOTES' <CN=Doug Crandall/OU=WO/O=USDAFS@FSNOTES>; Burke, Marcilynn A; Davis, Laura; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Kelly, Kate P; Nedd, Michael D; Leverette, Mitchell; Suazo, Raymond M; Boddington, Celia; Leff, Craig S; Horyza, Christopher L; Burke, Marcilynn; Caramanian, Lori
Subject: Meeting tomorrow on Grand Canyon/Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS

All – Just a reminder of the second briefing on Grand Canyon/Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. in 5071. Lauren Luckey (Lauren_luckey@blm.gov) has

sent the scheduling request – please contact her with any adjustments.

Attached is response developed by the contractor to the economic analysis questions raised at the previous briefing along with a revised table. If you have additional questions, please e-mail them to Chris_Horyza@blm.gov, Jim_Kenna@blm.gov, with a cc: to Janet_Lin@blm.gov

We also will be providing additional materials for the meeting, including a revised schedule, later today.

Thank you.

<<Northern Arizona Grand Canyon - Explanation of Changes in Econ Analysis-2011-09-02.pdf>>

AUGUST 12 Memorandum Sent:

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

TO: David J. Hayes, Deputy Secretary

Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary

Laura Davis, Chief of Staff

Matt Lee-Ashley, Deputy Chief of Staff

Christopher Mansour, Director, Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs

Marcilynn Burke, Acting Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management

Anne Castle, Assistant Secretary, Water and Science

Rachel Jacobson, Acting Assistant Secretary, Fish and Wildlife, and Parks

Larry Eco Hawk, Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs

Jonathan Jarvis, Director, National Park Service

Marcia McNutt, Director, U.S. Geological Survey

Daniel M. Ashe, Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Hilary Tompkins, Solicitor

FROM: Robert V. Abbey, Director, Bureau of Land Management

CC: Doug Crandall, Acting Undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Tom Tidwell, Chief, U.S. Forest Service

SUBJECT: Schedule for Completion of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal

Completion of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal is a Secretarial priority. In order to maintain the schedule, specific windows of review will be provided during which Executive Oversight Team members may brief their respective Directors and Assistant Secretaries and provide for review. In addition, the Executive Oversight Team will be arranging two Department-wide video briefings.

Review of the preliminary Final EIS must occur over a seven day period from August 18 - 25, 2011. This review will occur concurrently for all agencies at all levels, including the agencies, the Departments, the Solicitor's Office, and the Cooperating Agencies. Interagency representatives on the Executive Oversight Team and the Management Team, as well as members of the Solicitor's office, have been engaged in the drafting process.

The August 18 – 25 review period will be the last and final opportunity for making any changes to the Final EIS before it is released to the public. We are requesting that each agency or Departmental office contact Chris Horyza (Chris_Horyza@blm.gov) with the name and e-mail of a single coordinating Point of Contact by August 16. Chris will grant those individuals access to the Data Share Site that will link to the preliminary Final EIS.

The Executive Oversight Team will conduct a video briefing (#1) on August 30, summarizing the public comments received during the review, and the planned steps to complete the FEIS. The briefing will include any major issues, what we can be done to address them, and description of approaches rejected as unrealistic due to time constraints. An additional video briefing (#2) will be held on prior to the release Final EIS, during which ROD development also will be discussed, on September 8.

To stay on schedule, approval for release of the Final EIS can be no later than September 16th.

SCHEDULE

August 12: Executive Oversight Team – BLM Arizona State Director Jim Kenna outlines

responsibility of each member to brief their respective Directors and Assistant Secretaries on the preliminary Final EIS

August 18 – 25: Interagency and Departmental Review period for the preliminary Final EIS

Executive Oversight Team conduct optional briefings on preliminary Final EIS for their respective Directors and Assistant Secretaries

August 30?: Video Briefing #1: Executive Oversight Team Provides a Video Briefing to interested parties on preliminary Final EIS and responses to public comments

September 8: Video Briefing #2: Executive Oversight Team Provides a Video Briefing to interested parties before release of Final EIS and on Record of Decision development

September 8-15: Executive Oversight Team members conduct optional briefings on release of Final EIS for their respective Directors and Assistant Secretaries

September 16: Approval for release of Final EIS, Notice of Availability (NOA) for Final EIS sent to the Federal Register

???? Publication of the NOA for the Final EIS

INTERAGENCY EXECUTIVE OVERSIGHT TEAM

- BLM: Jim Kenna/Ray Suazo
- NPS: John Wessels
- FWS: Benjamin Tuggle
- USGS: Michael Shulters
- FS: Corbin Newman

INTERAGENCY MANAGEMENT TEAM

- BLM: Scott Florence
- FS: Mike R. Williams
- NPS: Martha Hahn
- USGS: John Hoffman

From: Lin, Janet H
Sent: Friday, August 12, 2011 1:09 PM
To: Lin, Janet H; Moody, Aaron; Castle, Anne; CN=Benjamin Tuggle/OU=RO/OU=R2/OU=FWS/O=DOI@FWS; CN=Bert Frost/OU=WASO/O=NPS@NPS; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Screnar, Brian; Horyza, Christopher L; Mansour, Christopher; Walker, Claudia B; CN=Corbin Newman/OU=R3/O=USDAFS@FSNOTES; CN=Dan Ashe/OU=ARL/OU=R9/OU=FWS/O=DOI@FWS; Laverdure, Del; Edward_A_Boling@ios.doi.gov; Urban, Heather; CN=Jane M Lyder/OU=GRCA/O=NPS@NPS; Whitlock, Jenna; Kenna, James G; CN=John Wessels/OU=DENVER/O=NPS@NPS; CN=Jon Jarvis/OU=WASO/O=NPS@NPS; CN=Judy J Nowakowski/OU=DO/OU=USGS/O=DOI@USGS; Hawbecker, Karen; Lane, Kenneth; Haugrud, Jack; Echohawk, Larry; Luckey, Lauren; Faeth, Lori; Burke, Marcilynn A; CN=Martha Hahn/OU=GRCA/O=NPS@NPS; CN=Maureen Foster/OU=WASO/O=NPS@NPS; Conklin, Meghan M; CN=Michael V Shulters/OU=DO/OU=USGS/O=DOI@USGS; CN=Mike R Williams/OU=R3/O=USDAFS@FSNOTES; Nedd, Michael D; Pool, Michael J; Tsosie, Paul; CN=Peggy O'Dell/OU=WASO/O=NPS@NPS; Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor; Cardinale, Richard; Abbey, Robert V; Florence, Scott R; CN=Suzanne D Weedman/OU=DO/OU=USGS/O=DOI@USGS; CN=Suzette M Kimball/OU=DO/OU=USGS/O=DOI@USGS; Baca, Sylvia; CN=Tim DeCoster/OU=WO/O=USDAFS@FSNOTES; CN=Tom Tidwell/OU=WO/O=USDAFS@FSNOTES; CN=Doug Crandall/OU=WO/O=USDAFS@FSNOTES; Burke, Marcilynn A; Davis, Laura; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Kelly, Kate P; Nedd, Michael D; Leverette, Mitchell; Suazo, Raymond M; Boddington, Celia; Leff, Craig S; Horyza, Christopher L
Subject: Schedule for Grand Canyon/Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS

All -

Attached is a memo from BLM Director Bob Abbey outlining the schedule for completing the EIS and ROD for the Grand Canyon/Northern-Arizona Proposed Withdrawal. As outlined in the memo, please send your agency point of contact to Chris Horyza by August 16 (Chris_Horyza@blm.gov).

<< File: NorthernArizona-Grand Canyon.doc (Schedule, final, signed 8-12-11).pdf >>

Thank you.

- Janet

Janet H. Lin

Chief of Staff, Bureau of Land Management

U.S. Department of the Interior

1849 C Street, NW

Washington, DC 20240

(202) 208-3801

(202) 208-5242 (f)

BBC Research & Consulting
3773 Cherry Creek North Drive
Suite 850
Denver, Colorado 80209-3868
303.321.2547 fax 303.399.0448
www.bbcresearch.com bbc@bbcresearch.com

MEMORANDUM

To:	Chris Horyza, BLM
From:	Doug Jeavons
Re:	Summary of changes to economic analysis from Draft EIS to Final EIS for Solicitor review
Date:	September 1, 2011

(b) (5)

Specific Issues with DEIS Economic Impact Analysis

1. (b) (5)

2. (b) (5)

3. (b) (5)

.

How the FEIS Economic Impact Analysis was Conducted to Correct These Flaws

Given the extent of these issues, a new economic impact analysis was conducted for the FEIS. The process for conducting this analysis is described in FEIS Section 4.17. In brief, however, these were the key steps:

1. (b) (5)

2. (b) (5)

[1] This figure is shown in Figure 3.3-1 on Page 3-32 of the DEIS.

(b) (5)

3. (b) (5)

.

Comparison of Results

(b) (5)

Other Important Changes to the Economic Analysis

Other important changes included:

1. (b) (5)

2. (b) (5)

.

3. (b) (5)

[2] These figures represent the sum of direct jobs and indirect/induced jobs from both analyses.

Selected Quantitative Comparisons: FEIS Economic Analysis vs. DEIS Analysis

Category/Metric	FEIS Analysis	DEIS Analysis
Effects Analysis -- Alternative A		
Job Effects of Mining		
Direct Jobs	(b) (5)	
Indirect/Induced Jobs		
Regional Economic Output Effects from Mining		
Fiscal Effects from Mining		
Effects Analysis -- Alternative B		
Job Effects of Mining		
Direct Jobs	(b) (5)	
Indirect/Induced Jobs		
Regional Economic Output Effects from Mining		
Fiscal Effects from Mining		

From:	Burke, Marcilynn
To:	(b) (6)
Subject:	Fw: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Date:	Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:14:32 PM
Attachments:	8-30-11 Econ-Comparison-of-FEIS-vs-DEIS.pdf 8-30-11 Executive Summary of Changes to Economic Analysis.pdf 8-30-11 N AZ Prop Withdrawal PFEIS Review Results.v3 82911.docx
Importance:	High

Thanks,

Marcilynn A. Burke
Acting Asst. Secretary, Land and Minerals Mgmt.
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-6734 (voice) (202) 208-3619 (fax)

From: Lassiter, Tracie L
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:05 PM
To: Burke, Marcilynn
Subject: FW: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)

From: Diehl, Barbara
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:01 PM
To: Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject: FW: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Importance: High

From: Diehl, Barbara
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 11:47 AM
To: Kenna, James G; Hoffmann, John P; Wessels, John; Jarvis, Jon; Echohawk, Larry; McNutt, Marcia K; Burke, Marcilynn A; Hahn, Martha G.; Conklin, Meghan M; Williams, Michael R; Shulters, Michael V; Pool, Michael J; Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor; Suazo, Raymond M; Florence, Scott R; Tidwell, Tom; Falsey, William D; BLM_WO_MIB Conference Room 5071/BLM_WO_MIB; Castle, Anne; Tuggle, Benjamin; Newman, Corbin; Ashe, D M; Hayes, David; Crandall, Doug; Tompkins, Hilary C; Kenna, James G; Hoffmann, John P; Wessels, John; Jarvis, Jon; Horyza, Christopher L; Atine, Patrese
Subject: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Importance: High

Good Afternoon Team,

BLM is experiencing some email issues this morning due to the migration, so I am sending documents for the 1pm (EST) meeting this afternoon. Attached are documents, please print and bring them to the meeting with you.

Thanks.

Barbara Diehl
Executive Assistant to the Deputy Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
202-208-6291
202-208-1873 (fax)
barbara_diehl@ios.doi.gov

Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal
Results of Preliminary Final EIS

The internal/cooperating agency review of the Preliminary Final EIS took place August 18-25, 2011. Comments were submitted by:

- DOI Solicitors
- National Park Service
- US Geological Survey
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Hualapai Tribe
- Kaibab Paiute Tribe
- Arizona State Lands Department
- San Juan County, Utah
- Garfield County, Utah
- Kane County, Utah
- 8 individual agency staff members

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Summary of Changes to the Economic Analysis for the Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS

A large number of comments were received from cooperating agencies and the public concerning the economic sections of the Draft EIS. Working through SWCA, BLM retained BBC Research & Consulting to revise and enhance the economic analysis for the FEIS. BBC has extensive experience in conducting socioeconomic assessments for NEPA compliance, including past and current work with BLM on other projects. This narrative briefly describes the changes being made to the analysis and narrative and the status of this effort.

Changes for Chapter 3 – Description of the Affected Environment for Economics. Based upon the comments, and BBC's review of the original section prepared for the Draft EIS, BBC identified several objectives for the revised description of the economic affected environment in the FEIS. These included:

(b) (5)

The draft, revised description of the affected environment for economics has been completed and is now being reviewed by economists from BLM, USGS, NPS and other agencies (the Economics Review Team).

Changes for Chapter 4 – Effects Analysis for Economics. Again based on the comments and BBC's review of the Draft EIS section, the revised economic effects analysis is intended to:

(b) (5)

The draft, revised description of economic effects has been completed and is now being reviewed by economists from BLM, USGS, NPS and other agencies (the Economics Review Team). A summary of the preliminary effects evaluation, by alternative and component, is attached.

Selected Quantitative Comparisons: FEIS Economic Analysis vs. DEIS Analysis

Category/Metric	FEIS Analysis	DEIS Analysis	Reasons for Differences
	(b) (5)		
Affected Environment			
Tourism Employment			
Effects Analysis -- Alternative A			
Employment Effects of Mining			
Direct Employment			
Indirect/Induced Employment			
Regional Economic Output Effects from Mining			
Fiscal Effects from Mining			
Effects Analysis -- Alternative B			
Employment Effects of Mining			
Direct Employment			
Indirect/Induced Employment			
Regional Economic Output Effects from Mining			
Fiscal Effects from Mining			

From:	Burke, Marcilynn
To:	Mussenden, Paul
Subject:	Fw: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Date:	Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:48:27 PM
Importance:	High

Could you attend at 1 pm in Rm 5071? I'm dialing in but only half way listening because need to read memos for 2:30 OSM/BLM mtg with Sec

Thanks,

Marcilynn A. Burke
Acting Asst. Secretary, Land and Minerals Mgmt.
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-6734 (voice) (202) 208-3619 (fax)

From: Lassiter, Tracie L
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:40 PM
To: Burke, Marcilynn
Subject: RE: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)

U r welcome.

TL

From: Burke, Marcilynn
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:18 PM
To: Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject: Re: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)

Thx!

Thanks,

Marcilynn A. Burke
Acting Asst. Secretary, Land and Minerals Mgmt.
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-6734 (voice) (202) 208-3619 (fax)

From: Lassiter, Tracie L
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:05 PM
To: Burke, Marcilynn

Subject: FW: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)

From: Diehl, Barbara
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:01 PM
To: Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject: FW: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Importance: High

From: Diehl, Barbara
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 11:47 AM
To: Kenna, James G; Hoffmann, John P; Wessels, John; Jarvis, Jon; Echohawk, Larry; McNutt, Marcia K; Burke, Marcilynn A; Hahn, Martha G.; Conklin, Meghan M; Williams, Michael R; Shulters, Michael V; Pool, Michael J; Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor; Suazo, Raymond M; Florence, Scott R; Tidwell, Tom; Falsey, William D; BLM_WO_MIB Conference Room 5071/BLM_WO_MIB; Castle, Anne; Tuggle, Benjamin; Newman, Corbin; Ashe, D M; Hayes, David; Crandall, Doug; Tompkins, Hilary C; Kenna, James G; Hoffmann, John P; Wessels, John; Jarvis, Jon; Horyza, Christopher L; Atine, Patrese
Subject: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Importance: High

Good Afternoon Team,

BLM is experiencing some email issues this morning due to the migration, so I am sending documents for the 1pm (EST) meeting this afternoon. Attached are documents, please print and bring them to the meeting with you.

Thanks.

Barbara Diehl
Executive Assistant to the Deputy Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
202-208-6291
202-208-1873 (fax)
barbara_diehl@ios.doi.gov

From: Lassiter, Tracie L on behalf of Burke, Marcilynn
To: Burke, Marcilynn
Subject: FW: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting on Wednesday
Date: Tuesday, October 18, 2011 4:17:47 PM

M- I print Meghan's email every Tuesday and include in your briefing book the evening before, if you don't make the meeting you can see what the agenda items are and don't have to scroll thru all the emails to find ☺. Tracie

---

From: Conklin, Meghan M
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2011 11:30 AM
To: Abbey, Robert V; Anderson, James E; Archuleta, Deanna; Ashe, D M; Baca, Sylvia; Bean, Michael; Beaudreau, Tommy; Belin, Letty; Black, Steve; Boling, Ted; Bromwich, Michael R; Burke, Marcilynn; Calhoun, Dianne; Caminiti, Mariagrazia; Caramanian, Lori; Carrillo, Francisco; Castle, Anne; Conklin, Meghan M; Connor, Michael L; Davis, Laura; Diehl, Barbara; Echohawk, Larry; Elton, Kim; Faeth, Lori; Falsey, William D; Farquhar, Ned; Finkler, Kira L; Fletcher, Adam; Gould, R W; Hanley, Kallie; Hayes, David; Haze, Pam K; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Ishee, Mary Katherine; Jackson, Andrew; Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor; Jacobson, Rachel L; Jarvis, Jon; Johnson, Terri; Kelly, Kate P; Klein, Elizabeth A; Koenigsberg, Melissa; Kornze, Neil G; Lane, Kenneth; Laverdure, Del; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Lew, Shoshana M; Lyder, Jane; Mansour, Christopher; Marsters, Lizzie; McNutt, Marcia K; Padilla, Joan; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Schwartz, Melissa; Screnar, Brian; Shafroth, William; Sobeck, Eileen; Stanton, Robert; Suh, Rhea; Tompkins, Hilary C; Trujillo, Tanya M; Tsosie, Paul; Tubbs, John; Urban, Heather
Subject: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting on Wednesday

Hello:

The Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting will take place on Wednesday at 9 am in Room 6150. Below is a draft agenda. Please send me any additions or edits by 5 pm today.

Thanks
Meghan
--
AGENDA:

1. Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS
2. Backcountry Report
3. Solar PEIS
4. Osage Tribal Trust Settlement
5. AGO Report
6. Pelican Island/NWR announcements
7. Eagle Permitting Rule
8. FL Manatee Protection Area Final Rule
9. Glen Canyon Dam
10. Last Cobell Land Consolidation Program Tribal Consultation
11. OCS 5 year 2012-17 DPP

From: Burke, Marcilynn
To: Baca, Sylvia
Subject: Fwd: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Press Materials
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2011 2:17:53 PM

Thanks,

Marcilynn

_____

Marcilynn A. Burke
Acting Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St., NW ● Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-6734 (voice) ● (202) 208-3619 (fax)
Marcilynn_Burke@ios.doi.gov

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Conklin, Meghan M" <Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov>
Date: October 25, 2011 10:12:55 AM CDT
To: "Fetcher, Adam K" <Adam_Fetcher@ios.doi.gov>, "Lin, Janet H" <jhlin@blm.gov>, "Abbey, Robert V" <RVAbbey@blm.gov>, "Boddington, Celia" <cbodding@blm.gov>, "Burke, Marcilynn" <Marcilynn_Burke@ios.doi.gov>, "Lyder, Jane" <Jane_Lyder@ios.doi.gov>, "Hildebrandt, Betsy" <Betsy_Hildebrandt@fws.gov>, "Lee-Ashley, Matt" <Matt_Lee-Ashley@ios.doi.gov>, "Kelly, Kate P" <Kate_Kelly@ios.doi.gov>, "Mansour, Christopher" <Christopher_Mansour@ios.doi.gov>, "Urban, Heather" <Heather_Urban@ios.doi.gov>, "Boling, Ted" <Ted.Boling@sol.doi.gov>, "Moody, Aaron" <Aaron.Moody@sol.doi.gov>
Cc: "Leff, Craig S" <CLeff@blm.gov>, "Carrillo, Francisco" <Francisco_Carrillo@ios.doi.gov>, "Krauss, Jeff" <JKrauss@blm.gov>, "Falsey, William D" <WDFalsey@blm.gov>
Subject: RE: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Press Materials

Thanks Adam, I don't have any edits at this time.

Thanks

Meghan

From: Fetcher, Adam K

Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2011 10:58 AM
To: Conklin, Meghan M; Lin, Janet H; Abbey, Robert V; Boddington, Celia; Burke, Marcilynn; Lyder, Jane; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Kelly, Kate P; Mansour, Christopher; Urban, Heather; Boling, Ted; Moody, Aaron
Cc: Leff, Craig S; Carrillo, Francisco; Krauss, Jeff; Falsey, William D
Subject: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS--Press Materials

All – sorry for the delay in getting these around and thanks to Celia, Craig and Jeff and their team for drafting the initial press materials. I am attaching a version of the press release and talking points for tomorrow's Grand Canyon Final EIS announcement, as well as the rollout schedule and an economic analysis highlights document from BLM. This includes some edits from OCO to the press release.

One note on the rollout schedule: (b) (5)

Please send further edits/feedback by 3 p.m. today if possible. Many thanks,

Adam

From: Burke, Marcilynn
To: Farquhar, Ned; Baca, Sylvia; Mussenden, Paul; Cardinale, Richard; Graves, Carmiece
Subject: Fwd: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting this Wednesday
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2011 2:16:02 PM

Pls get updates from the BLM on these matters as the staff mtg.
Thanks,

Marcilynn

_____

Marcilynn A. Burke
Acting Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St., NW ● Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-6734 (voice) ● (202) 208-3619 (fax)
Marcilynn_Burke@ios.doi.gov

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Conklin, Meghan M" <Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov>
Date: October 25, 2011 11:07:36 AM CDT
To: "Abbey, Robert V" <RVAbbey@blm.gov>, "Anderson, James E" <James_Anderson@ios.doi.gov>, "Archuleta, Deanna" <Deanna_Archuleta@ios.doi.gov>, "Ashe, D M" <D_M_Ashe@fws.gov>, "Baca, Sylvia" <Sylvia_Baca@ios.doi.gov>, "Bean, Michael" <Michael_Bean@ios.doi.gov>, "Beaudreau, Tommy" <Tommy.Beaudreau@boemre.gov>, "Belin, Letty" <Letty_Belin@ios.doi.gov>, "Black, Steve" <steve_black@ios.doi.gov>, "Boling, Ted" <Ted.Boling@sol.doi.gov>, "Bromwich, Michael R" <Michael.Bromwich@boemre.gov>, "Burke, Marcilynn" <Marcilynn_Burke@ios.doi.gov>, "Calhoun, Dianne" <dianne_calhoun@ios.doi.gov>, "Caminiti, Mariagrazia" <Marigrace.Caminiti@sol.doi.gov>, "Caramanian, Lori" <Lori_Caramanian@ios.doi.gov>, "Carrillo, Francisco" <Francisco_Carrillo@ios.doi.gov>, "Castle, Anne" <Anne_Castle@ios.doi.gov>, "Conklin, Meghan M" <Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov>, "Connor, Michael L" <MLConnor@usbr.gov>, "Davis, Laura" <Laura_Davis@ios.doi.gov>, "Diehl, Barbara" <Barbara_Diehl@ios.doi.gov>, "Echohawk, Larry" <Larry_Echo-Hawk@ios.doi.gov>, "Elton, Kim" <Kim_Elton@ios.doi.gov>, "Faeth, Lori" <Lori_Faeth@ios.doi.gov>, "Falsey, William D" <WDFalsey@blm.gov>, "Farquhar, Ned" <Ned_Farquhar@ios.doi.gov>, "Fetcher, Adam K" <Adam_Fetcher@ios.doi.gov>, "Finkler, Kira L" <KFinkler@usbr.gov>, "Fletcher, Adam" <Adam_Fletcher@ios.doi.gov>, "Gould, R W" <r_w_gould@fws.gov>, "Hanley, Kallie" <Kallie_Hanley@ios.doi.gov>, "Hayes, David" <David_Hayes@ios.doi.gov>, "Haze, Pam K" <Pam_Haze@ios.doi.gov>, "Hildebrandt, Betsy" <Betsy_Hildebrandt@fws.gov>, "Ishee, Mary Katherine" <mkishee@osmre.gov>, "Jackson, Andrew"

<Andrew_Jackson@ios.doi.gov>, "Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor" <Rachel.Jacobson@sol.doi.gov>, "Jacobson, Rachel L" <Rachel_Jacobson@ios.doi.gov>, "Jarvis, Jon" <Jon_Jarvis@nps.gov>, "Johnson, Terri" <Terri_Johnson@ios.doi.gov>, "Kelly, Kate P" <Kate_Kelly@ios.doi.gov>, "Klein, Elizabeth A" <Elizabeth_Klein@ios.doi.gov>, "Koenigsberg, Melissa" <Melissa_Koenigsberg@ios.doi.gov>, "Kornze, Neil G" <nkornze@blm.gov>, "Lane, Kenneth" <Kenneth_Lane@ios.doi.gov>, "Laverdure, Del" <Del_Laverdure@ios.doi.gov>, "Lee-Ashley, Matt" <Matt_Lee-Ashley@ios.doi.gov>, "Lew, Shoshana M" <Shoshana_Lew@Boem.gov>, "Lew, Shoshana M" <Shoshana.Lew@boemre.gov>, "Lyder, Jane" <Jane_Lyder@ios.doi.gov>, "Mansour, Christopher" <Christopher_Mansour@ios.doi.gov>, "Marsters, Lizzie" <Lizzie_Marsters@ios.doi.gov>, "McNutt, Marcia K" <mcnutt@usgs.gov>, "Padilla, Joan" <Joan_Padilla@ios.doi.gov>, "Pizarchik, Joseph G" <JPizarchik@osmre.gov>, "Schwartz, Melissa" <Melissa.Schwartz@boemre.gov>, "Screnar, Brian" <Brian_Screnar@ios.doi.gov>, "Shafroth, William" <Will_Shafroth@ios.doi.gov>, "Sobeck, Eileen" <Eileen_Sobeck@ios.doi.gov>, "Stanton, Robert" <Robert_Stanton@ios.doi.gov>, "Steve H. Feldgus" <steve_feldgus@bsse>, "Suh, Rhea" <Rhea_Suh@ios.doi.gov>, "Tompkins, Hilary C" <Hilary.Tompkins@sol.doi.gov>, "Trujillo, Tanya M" <Tanya_Trujillo@ios.doi.gov>, "Tsosie, Paul" <Paul_Tsosie@ios.doi.gov>, "Tubbs, John" <John_Tubbs@ios.doi.gov>, "Urban, Heather" <Heather_Urban@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting this Wednesday

Hello:

The Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting will take place on Wednesday at 9 am in Room 6150. Below is the Draft Agenda. Please send me any additions by 5 pm in order to be included on the agenda.

Thanks

Meghan

--

AGENDA:

1. Backcountry Report

2. Tribal Nations Conference 2011
3. Statue of Liberty 125th Anniversary and other NY events
4. Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal FEIS
5. Solar PEIS
6. Ongoing 50 state report rollout
7. Anacostia River Event
8. Proposal for Fracking disclosure rule

From: Burke, Marcilynn (b) (6)
To: Burke, Marcilynn; Burke, Marcilynn A; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: 2011 Accomplishments
Date: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 4:44:14 AM
Attachments: Accomplishments for 2011 EPAP.docx

Thanks,

Marcilynn

_____

Marcilynn A. Burke
Associate Professor of Law
University of Houston Law Center • 100 Law Center • Houston, TX 77204-6060
(713) 743-2336 (voice) • (713) 743-2223 (fax)
(b) (6) (e-mail) • http://www.law.uh.edu/faculty/mburke/ (web site)
You may access my papers on the Social Science Research Network (SSRN) at http://ssrn.com/author=381808.

From: Burke, Marcilynn
Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 3:38 AM
To: marcilynn_burke@ios.doi.gov; (b) (6) aburke@blm.gov; (b) (6)
Subject: 2011 Accomplishments

Thanks,

Marcilynn

_____

Marcilynn A. Burke
Associate Professor of Law
University of Houston Law Center • 100 Law Center • Houston, TX 77204-6060
(713) 743-2336 (voice) • (713) 743-2223 (fax)
(b) (6) (e-mail) • http://www.law.uh.edu/faculty/mburke/ (web site)
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Accomplishments for 2011 EPAP

No. 1

(b) (6), (b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (5)

No. 2

(b) (6), (b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (5)

No. 3

(b) (6), (b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (5)

No. 4

(b) (6), (b) (5)

No. 5

(b) (6), (b) (5)

No. 6

(b) (6), (b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (5)

From: Burke, Marcilynn (b) (6)
To: Burke, Marcilynn; Burke, Marcilynn A; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: 2011 Accomplishments
Date: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 4:50:13 AM
Attachments: Accomplishments for 2011 EPAP.docx

Thanks,

Marcilynn

_____

Marcilynn A. Burke
Associate Professor of Law
University of Houston Law Center • 100 Law Center • Houston, TX 77204-6060
(713) 743-2336 (voice) • (713) 743-2223 (fax)
(b) (6) (e-mail) • http://www.law.uh.edu/faculty/mburke/ (web site)
You may access my papers on the Social Science Research Network (SSRN) at http://ssrn.com/author=381808.

From: Burke, Marcilynn
Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 4:44 AM
To: marcilynn_burke@ios.doi.gov; (b) (6) maburke@blm.gov; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: 2011 Accomplishments

Thanks,

Marcilynn

_____

Marcilynn A. Burke
Associate Professor of Law
University of Houston Law Center • 100 Law Center • Houston, TX 77204-6060
(713) 743-2336 (voice) • (713) 743-2223 (fax)
(b) (6) (e-mail) • http://www.law.uh.edu/faculty/mburke/ (web site)
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From: Burke, Marcilynn
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Subject: 2011 Accomplishments

Thanks,

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Associate Professor of Law
University of Houston Law Center • 100 Law Center • Houston, TX 77204-6060
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(b) (6), (b) (5)

No. 5

(b) (6), (b) (5)

No. 6

(b) (6), (b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (5)

From: Burke, Marcilynn
To: Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject: Re: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Date: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 1:48:01 PM

(b) (6)

Thanks,

Marcilynn A. Burke
Acting Asst. Secretary, Land and Minerals Mgmt.
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-6734 (voice) (202) 208-3619 (fax)

From: Lassiter, Tracie L
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 01:25 PM
To: Burke, Marcilynn
Subject: RE: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)

What part of (b) (6) r u in?

From: Burke, Marcilynn
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:18 PM
To: Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject: Re: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)

Thx!

Thanks,

Marcilynn A. Burke
Acting Asst. Secretary, Land and Minerals Mgmt.
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-6734 (voice) (202) 208-3619 (fax)

From: Lassiter, Tracie L
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:05 PM
To: Burke, Marcilynn
Subject: FW: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)

From: Diehl, Barbara
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:01 PM
To: Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject: FW: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Importance: High

From: Diehl, Barbara
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 11:47 AM
To: Kenna, James G; Hoffmann, John P; Wessels, John; Jarvis, Jon; Echohawk, Larry; McNutt, Marcia K; Burke, Marcilynn A; Hahn, Martha G.; Conklin, Meghan M; Williams, Michael R; Shulters, Michael V; Pool, Michael J; Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor; Suazo, Raymond M; Florence, Scott R; Tidwell, Tom; Falsey, William D; BLM_WO_MIB Conference Room 5071/BLM_WO_MIB; Castle, Anne; Tuggle, Benjamin; Newman, Corbin; Ashe, D M; Hayes, David; Crandall, Doug; Tompkins, Hilary C; Kenna, James G; Hoffmann, John P; Wessels, John; Jarvis, Jon; Horyza, Christopher L; Atine, Patrese
Subject: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Importance: High

Good Afternoon Team,

BLM is experiencing some email issues this morning due to the migration, so I am sending documents for the 1pm (EST) meeting this afternoon. Attached are documents, please print and bring them to the meeting with you.

Thanks.

Barbara Diehl
Executive Assistant to the Deputy Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
202-208-6291
202-208-1873 (fax)
barbara_diehl@ios.doi.gov

From: Burke, Marcilynn
To: Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject: Re: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Date: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 1:45:46 PM

Also, my parents' land line is (b) (6) just in case you can't reach me on my cell.

I'll tell my parents who you are. :)

Thanks,

Marcilynn A. Burke
Acting Asst. Secretary, Land and Minerals Mgmt.
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-6734 (voice) (202) 208-3619 (fax)

From: Lassiter, Tracie L
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 01:25 PM
To: Burke, Marcilynn
Subject: RE: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)

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Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:18 PM
To: Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject: Re: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)

Thx!

Thanks,

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Acting Asst. Secretary, Land and Minerals Mgmt.
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(202) 208-6734 (voice) (202) 208-3619 (fax)

From: Lassiter, Tracie L
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:05 PM
To: Burke, Marcilynn
Subject: FW: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)

From: Diehl, Barbara
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:01 PM
To: Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject: FW: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Importance: High

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Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 11:47 AM
To: Kenna, James G; Hoffmann, John P; Wessels, John; Jarvis, Jon; Echohawk, Larry; McNutt, Marcia K; Burke, Marcilynn A; Hahn, Martha G.; Conklin, Meghan M; Williams, Michael R; Shulters, Michael V; Pool, Michael J; Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor; Suazo, Raymond M; Florence, Scott R; Tidwell, Tom; Falsey, William D; BLM_WO_MIB Conference Room 5071/BLM_WO_MIB; Castle, Anne; Tuggle, Benjamin; Newman, Corbin; Ashe, D M; Hayes, David; Crandall, Doug; Tompkins, Hilary C; Kenna, James G; Hoffmann, John P; Wessels, John; Jarvis, Jon; Horyza, Christopher L; Atine, Patrese
Subject: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Importance: High

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Executive Assistant to the Deputy Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
202-208-6291
202-208-1873 (fax)
barbara_diehl@ios.doi.gov

From:	Burke, Marcilynn
To:	Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject:	Re: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Date:	Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:17:55 PM

Thx!

Thanks,

Marcilynn A. Burke
Acting Asst. Secretary, Land and Minerals Mgmt.
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-6734 (voice) (202) 208-3619 (fax)

From: Lassiter, Tracie L
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:05 PM
To: Burke, Marcilynn
Subject: FW: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)

From: Diehl, Barbara
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:01 PM
To: Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject: FW: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Importance: High

From: Diehl, Barbara
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 11:47 AM
To: Kenna, James G; Hoffmann, John P; Wessels, John; Jarvis, Jon; Echohawk, Larry; McNutt, Marcia K; Burke, Marcilynn A; Hahn, Martha G.; Conklin, Meghan M; Williams, Michael R; Shulters, Michael V; Pool, Michael J; Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor; Suazo, Raymond M; Florence, Scott R; Tidwell, Tom; Falsey, William D; BLM_WO_MIB Conference Room 5071/BLM_WO_MIB; Castle, Anne; Tuggle, Benjamin; Newman, Corbin; Ashe, D M; Hayes, David; Crandall, Doug; Tompkins, Hilary C; Kenna, James G; Hoffmann, John P; Wessels, John; Jarvis, Jon; Horyza, Christopher L; Atine, Patrese
Subject: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Importance: High

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Executive Assistant to the Deputy Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
202-208-6291
202-208-1873 (fax)
barbara_diehl@ios.doi.gov

From: Burke, Marcilynn
To: Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject: Re: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Date: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 2:22:19 PM

Cool. I'm working half the time of course!

Thanks,

Marcilynn A. Burke
Acting Asst. Secretary, Land and Minerals Mgmt.
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-6734 (voice) (202) 208-3619 (fax)

From: Lassiter, Tracie L
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 01:46 PM
To: Burke, Marcilynn
Subject: RE: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)

Thanks Marci, I just need to let the DOI Watch folks know that you are (b) (6)

Regards,

Tracie L. Lassiter
U.S. Department of the Interior
Office of the Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
1849 C. Street, NW, Room 6615
Washington, DC 20240
(o) 202-208-6734
(f) 202- 208-3619
Tracie_Lassiter@ios.doi.gov

From: Burke, Marcilynn
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 1:49 PM
To: Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject: Re: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)

Also, my parents' land line is (b) (6) just in case you can't reach me on my cell.

I'll tell my parents who you are. :)

Thanks,

Marcilynn A. Burke
Acting Asst. Secretary, Land and Minerals Mgmt.
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-6734 (voice) (202) 208-3619 (fax)

From: Lassiter, Tracie L
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 01:25 PM
To: Burke, Marcilynn
Subject: RE: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)

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From: Burke, Marcilynn
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:18 PM
To: Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject: Re: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)

Thx!

Thanks,

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Subject: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Importance: High

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Thanks.

Barbara Diehl
Executive Assistant to the Deputy Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
202-208-6291
202-208-1873 (fax)
barbara_diehl@ios.doi.gov

From: Center for Biological Diversity
To: e_news
Subject: Help Protect the Grand Canyon From Uranium Mining
Date: Monday, February 28, 2011 4:28:19 PM

Center for Biological Diversity

Dear Jessica,

Grand Canyon National Park needs your help.

Public lands surrounding the Grand Canyon are ground zero for a new uranium mining boom. Foreign uranium corporations have staked thousands of new mining claims, have re-opened one old mine, and are trying to open three more.

Uranium mining threatens to industrialize iconic wildlands surrounding the Grand Canyon with dozens of new mines, damage wildlife habitat, and pollute and deplete aquifers feeding the Grand Canyon's biologically critical seeps, springs and caves.

The Obama administration is now analyzing a 20-year "mineral withdrawal" that would protect up to 1 million acres of the canyon's watershed from new mining claims and prohibit new mines on most existing claims.

We need your help urging protection for the Grand Canyon's entire 1-million-acre watershed, not just part of it. **Please send an email to the Obama administration and, if you're in Arizona or Utah, attend a public meeting.** Tell the administration that uranium mining near the Grand Canyon just isn't worth the risk.

Click here to find out more and take action.

If you have trouble following he link, go to http://action.biologicaldiversity.org/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=6027.

Letter subject: Protect the Grand Canyon from Uranium Mining

Sample letter:

Dear Secretary Salazar,

I support protecting the Grand Canyon's entire 1-million-acre watershed from uranium mining as outlined in Alternative B in the Draft Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal Environmental Impact Statement and Revisions to the Withdrawal Application, Arizona.

Grand Canyon National Park is an international treasure. The diversity of habitats resulting from its great depth, its diverse topography, and its isolated seeps, springs and caves make it one of the most biologically diverse national parks in the United States.

Uranium mining threatens to industrialize iconic wildlands surrounding the Grand Canyon with dozens of new mines, damage wildlife habitat, and pollute and deplete aquifers feeding the Grand Canyon's biologically critical seeps, springs and caves.

Neither the federal government nor mining companies can guarantee that mining would not contaminate or deplete aquifers feeding Grand Canyon's seeps, springs and caves. And if it did happen, that pollution would be impossible to clean up.

Public lands surrounding the Grand Canyon -- and Grand Canyon National Park itself -- already suffer from a legacy of uranium mining pollution. More uranium mining would only add to that legacy in a time when the government should be focused on cleaning that legacy up.

Grand Canyon National Park supplies hundreds of millions of dollars of annual revenue to Arizona, Utah and Nevada.Contamination or industrialization from uranium mining threatens that tourism industry and the livelihoods of local residents who depend on it.

Please protect the Grand Canyon watershed by withdrawing the entire area described in Alternative B from location and entry under the Mining Law for 20 years.

Thank you.

Donate now to support our work.

Please take action by April 4, 2011.

Grand Canyon photo courtesy Flickr Commons/Al_HikesAZ.

This message was sent to e_news@ios.doi.gov.

The Center for Biological Diversity sends newsletters and action alerts through DemocracyinAction.org. Let us know if you'd like to change your email list preferences or stop receiving action alerts and newsletters from us.

Center for Biological Diversity P.O. Box 710 Tucson, AZ 85702 1-866-357-3349

From: Center for Biological Diversity
To: e_news
Subject: Help Protect the Grand Canyon From Uranium Mining
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2011 1:50:41 PM

Center for Biological Diversity

Dear Jessica,

We need your help telling Congress to protect the Grand Canyon from uranium mining.

Grand Canyon

Last week, **Congress introduced a bill that would block the Obama administration from protecting 1 million acres of public lands around the Grand Canyon** from new uranium mining. The bill came only days after Interior Secretary Ken Salazar visited the canyon and announced plans to enact those protections in the fall.

The House of Representatives is slated to vote on the bill in late July or early August. **Please send your U.S. congressperson a message and tell him or her to protect the Grand Canyon's watershed from uranium mining.**

Click here to find out more and take action.

If you have trouble following he link, go to http://action.biologicaldiversity.org/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=6027.

Letter subject: Protect Grand Canyon From Uranium Mining

Sample letter to your U.S. congressperson:

I'm writing to urge you oppose provisions in the Interior appropriations legislation (H.R. 112) that would block the Obama administration from enacting a mineral withdrawal across Grand Canyon National Park's 1-million-acre watershed. Those protections are critical to protect the Grand Canyon from new uranium mining.

As you know, Grand Canyon National Park is an international icon, a place of cultural significance to American Indian tribes, a repository of natural ecosystems and biodiversity, and the economic engine for northern Arizona's tourism economy.

Uranium mining in Grand Canyon's watershed would industrialize iconic wildlands, destroy wildlife habitat and threaten irreparable pollution of the aquifers feeding the Grand Canyon's biologically rich springs and creeks. It would threaten millions of people's drinking water and undermine the regional tourism economy.

Please support Interior Secretary Ken Salazar's proposed mineral withdrawal to limit mining for 20 years on 1 million acres of public lands. That proposal enjoys broad support from tribal leaders, local government leaders, municipalities, businesses, scientists and hundreds of thousands of Americans like me. It deserves your support too.

Again, please oppose provisions in the Interior appropriations bill (H.R. 112) that would block protection for Grand Canyon National Park's 1-million-acre watershed from new uranium mining.

Donate now to support our work.

Please take action by August 15, 2011. This action is restricted to U.S. residents.

Grand Canyon photo courtesy James Q. Martin.

This message was sent to e_news@ios.doi.gov.

The Center for Biological Diversity sends newsletters and action alerts through DemocracyinAction.org. Let us know if you'd like to change your email list preferences or stop receiving action alerts and newsletters from us.

Center for Biological Diversity P.O. Box 710 Tucson, AZ 85702 1-866-357-3349

From:	choryza@blm.gov
To:	Simon, Benjamin M; Rai, Vijai N; JhLin@blm.gov1
Subject:	Corrected Comment Table
Date:	Wednesday, December 15, 2010 6:31:34 PM
Attachments:	Comment-Resolution-Tracking-2010-12-15.pdf

Corrected Comment 16 (Thanks for catching my error Ben!) Hope this doesn't crash anyone's inbox...

Chris Horyza
Planning and Environmental Coordinator
BLM, Arizona State Office
602-417-9446

Commentor	#	Section	Comment/Change	Action Taken	Links to Documents with suggested text to resolve comment
Vijai N. Rai, Ph.D. Team Leader Natural Resources Management Team Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance Office of the Secretary U.S. Department of the Interior	1	EIS Section 2.6	(b) (5)		
Vijai N. Rai, Ph.D. Team Leader Natural Resources Management Team Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance Office of the Secretary U.S. Department of the Interior	2	RFD			RFD Discussion of Range of Values
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	3	RFD B.1.2 Scope – First Paragraph			Edit to RFD Section B.1.2
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	4	RFD B.1.3 – 3rd Paragraph			Historic Mine Development within Project Area - Suggested Edits to Section B.1.3
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	5	RFD B.3.1 – Federal Surface Regulations - 3rd Paragraph			Suggested Edit to RFD Section B.3.1
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	6	RFD B.3.1 – Performance Standards – 4th Paragraph.			Bulleted Summary of 3809 Regulations
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	7	RFD B.4.4 – Min Development – Second Paragraph			Suggested Edit to RFD Section B.3.2 Permits and Approvals Table (Attachment B.1)

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Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	8	RFD B.5 Current Exploration and Mining Activities	**Suggested Edit to RFD Section B.5**
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	9	RFD B.6 Mineral Potential	**Suggested Edit to RFD Section B.6**
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	10	RFD B.8.1 Alternative A – Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources	**Suggested Edits to RFD Section B.8.1 Search on "Assumption:"**
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	11	RFD B.8.1 Reasonable Foreseeable Development under Alternative A – Number of Mines	**Suggested Edits to RFD Section B.8.1 – ncertainty Factors**
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	12	RFD B.8.1 Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A – Exploration Activities – Paragraphs 4 and 5	**Suggested Edits to RFD Section B.8.1 – RFD for lternative A, Exploration**

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Ben Simon, DOI Office of Public Policy Analysis	13	EIS Section 4.1, end	RESOLUTION PENDING
Ben Simon, DOI Office of Public Policy Analysis	14	RFD section B.7.2.	• **Suggested Edits to RFD Section B.7.2 – Commodity Markets**

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Ben Simon, DOI Office of Public Policy Analysis	15a	EIS - New Sectior at end of 4.1.2	Suggested Edits to section EIS 4.1.2 - Uncertainty
Ben Simon, DOI Office of Public Policy Analysis	15b	EIS Chapter 4, Economic Analysis	Suggested edit to EIS Section 4.16 - Non-Market Impacts
Ben Simon, DOI Office of Public Policy Analysis	16	EIS - Chapter 4, page 4-252	RESOLUTION PENDING

Linked here is the whole RFD with the latest edits showing as Track Changes

I evaluated the Finch and others (1990) report. In all "Favorable Area A"s listed in the report the p=0.05 resource number was 26.3% of the mean value and the p=0.95 resource number was 208% of the mean values. Since all three withdrawal areas are within Favorable Area A (Finch's figure 2), these percentages could be applied to the numbers in Table 7 of the Otton and Van Gosen chapter.

Following the wording of Table 3 in Finch's report, the odds are 9 to 1 that the unconditional uranium endowment in each of the three withdrawal areas is between 0.263 times the mean and 2.08 times the mean. The range for the withdrawal areas would thus look like this:

North Segregation Area has an endowment that ranges from 24,186 to 191,283 tons U_3O_8

East Segregation Area has an endowment that ranges from 5,742 to 45,411 tons U_3O_8

South Segregation Area has an endowment that ranges from 12,931 to 102,272 tons U_3O_8

Jim Otton

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Table B-2. Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment*

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Table B-3. Percent Ore Grade for Existing and Historic Mines

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Table B-4. Estimated Number of Mines Required to Extract Undiscovered Uranium Endowment

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Number of Mines

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Table B-5. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)

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B.1.2 SCOPE

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Historic Mine Development within Project Area

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Table X1. Historical Mine Development within Project Area

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Table X2. Historical Number of Producing Mines

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B.1.3 STUDY AREA

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Table X1. Historical Mine Development within Project Area

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Table X2. Historical Number of Mines Concurrently in Production

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B.3.1 FEDERAL SURFACE MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS

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Performance Standards

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ATTACHMENT B1

FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL PERMITS TYPICALLY REQUIRED PRIOR TO MINE DEVELOPMENT

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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B.3.2 ARIZONA STATE AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

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B.5 CURRENT EXPLORATION AND MINING ACTIVITIES

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B.6 MINERAL POTENTIAL

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Section B.8.1, subsection entitled:

Uncertainty Factors and Estimate of Mine Life Cycle

Commodity prices

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B.8.1 ALTERNATIVE A: NO ACTION (NO WITHDRAWAL)

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Future Locatable Mineral Exploration and Development

(b) (5)

Currently Approved Mines

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Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

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Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

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Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Table B-2. Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment*
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Table B-3. Percent Ore Grade for Existing and Historic Mines
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Table B-4. Estimated Number of Mines Required to Extract Undiscovered Uranium Endowment

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Industry Limitations on Active Mines

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Uncertainty Factors and Estimate of Mine Life Cycle

COMMODITY PRICES

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NEPA REVIEW

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PRODUCTION TIME FRAME

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VALID EXISTING RIGHTS PROCESS

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Figure B-6. Estimated number of mines able to be supported by industry.

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INTERIM MANAGEMENT

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Number of Mines

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Table B-5. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Exploration Activities

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Table B-6. Amount and Success of Historic Exploration*

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Table B-7. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity Needed to Support Uranium Production (20-Year Time Frame)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

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Table B-8. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Roads (20-Year Time Frame)
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Table B-9. Ore Grade for Existing Mines
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Table B-10. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Miles of Power Lines
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Acreage of Surface Disturbance
(b) (5)

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Table B-11. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)
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Table B-12. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Mine Water Use
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Table B-13. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)
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Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—
No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

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Table B-14. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

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Table B-14. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame), Continued

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Exploration Activities

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Table B-6. Amount and Success of Historic Exploration*

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B.7.2 COMMODITY MARKETS

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Figure B-3. Worldwide annual production and reactor-related requirements (1945–2005) (Source: International Atomic Energy Agency 2009).[1]

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Figure B-4. Historical uranium market prices (U.S. dollars per pound) (Source: Infomine 2010).

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[1] U = uranium.

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Uncertainty

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Uncertainty

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Recreation/Visual/Air Quality
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Appendix B

LOCATABLE MINERAL RESOURCES— REASONABLY FORESEEABLE DEVELOPMENT SCENARIOS

B.1 INTRODUCTION

B.1.1 Purpose

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B.1.2 Scope

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B.1.3 Study Area

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Table X1. Historical Mine Development within Project Area

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Table X2. Historical Number of Mines Concurrently in Production

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B.2 MINING LAW OF 1872

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B.3 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

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B.3.1 Federal Surface Management Regulations

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Performance Standards

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Monitoring Plan

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Reclamation Requirements

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Enforcement Provisions

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B.3.2 Arizona State and Other Requirements

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B.3.3 Notice and Notice of Intent Review Process

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B.3.4 Plan of Operations Approval Process

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Figure B-1. Plan of operations approval process diagram.

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B.4 DEVELOPMENT OF A URANIUM MINE

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B.4.1 Reconnaissance

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Figure B-2. Mine life cycle diagram.

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B.4.2 Prospecting

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B.4.3 Exploration

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B.4.4 Mine Development

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Interim Management

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TYPICAL SHORT-TERM INTERIM MANAGEMENT

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TYPICAL LONG-TERM INTERIM MANAGEMENT

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B.4.5 Mine Closure and Reclamation

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B.5 CURRENT EXPLORATION AND MINING ACTIVITIES

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Table B-1. Drill-Confirmed Breccia Pipes within the Proposed Withdrawal Area

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Table B-1 Drill-Confirmed Breccia Pipes within the Proposed Withdrawal Area (Continued)
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B.6 MINERAL POTENTIAL

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B.7 FUTURE TRENDS AND ASSUMPTIONS

B.7.1 Commodities of Interest

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B.7.2 Commodity Markets

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Field Code Changed

Figure B-3. Worldwide annual production and reactor-related requirements (1945–2005) (Source: International Atomic Energy Agency 2009).[1]

[1] U = uranium

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Figure B-4. Historical uranium market prices (U.S. dollars per pound) (Source: Infomine 2010).

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B.7.3 Technology

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B.7.4 Industry Mining and Milling Capacity

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B.7.5 Legislative Changes

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B.8 FUTURE LOCATABLE MINERAL EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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B.8.1 Alternative A: No Action (No Withdrawal)

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Future Locatable Mineral Exploration and Development

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Currently Approved Mines

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Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

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Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

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Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Table B-2. Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment*

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Table B-3. Percent Ore Grade for Existing and Historic Mines
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Table B-4. Estimated Number of Mines Required to Extract Undiscovered Uranium Endowment

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Industry Limitations on Active Mines

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Uncertainty Factors and Estimate of Mine Life Cycle

COMMODITY PRICES

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NEPA REVIEW

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PRODUCTION TIME FRAME

(b) (5)

VALID EXISTING RIGHTS PROCESS

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Figure B-6. Estimated number of mines able to be supported by industry.

INTERIM MANAGEMENT

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Number of Mines

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Table B-5. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Exploration Activities

(b) (5)

Table B-6. Amount and Success of Historic Exploration*

(b) (5)

Table B-7. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity Needed to Support Uranium Production (20-Year Time Frame)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

(b) (5)

Table B-8. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Roads (20-Year Time Frame)

(b) (5)

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Table B-9. Ore Grade for Existing Mines
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Table B-10. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Miles of Power Lines

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Acreage of Surface Disturbance

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Table B-11 Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-12. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Mine Water Use

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Table B-13. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)

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Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

Table B-14. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)
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Table B-14. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame), Continued

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B.8.2 Alternative B: Proposed Action (~1 Million Acres, 20-Year Withdrawal)

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Future Locatable Minerals Activity

(b) (5)

Currently Approved Mines

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

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Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

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Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Number of Mines

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Exploration Activities

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Table B-16. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity (20–Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

(b) (5)

Table B-17. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Roads (20-Year Time Frame)
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Table B-18. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Miles of Power Lines

(b) (5)

Table B-19. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Acreage of Surface Disturbance

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Mine Water Use

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Table B-20 Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)
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Table B-21. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

Table B-22. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

B.8.3 Alternative C: Partial Withdrawal (~700,000 Acres)

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Future Locatable Mineral Exploration and Development

(b) (5)

Currently Approved Mines

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

(b) (5)

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Table B-23. Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment Available under Alternative C

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Number of Mines

(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Exploration Activities

(b) (5)

Table B-24. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-25. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity Needed to Support Uranium Production (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

(b) (5)

Table B-26. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Roads (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-27. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Miles of Power Lines

(b) (5)

Table B-28. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Acreage of Surface Disturbance

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Table B-29. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Mine Water Use

(b) (5)

Table B-30. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)
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Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

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Table B-31. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame), Continued

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B.8.4 Alternative D: Partial Withdrawal (~300,000 Acres)

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Future Locatable Mineral Exploration and Development

(b) (5)

Currently Approved Mines

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

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Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

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Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Number of Mines

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Table B-32. Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment Available under Alternative D
(b) (5)

Table B-33. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Exploration Activities

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Table B-34. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity Needed to Support Uranium Production (20-Year Time Frame)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Miles of Power Lines

(b) (5)

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Table B-36. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
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Table B-37. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Acreage of Surface Disturbance

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Table B-38. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Mine Water Use

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Table B-39. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)
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Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

Table B-40. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)
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B.9 SUMMARY

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Table B-41. Reasonably Foreseeable Future Mineral Exploration and Development by Alternative (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-41. Reasonably Foreseeable Future Mineral Exploration and Development by Alternative (20-Year Time Frame), Continued

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Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios

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Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
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Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
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Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
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Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
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Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
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B.10 LITERATURE CITED

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ATTACHMENT B1

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FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL PERMITS TYPICALLY REQUIRED PRIOR TO MINE DEVELOPMENT

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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From:	Horyza, Chris
To:	Rai, Vijai N
Cc:	Heick, Rebecca D; Cara Bellavia; Charles Coyle; Crowley, Christian; Christina White; Tafoya, Diane; Garrett, Verl J; Kenna, James G; Christopher Garrett; McNutt, Paul J; Cox, Rody P; Cline, Sarah A; Florence, Scott R; Haight, Scott S; Simon, Benjamin M
Subject:	Fw: Question Regarding Uranium Resource Availability Report in SIR 2010-5025 - 90% confidence interval boundaries
Date:	Monday, November 22, 2010 9:18:48 AM

Vijai,

The email below is from one of the authors of the USGS report on the uranium resource in the proposed withdrawal area. (b) (5)

Chris

Chris Horyza
Planning and Environmental Coordinator
BLM, Arizona State Office
602-417-9446
----- Forwarded by Chris Horyza/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI on 11/22/2010 07:06 AM -----

"Jim Otton" <jkotton@usgs.gov>
11/19/2010 04:16 PM
Please respond to <jkotton@usgs.gov>

To
"'Chris Horyza'" <Chris_Horyza@blm.gov>, "'Bradley S Van Gosen'" <bvangose@usgs.gov>
cc
"'Susan M Hall'" <susanhall@usgs.gov>, "'John P Hoffmann'" <jphoffma@usgs.gov>, "'Christopher J Potter'" <cpotter@usgs.gov>
Subject
RE: Question Regarding Uranium Resource Availability Report in SIR 2010-5025

Chris,

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Jim Otton

-----Original Message-----
From: Chris Horyza [mailto:Chris_Horyza@blm.gov]
Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2010 2:56 PM
To: James K Otton; Bradley S Van Gosen
Subject: Question Regarding Uranium Resource Availability Report in SIR 2010-5025

Jim and Bradley,

The Department of Interior is asking questions about many aspects of the Draft Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS, and there is a one question you may be able to help with. Hopefully it won't take a lot of time.

(b) (5)

Is that possible? If it is possible, is it something you can provide before Wednesday next week?

Sorry for the short notice, but that seems to be the nature of this project...

Chris

Chris Horyza
Planning and Environmental Coordinator
BLM, Arizona State Office
602-417-9446

From:	Horyza, Chris
To:	Haight, Scott S; Garrett, Verl J; Cox, Rody P; McNutt, Paul J; Tafoya, Diane; Christopher Garrett; Cara Bellavia; Christina White; Charles Coyle
Cc:	Florence, Scott R; Williams, Mike R; Hahn, Martha G.; Spangle, Steve; Hoffmann, John P.; Balsom, Janet R.; Martin, Stephen P.; brsmith; Horyza, Christopher L; Kenna, James G; Simon, Benjamin M; Rai, Vijai N; Suazo, Raymond; Kenna, James G; Taylor, Michael
Subject:	Fw: RFD Revisions to reflect range of values
Date:	Monday, November 22, 2010 6:38:17 PM
Attachments:	Discussion of Range of Values.docx

I asked Chris Garret to consider how he would incorporate the statistical information sent by Jim Otten (b) (5) . Below he has provided some information and has attached his suggested edits. Please look these over and reply with any suggested change.

Chris

Chris Horyza
Planning and Environmental Coordinator
BLM, Arizona State Office
602-417-9446
----- Forwarded by Chris Horyza/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI on 11/22/2010 04:31 PM -----

CHRISTOPHER GARRETT (b) (6)
11/22/2010 03:55 PM

To
Charles Coyle (b) (6) <chris_horyza@blm.gov>

cc

Subject
RFD Revisions to reflect range of values

Hi Chris -

I've gone ahead and written some text to incorporate the range of values from Jim Otten. I hope I wasn't too ambitious with this--I took it perhaps a step farther than was suggested. Here's my approach:

It seems to me there are probably three levels of sophistication when dealing with this uncertainty.

(b) (5)

Changes to show the new text.

(b) (5)

One further related thought:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

- Chris

(See attached file: Discussion of Range of Values.docx)

Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Table B-2. Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment*

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Table B-3. Percent Ore Grade for Existing and Historic Mines

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Table B-4. Estimated Number of Mines Required to Extract Undiscovered Uranium Endowment
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Number of Mines

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Table B-5. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)
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SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS FOR NUMBER OF MINES

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Table X. Sensitivity Analysis for Parameters Used in Estimate of Number of Mines (Alternative A)

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From:	choryza@blm.gov
To:	JhLin@blm.gov1; Simon, Benjamin M; Rai, Vijai N
Subject:	Latest Version of Comment Tracking Table
Date:	Monday, December 20, 2010 6:59:38 PM
Attachments:	Comment-Resolution-Tracking-Table-2010-12-20.pdf

---

I received some suggested edits for comments 13, 15b, and 16, which I added to the file. The new version is attached...

Chris Horyza
Planning and Environmental Coordinator
BLM, Arizona State Office
602-417-9446

Commentor	#	Section			Links to Documents with suggested text to resolve comment
Vijai N. Rai, Ph.D. Team Leader Natural Resources Management Team Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance Office of the Secretary U.S. Department of the Interior	1	EIS Section 2.6 (b) (5)			
Vijai N. Rai, Ph.D. Team Leader Natural Resources Management Team Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance Office of the Secretary U.S. Department of the Interior	2	RFD			RFD Discussion of Range of Values
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	3	RFD B.1.2 Scop – First Paragraph			Edit to RFD Section B.1.2 – updated to clude edits suggested from 12/15/10 nail.
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	4	RFD B.1.3 – 3rd Paragraph			Historic Mine Development within Project rea - Suggested Edits to Section B.1.3
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	5	RFD B.3.1 – Federal Surface Regulations - 3rd Paragraph			uggested Edit to RFD Section B.3.1
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	6	RFD B.3.1 – Performance Standards – 4th Paragraph.			Bulleted Summary of 3809 Regulations
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	7	RFD B.4.4 – Mine Development – Second Paragrap			Suggested Edit to RFD Section B.3.2 Permits and Approvals Table (Attachment 1)

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Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	8	RFD B.5 Current Exploration and Mining Activities	Suggested Edit to RFD Section B.5
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	9	RFD B.6 Mineral Potential	Suggested Edit to RFD Section B.6
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	10	RFD B.8.1 Alternative A – Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources	Suggested Edits to RFD Section B.8.1 Search on "Assumption:"
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	11	RFD B.8.1 Reasonable Foreseeable Development under Alternative A – Number of Mines	Suggested Edits to RFD Section B.8.1 – ncertainty Factors
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	12	RFD B.8.1 Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A – Exploration Activities – Paragraphs 4 and 5	Suggested Edits to RFD Section B.8.1 – RFD for lternative A, Exploration

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Ben Simon, Department of the Interior, Office of Policy Analysis	13	EIS Section 4.1, end	**Suggested Edits to EIS Chapter 4, Section 4.16**
Ben Simon, Department of the Interior, Office of Policy Analysis	14	RFD section B.7.2.	**Suggested Edits to RFD Section B.7.2 – ommodity Markets – added text similar to aragraph 1 from 12/16 email See new version of section B.8.1 – ndiscovered Uranium Resources (comment 2 bove) for inclusion of second paragraph from 2/16 email.**
Ben Simon, Department of the Interior, Office of Policy Analysis	15a	EIS - New Sectio at end of 4.1.2	**uggested Edits to section EIS 4.1.2 - ncertainty, - incorporated edit due to 2/15 email.**

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Ben Simon, Department of the Interior, Office of Policy Analysis	15b	EIS Chapter 4, Economic Analysis	Suggested edit to EIS Section 4.16 - Non-Market Impacts - Updated through email communication 12/20/10
Ben Simon, Department of the Interior, Office of Policy Analysis	16	EIS - Chapter page 4-252	Suggested Edits to EIS Sections 3.16 and 4.16

Linked here is the whole RFD with the latest edits showing as Track Changes

I evaluated the Finch and others (1990) report. In all "Favorable Area A"s listed in the report the p=0.05 resource number was 26.3% of the mean value and the p=0.95 resource number was 208% of the mean values. Since all three withdrawal areas are within Favorable Area A (Finch's figure 2), these percentages could be applied to the numbers in Table 7 of the Otton and Van Gosen chapter.

Following the wording of Table 3 in Finch's report, the odds are 9 to 1 that the unconditional uranium endowment in each of the three withdrawal areas is between 0.263 times the mean and 2.08 times the mean. The range for the withdrawal areas would thus look like this:

North Segregation Area has an endowment that ranges from 24,186 to 191,283 tons U_3O_8

East Segregation Area has an endowment that ranges from 5,742 to 45,411 tons U_3O_8

South Segregation Area has an endowment that ranges from 12,931 to 102,272 tons U_3O_8

Jim Otton

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Table B-2. Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment*

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Table B-4. Estimated Number of Mines Required to Extract Undiscovered Uranium Endowment
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Number of Mines

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Table B-5. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)
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B.1.2 SCOPE

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Historic Mine Development within Project Area

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Table X1. Historical Mine Development within Project Area

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Table X2. Historical Number of Producing Mines

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B.1.3 STUDY AREA

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Table X2. Historical Number of Mines Concurrently in Production

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B.3.1 FEDERAL SURFACE MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS

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Performance Standards

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B.3.2 ARIZONA STATE AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

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ATTACHMENT B1

FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL PERMITS TYPICALLY REQUIRED PRIOR TO MINE DEVELOPMENT

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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B.5 CURRENT EXPLORATION AND MINING ACTIVITIES

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B.6 MINERAL POTENTIAL

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B.8.1 ALTERNATIVE A: NO ACTION (NO WITHDRAWAL)

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Future Locatable Mineral Exploration and Development

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Currently Approved Mines

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Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

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Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

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Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Table B-2 Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment*
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Table B-3. Percent Ore Grade for Existing and Historic Mines
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Table B-4. Estimated Number of Mines Required to Extract Undiscovered Uranium Endowment

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Industry Limitations on Active Mines

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Uncertainty Factors and Estimate of Mine Life Cycle

COMMODITY PRICES

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NEPA REVIEW

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PRODUCTION TIME FRAME
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VALID EXISTING RIGHTS PROCESS
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Figure B-6. Estimated number of mines able to be supported by industry.

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INTERIM MANAGEMENT
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Number of Mines

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Table B-5. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Exploration Activities

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Table B-6. Amount and Success of Historic Exploration*

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Table B-7. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity Needed to Support Uranium Production (20-Year Time Frame)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

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Table B-8. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Roads (20-Year Time Frame)

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Table B-9. Ore Grade for Existing Mines

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Table B-10. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Miles of Power Lines

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Acreage of Surface Disturbance

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Table B-11. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)
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Table B-12. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Mine Water Use
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Table B-13. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)
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Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

Table B-14. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)
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Table B-14. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame), Continued

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Section B.8.1, subsection entitled:

Uncertainty Factors and Estimate of Mine Life Cycle

Commodity prices

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Exploration Activities

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Table B-6. Amount and Success of Historic Exploration*

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Added paragraph to Chapter 4 to clarity:

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B.7.2 COMMODITY MARKETS

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Figure B-3. Worldwide annual production and reactor-related requirements (1945–2005) (Source: International Atomic Energy Agency 2009).[1]

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Figure B-4. Historical uranium market prices (U.S. dollars per pound) (Source: Infomine 2010).

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[1] U = uranium.

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Uncertainty
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American Indian/Cultural Resources

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Recreation/Visual/Air Quality

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Added clarification to Chapter 3, section 3.16

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Appendix B

LOCATABLE MINERAL RESOURCES— REASONABLY FORESEEABLE DEVELOPMENT SCENARIOS

B.1 INTRODUCTION

B.1.1 Purpose

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B.1.2 Scope

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B.1.3 Study Area

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B.2 MINING LAW OF 1872

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B.3 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

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B.3.1 Federal Surface Management Regulations

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Performance Standards

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Monitoring Plan

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Reclamation Requirements

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Enforcement Provisions

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B.3.2 Arizona State and Other Requirements

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B.3.3 Notice and Notice of Intent Review Process

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B.3.4 Plan of Operations Approval Process

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Figure B-1. Plan of operations approval process diagram.

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B.4 DEVELOPMENT OF A URANIUM MINE

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B.4.1 Reconnaissance

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Figure B-2. Mine life cycle diagram.

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B.4.2 Prospecting

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B.4.3 Exploration

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B.4.4 Mine Development

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Interim Management

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TYPICAL SHORT-TERM INTERIM MANAGEMENT

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TYPICAL LONG-TERM INTERIM MANAGEMENT

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B.4.5 Mine Closure and Reclamation

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B.5 CURRENT EXPLORATION AND MINING ACTIVITIES

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Table B-1. Drill-Confirmed Breccia Pipes within the Proposed Withdrawal Area
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Table B-1 Drill-Confirmed Breccia Pipes within the Proposed Withdrawal Area (Continued)
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B.6 MINERAL POTENTIAL

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B.7 FUTURE TRENDS AND ASSUMPTIONS

B.7.1 Commodities of Interest

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B.7.2 Commodity Markets

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Field Code Changed

Figure B-3. Worldwide annual production and reactor-related requirements (1945–2005) (Source: International Atomic Energy Agency 2009).[1]

[1] U = uranium

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Figure B-4. Historical uranium market prices (U.S. dollars per pound) (Source: Infomine 2010).

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B.7.3 Technology

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B.7.4 Industry Mining and Milling Capacity

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B.7.5 Legislative Changes

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B.8 FUTURE LOCATABLE MINERAL EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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B.8.1 Alternative A: No Action (No Withdrawal)

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Future Locatable Mineral Exploration and Development

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Currently Approved Mines

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

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Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Undiscovered Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Table B-2. Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment*

(b) (5)

Table B-3. Percent Ore Grade for Existing and Historic Mines
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table B-4. Estimated Number of Mines Required to Extract Undiscovered Uranium Endowment

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Industry Limitations on Active Mines

(b) (5)

Uncertainty Factors and Estimate of Mine Life Cycle

COMMODITY PRICES

(b) (5)

NEPA REVIEW

(b) (5)

PRODUCTION TIME FRAME

(b) (5)

VALID EXISTING RIGHTS PROCESS

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(b) (5)

Figure B-6. Estimated number of mines able to be supported by industry.

INTERIM MANAGEMENT

(b) (5)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Number of Mines

(b) (5)

Table B-5 Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Exploration Activities

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table B-6. Amount and Success of Historic Exploration*

Table B-7. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity Needed to Support Uranium Production (20-Year Time Frame)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

(b) (5)

Table B-8 Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Roads (20-Year Time Frame)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table B-9. Ore Grade for Existing Mines
(b) (5)

Table B-10. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Miles of Power Lines
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Acreage of Surface Disturbance
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table B-11. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Mine Water Use

(b) (5)

Table B-13. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)

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Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

Table B-14 Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-14. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame), Continued

(b) (5)

B.8.2 Alternative B: Proposed Action (~1 Million Acres, 20-Year Withdrawal)

(b) (5)

Future Locatable Minerals Activity

(b) (5)

Currently Approved Mines

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Undiscovered Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Number of Mines

(b) (5)

Table B-15. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Exploration Activities

(b) (5)

Table B-16. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity (20–Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

(b) (5)

Table B-17. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Roads (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-18. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Miles of Power Lines

(b) (5)

Table B-19. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Acreage of Surface Disturbance

(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Mine Water Use

(b) (5)

Table B-20. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table B-21. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

Table B-22. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

B.8.3 Alternative C: Partial Withdrawal (~700,000 Acres)

(b) (5)

Future Locatable Mineral Exploration and Development

(b) (5)

Currently Approved Mines

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Undiscovered Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Table B-23. Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment Available under Alternative C
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Number of Mines

(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Exploration Activities

(b) (5)

Table B-24. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-25. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity Needed to Support Uranium Production (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

(b) (5)

Table B-26. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Roads (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-27. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Miles of Power Lines

(b) (5)

Table B-28. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Acreage of Surface Disturbance

(b) (5)

Table B-29. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Mine Water Use

(b) (5)

Table B-30. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

Table B-31. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-31. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame), Continued

(b) (5)

B.8.4 Alternative D: Partial Withdrawal (~300,000 Acres)

(b) (5)

Future Locatable Mineral Exploration and Development

(b) (5)

Currently Approved Mines

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

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Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Number of Mines

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table B-32. Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment Available under Alternative D
(b) (5)

Table B-33. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Exploration Activities

(b) (5)

Table B-34. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity Needed to Support Uranium Production (20-Year Time Frame)

(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Miles of Power Lines

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table B-36. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-37. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Acreage of Surface Disturbance

(b) (5)

Table B-38. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Mine Water Use

(b) (5)

Table B-39. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

Table B-40. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

B.9 SUMMARY

(b) (5)

Table B-41. Reasonably Foreseeable Future Mineral Exploration and Development by Alternative (20-Year Time Frame)

(b) (5)

Table B-41. Reasonably Foreseeable Future Mineral Exploration and Development by Alternative (20-Year Time Frame). Continued
(b) (5)

Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios
(b) (5)

Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
(b) (5)

Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
(b) (5)

Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
(b) (5)

Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
(b) (5)

Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
(b) (5)

B.10 LITERATURE CITED

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ATTACHMENT B1

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FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL PERMITS TYPICALLY REQUIRED PRIOR TO MINE DEVELOPMENT

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Push to Return to Table

From:	Horyza, Chris
To:	Lin, Janet H
Cc:	Moody, Aaron; Simon, Benjamin M; Kenna, James G; Hawbecker, Karen; Nedd, Michael D; Leverette, Mitchell; Florence, Scott R
Subject:	Re: Information memorandum - your assistance!
Date:	Wednesday, February 02, 2011 1:23:57 PM
Attachments:	Northern Arizona Withdrawal (circulated - draft 2-1-11) ch sf.docx

---

Janet,

Scott Florence and I have made some suggested edits to the information memorandum and submit the attachement below for your consideration. (b) (5)

Chris

Chris Horyza
Planning and Environmental Coordinator
BLM, Arizona State Office
602-417-9446

Janet H Lin/WO/BLM/DOI

02/02/2011 09:26 AM

To Jim_Kenna@blm.gov@BLM, Mike_Nedd@blm.gov@BLM, Mitchell Leverette/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, Chris Horyza/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI, Scott Florence/ASFO/AZ/BLM/DOI, Aaron.Moody@exchange.sol.doi.gov, KAREN.HAWBECKER@exchange.sol.doi.gov, Benjamin_Simon@ios.doi.gov

cc

Subject Information memorandum - your assistance!

Hi folks -

We have a quick turnaround request for an information memorandum. I went ahead and drafted something - since this is one mof many information memorandums we have provided, (b) (5)
Do you mind reviewing and verifying the information? (b) (5)
I appreciate it very much. Thanks.

[attachment "Northern Arizona Withdrawal (circulated - draft 2-1-11).docx" deleted by Chris Horyza/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI]

- Janet

Janet H. Lin
Chief of Staff, Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-3801
(202) 208-5242 (f)

Pre-decisional Privileged Attorney-client communication
Internal Working Draft 2-1-2011

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

February 1, 2011

I. INTRODUCTION

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

II. BACKGROUND

(b) (5)

III. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES ~~– please update!~~

Members of Congress: (b) (5)

Arizona Governor's Office: (b) (5)

Tribes: (b) (5)

Coconino County, AZ: (b) (5)

Mojave County, AZ and Kane County, UT: (b) (5)

Industry: (b) (5)

Media: (b) (5)

LEGAL ISSUES:

From:	Horyza, Chris
To:	Rai, Vijai N
Cc:	Heick, Rebecca D; Simon, Benjamin M; Cara Bellavia; Charles Coyle; Crowley, Christian; Christina White; Tafoya, Diane; Garrett, Verl J; Kenna, James G; Christopher Garrett; McNutt, Paul J; Cox, Rody P; Cline, Sarah A; Florence, Scott R; Haight, Scott S; Taylor, Willie R
Subject:	RE: Question Regarding Uranium Resource Availability Report in SIR 2010-5025 - 90% confidence interval boundaries
Date:	Monday, November 22, 2010 2:03:53 PM

Chris Garrett, the contractor's author of the RFD, is working on a way to incorporate this information, which I will share with the rest of the RFD team. He is expecting to work on it today, so may have something later this afternoon or tomorrow. Are you interested in seing it too?

Chris

Chris Horyza
Planning and Environmental Coordinator
BLM, Arizona State Office
602-417-9446

"Rai, Vijai N" <Vijai_Rai@ios.doi.gov>
11/22/2010 11:44 AM

To
"Horyza, Chris" <Chris_Horyza@blm.gov>

cc
"Heick, Becky" <Becky_Heick@blm.gov>, Cara Bellavia (b) (6) , Charles Coyle (b) (6) "Crowley, Christian" <Christian_Crowley@ios.doi.gov>, Christina White (b) (6) , "Tafoya, Diane" <dtafoya@fs.fed.us>, "Garrett, Jeff" <Jeff_Garrett@blm.gov>, "Kenna, Jim" <Jim_Kenna@blm.gov>, Christopher Garrett (b) (6) , "McNutt, Paul" <Paul_McNutt@blm.gov>, "Cox, Rody" <Rody_Cox@blm.gov>, "Cline, Sarah A" <Sarah_Cline@ios.doi.gov>, "Florence, Scott" <Scott_Florence@blm.gov>, "Haight, Scott" <Scott_Haight@blm.gov>, "Simon, Benjamin M" <Benjamin_Simon@ios.doi.gov>, "Taylor, Willie R" <Willie_Taylor@ios.doi.gov>

Subject
RE: Question Regarding Uranium Resource Availability Report in SIR 2010-5025 - 90% confidence interval boundaries

Chris,

(b) (5) If your EIS team can integrate it in the write up at an appropriate place in the EIS and/or the appendix by incorporating Jim's comment/explanation, then it will provide the reader a better understanding of the extent of uncertainty with respect to the magnitude of uranium "endowment." (b) (5)

Therefore, if you need our assistance in that regard, please let us know. Thanks. Vijai.

-----Original Message-----
From: Chris_Horyza@blm.gov [mailto:Chris_Horyza@blm.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 22, 2010 9:18 AM
To: Rai, Vijai N
Cc: Heick, Becky; Cara Bellavia; Charles Coyle; Crowley, Christian; Christina White; Tafoya, Diane; Garrett, Jeff; Kenna, Jim; Christopher Garrett; McNutt, Paul; Cox, Rody; Cline, Sarah A; Florence, Scott; Haight, Scott; Simon, Benjamin M
Subject: Fw: Question Regarding Uranium Resource Availability Report in SIR 2010-5025 - 90% confidence interval boundaries

Vijai,

The email below is from one of the authors of the USGS report on the uranium resource in the proposed withdrawal area. (b) (5)

Chris

Chris Horyza
Planning and Environmental Coordinator
BLM, Arizona State Office
602-417-9446
----- Forwarded by Chris Horyza/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI on 11/22/2010 07:06 AM -----

"Jim Otton" <jkotton@usgs.gov>
11/19/2010 04:16 PM
Please respond to <jkotton@usgs.gov>

To "'Chris Horyza'" <Chris_Horyza@blm.gov>, "'Bradley S Van Gosen'" <bvangose@usgs.gov>
cc "'Susan M Hall'" <susanhall@usgs.gov>, "'John P Hoffmann'" <jphoffma@usgs.gov>, "'Christopher J Potter'" <cpotter@usgs.gov>

Subject
RE: Question Regarding Uranium
Resource Availability Report in SIR
2010-5025

Chris,

(b) (5)

Jim Otton

-----Original Message-----
From: Chris Horyza [mailto:Chris_Horyza@blm.gov]
Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2010 2:56 PM
To: James K Otton; Bradley S Van Gosen
Subject: Question Regarding Uranium Resource Availability Report in SIR
2010-5025

Jim and Bradley,

The Department of Interior is asking questions about many aspects of the
Draft Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS, and there is a one question
you may be able to help with. Hopefully it won't take a lot of time.
(b) (5)

Is that possible? If it is possible, is it something you can provide before Wednesday next week?

Sorry for the short notice, but that seems to be the nature of this project...

Chris

Chris Horyza
Planning and Environmental Coordinator
BLM, Arizona State Office
602-417-9446

From: choryza@blm.gov
To: JhLin@blm.gov1; Simon, Benjamin M; Rai, Vijai N
Subject: Re: Updated Comment Tracking and Suggested Comment Resolutions
Date: Sunday, December 19, 2010 9:38:39 PM
Attachments: Comment-Resolution-Tracking-2010-12-17.pdf

Updated Table and edits attached.

Chris Horyza
Planning and Environmental Coordinator
BLM, Arizona State Office
602-417-9446

Janet H Lin/WO/BLM/DOI

12/17/2010 04:12 PM

To Chris Horyza/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM
cc
Subject Re: Updated Comment Tracking and Suggested Comment Resolutions Link

Hey Chris - can you send the summary table too?

----- Original Message -----

From: Chris Horyza

Sent: 12/17/2010 03:47 PM MST

To: Janet Lin
Cc: Aaron.Moody@exchange.sol.doi.gov; "Simon, Benjamin M" <Benjamin_Simon@ios.doi.gov>; Janet Lin; Jim Kenna; KAREN.HAWBECKER@exchange.sol.doi.gov; kendra.nitta@exchange.sol.doi.gov; Mike Nedd; Mitchell Leverette; Mike Pool; "Ferriter, Olivia B" <Olivia_Ferriter@ios.doi.gov>; Scott Florence; "Rai, Vijai N" <Vijai_Rai@ios.doi.gov>

Subject: RE: Updated Comment Tracking and Suggested Comment Resolutions

I have addressed the comments and edits you and Ben have sent me, and have updated my working table and other working documents, but I am still waiting for suggestions from the "economics team" to address comments 13 and 15b. Rebuilding the table takes a little while, so I am going to send you the next version after I get the edits from the Economics Team... or Monday Morning, which ever comes first.

Have a good weekend!

Chris

Chris Horyza
Planning and Environmental Coordinator
BLM, Arizona State Office
602-417-9446

Janet H Lin/WO/BLM/DOI

To Chris Horyza/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI

12/16/2010 10:01 AM

cc "Simon, Benjamin M" <Benjamin_Simon@ios.doi.gov>, "JhLin@blm.gov1" <JhLin@blm.gov>, "jkenna@blm.gov" <jkenna@blm.gov>, "mpool@blm.gov" <mpool@blm.gov>, "Ferriter, Olivia B" <Olivia_Ferriter@ios.doi.gov>, "S1Floren@blm.gov" <S1Floren@blm.gov>, "Rai, V jai N" <Vijai_Rai@ios.doi.gov>, KAREN.HAWBECKER@exchange.sol.doi.gov, kendra.nitta@exchange.sol.doi.gov, Aaron.Moody@exchange.sol.doi.gov, M ke_Nedd@blm.gov@BLM, Mitchell Leverette/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM

Subject RE: Updated Comment Tracking and Suggested Comment Resolutions Link

Hi Chris - I have finished reviewing the last draft - A few more comments/questions:

(b) (5)

(Would this influence the pace of development?)

(b) (5)

Again, I defer to your experts on the ground.

Thanks much.

- Janet

Janet H. Lin

Chief of Staff, Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-3801
(202) 208-5242 (f)

Chris Horyza/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI

12/15/2010 06:53 PM

To "Simon, Benjamin M" <Benjamin_Simon@ios.doi.gov>
cc "JhLin@blm.gov1" <JhLin@blm.gov>, "jkenna@blm.gov" <jkenna@blm.gov>, "mpool@blm.gov" <mpool@blm.gov>, "Ferriter, Olivia B" <Olivia_Ferriter@ios.doi.gov>, "S1Floren@blm.gov" <S1Floren@blm.gov>, "Rai, V jai N" <Vijai_Rai@ios.doi.gov>
Subject RE: Updated Comment Tracking and Suggested Comment Resolutions Link

Ben,

Thanks for your comments. I fixed the errant copy/paste mistake and sent you and Janet Lin a new version attached to another email.

I appreciate your responses and I think we're getting close. On the comments that Cara Bellavia, Dr. John Loomis, and Paul McNutt are working on, (specifically comments 13, 15b, and 16) I would prefer to address those when they have something we can discuss... hopefully tomorrow.

(b) (5)

Again, I appreciate your prompt response and willingness to work with us on these!

Chris

Chris Horyza
Planning and Environmental Coordinator
BLM, Arizona State Office
602-417-9446

"Simon, Benjamin M" <Benjamin_Simon@ios.doi.gov>

12/15/2010 03:14 PM

To "choryza@blm.gov" <choryza@blm.gov>, "JhLin@blm.gov1" <JhLin@blm.gov>
cc "jkenna@blm.gov" <jkenna@blm.gov>, "S1Floren@blm.gov"

<S1Floren@blm.gov>, "mpool@blm.gov" <mpool@blm.gov>, "Rai, Vijai N" <Vijai_Rai@ios.doi.gov>, "Ferriter, Olivia B" <Olivia_Ferriter@ios.doi.gov>

Subject RE: Updated Comment Tracking and Suggested Comment Resolutions

Chris, Janet,

Here are some comments on the changes proposed for the EIS.

(b) (5)

Here are a few specific comments:

(b) (5)

Thanks for the opportunity to review the changes.

Ben

==========

Benjamin Simon
Director, Economics Staff, Office of Policy Analysis
U.S. Department of the Interior
Mail Stop 3530
1849 C St. NW
Washington DC 20240
202 208 4916
benjamin_simon@ios.doi.gov

From: choryza@blm.gov [mailto:choryza@blm.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 2010 11:04 AM
To: JhLin@blm.gov1; Rai, Vijai N; Simon, Benjamin M
Cc: jkenna@blm.gov; S1Floren@blm.gov; mpool@blm.gov
Subject: Updated Comment Tracking and Suggested Comment Resolutions

Janet,

Attached is a (rather large) PDF file that has the most current version of the Comment Tracking table at the beginning, and is followed with documents that show the specific edits we (the RFD development Team and some of the interagency EIS team) suggest for actually resolving or responding to the comments. There are still a couple that are pending resolution as the consultants economist has had difficulty contacting BLM's counterpart, but they are working on resolution.

To use the PDF, I have attempted (and I think mostly successfully) to link the actual suggested edit to the table row that has the comment. Text that appears in blue font in the table are links to the documents that show the actual suggested edit. There should be a button somewhere on the pages with edits that take you back to the table. Since the table is wide, you may have to pan back and forth if ypou don't have a wide screen monitor on your PC (I think it's pretty good, but not perfect...) The whole RFD (intact) with appropriate markups is linked and attached at the end in case you prefer to see the edits in the context of the whole RFD.

Ben and Vijai,

I know this is the first you have seen these, and I hope you can both negotiate the file and clearly see (and understand) our responses. The State Director has scheduled an Interagency Executive Oversight Team conference call at 9:30 MST tomorrow to brief them on our progress.If you want to have a conference call to discuss our responses, please let me know and I'll arrange it.

To all, if you have any problems with the PDF file, let me know... making it involved some new skills and I won't be surprised if I made mistakes!

Chris

Chris Horyza
Planning and Environmental Coordinator
BLM, Arizona State Office
602-417-9446

Commentor	#	Section	Comment/Change	Action Taken	Links to Documents with suggested text to resolve comment
Vijai N. Rai, Ph.D. Team Leader Natural Resources Management Team Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance Office of the Secretary U.S. Department of the Interior	1	EIS Section 2.6	(b) (5)		
Vijai N. Rai, Ph.D. Team Leader Natural Resources Management Team Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance Office of the Secretary U.S. Department of the Interior	2	RFD			RFD Discussion of Range of Values
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	3	RFD B.1.2 Scope – First Paragraph			Edit to RFD Section B.1.2 – updated to clude edits suggested from 12/15/10 mail.
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	4	RFD B.1.3 – 3rd Paragraph			Historic Mine Development within Project rea - Suggested Edits to Section B.1.3
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	5	RFD B.3.1 – Federal Surface Regulations - 3rd Paragraph			Suggested Edit to RFD Section B.3.1
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	6	RFD B.3.1 – Performance Standards – 4th Paragraph.			Bulleted Summary of 3809 Regulations
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	7	RFD B.4.4 – Mine Development – Second Paragraph			Suggested Edit to RFD Section B.3.2 Permits and Approvals Table (Attachment .1)

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Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	8	RFD B.5 Current Exploration and Mining Activitie	Suggested Edit to RFD Section B.5
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	9	RFD B.6 Minera Potential	Suggested Edit to RFD Section B.6
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	10	RFD B.8.1 Alternative A – Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimat of Uranium Resources	Suggested Edits to RFD Section B.8.1 Search on "Assumption:"
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	11	RFD B.8.1 Reasonable Foreseeable Development under Alternative A – Number of Mines	Suggested Edits to RFD Section B.8.1 – ncertainty Factors
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	12	RFD B.8.1 Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A – Exploration Activities – Paragraphs 4 and 5	Suggested Edits to RFD Section B.8.1 – RFD for Iternative A, Exploration

Ben Simon, Department of the Interior, Office of Policy Analysis	13	EIS Section 4.1, end (b) (5)	RESOLUTION PENDING
Ben Simon, Department of the Interior, Office of Policy Analysis	14	RFD section B.7.2.	**‣ Suggested Edits to RFD Section B.7.2 – Commodity Markets – added text similar to Paragraph 1 from 12/16 email** **‣ See new version of section B.8.1 – Undiscovered Uranium Resources (comment 2 above) for inclusion of second paragraph from 12/16 email.**

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Ben Simon, Department of the Interior, Office of Policy Analysis	15a	EIS - New Section at end of 4.1.2	uggested Edits to section EIS 4.1.2 - ncertainty, - incorporated edit due to 2/15 email.
Ben Simon, Department of the Interior, Office of Policy Analysis	15b	EIS Chapter 4, Economic Analysis	uggested edit to EIS Section 4.16 - Non-Market Impacts
Ben Simon, Department of the Interior, Office of Policy Analysis	16	EIS - Chapter 4, page 4-252	hange Header to "Existence and Use alues"

Linked here is the whole RFD with the latest edits showing as Track Changes

I evaluated the Finch and others (1990) report. In all "Favorable Area A"s listed in the report the p=0.05 resource number was 26.3% of the mean value and the p=0.95 resource number was 208% of the mean values. Since all three withdrawal areas are within Favorable Area A (Finch's figure 2), these percentages could be applied to the numbers in Table 7 of the Otton and Van Gosen chapter.

Following the wording of Table 3 in Finch's report, the odds are 9 to 1 that the unconditional uranium endowment in each of the three withdrawal areas is between 0.263 times the mean and 2.08 times the mean. The range for the withdrawal areas would thus look like this:

North Segregation Area has an endowment that ranges from 24,186 to 191,283 tons U_3O_8

East Segregation Area has an endowment that ranges from 5,742 to 45,411 tons U_3O_8

South Segregation Area has an endowment that ranges from 12,931 to 102,272 tons U_3O_8

Jim Otton

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Table B-3. Percent Ore Grade for Existing and Historic Mines

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Number of Mines

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Table B-5. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)

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B.1.2 SCOPE

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Historic Mine Development within Project Area

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Table X1. Historical Mine Development within Project Area

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Table X2. Historical Number of Producing Mines

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B.1.3 STUDY AREA

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Table X1. Historical Mine Development within Project Area

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Table X2. Historical Number of Mines Concurrently in Production

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B.3.1 FEDERAL SURFACE MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS

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Performance Standards

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B.3.2 ARIZONA STATE AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

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ATTACHMENT B1

FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL PERMITS TYPICALLY REQUIRED PRIOR TO MINE DEVELOPMENT

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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B.5 CURRENT EXPLORATION AND MINING ACTIVITIES

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B.6 MINERAL POTENTIAL

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B.8.1 ALTERNATIVE A: NO ACTION (NO WITHDRAWAL)

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Future Locatable Mineral Exploration and Development

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Currently Approved Mines

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

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Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

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Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Table B-2 Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment*
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Table B-3. Percent Ore Grade for Existing and Historic Mines
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Table B-4. Estimated Number of Mines Required to Extract Undiscovered Uranium Endowment

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Industry Limitations on Active Mines

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Uncertainty Factors and Estimate of Mine Life Cycle

COMMODITY PRICES

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NEPA REVIEW

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PRODUCTION TIME FRAME

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VALID EXISTING RIGHTS PROCESS

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Figure B-6. Estimated number of mines able to be supported by industry.

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INTERIM MANAGEMENT

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Number of Mines

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Table B-5. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Exploration Activities

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Table B-6. Amount and Success of Historic Exploration*

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Table B-7. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity Needed to Support Uranium Production (20-Year Time Frame)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

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Table B-8. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Roads (20-Year Time Frame)

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Table B-9. Ore Grade for Existing Mines
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Table B-10. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Miles of Power Lines
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Acreage of Surface Disturbance
(b) (5)

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Table B-11. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)
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Table B-12. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Mine Water Use
(b) (5)

Table B-13. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)
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Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

Table B-14. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

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Table B-14. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame), Continued

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Section B.8.1, subsection entitled:

Uncertainty Factors and Estimate of Mine Life Cycle

Commodity prices

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Exploration Activities

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Table B-6. Amount and Success of Historic Exploration*

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B.7.2 COMMODITY MARKETS

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Figure B-3. Worldwide annual production and reactor-related requirements (1945–2005) (Source: International Atomic Energy Agency 2009).[1]

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Figure B-4. Historical uranium market prices (U.S. dollars per pound) (Source: Infomine 2010).

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[1] U = uranium.

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Uncertainty
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Uncertainty
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Recreation/Visual/Air Quality

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Appendix B

LOCATABLE MINERAL RESOURCES— REASONABLY FORESEEABLE DEVELOPMENT SCENARIOS

B.1 INTRODUCTION

B.1.1 Purpose

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B.1.2 Scope

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B.1.3 Study Area

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Table X1. Historical Mine Development within Project Area

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Table X2. Historical Number of Mines Concurrently in Production

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B.2 MINING LAW OF 1872

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B.3 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

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B.3.1 Federal Surface Management Regulations

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Performance Standards

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Monitoring Plan

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Reclamation Requirements

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Enforcement Provisions

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B.3.2 Arizona State and Other Requirements

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B.3.3 Notice and Notice of Intent Review Process

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B.3.4 Plan of Operations Approval Process

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Figure B-1. Plan of operations approval process diagram.

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B.4 DEVELOPMENT OF A URANIUM MINE

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B.4.1 Reconnaissance

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Figure B-2. Mine life cycle diagram.

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B.4.2 Prospecting

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B.4.4 Mine Development

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Interim Management

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TYPICAL SHORT-TERM INTERIM MANAGEMENT

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TYPICAL LONG-TERM INTERIM MANAGEMENT

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B.4.5 Mine Closure and Reclamation

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B.5 CURRENT EXPLORATION AND MINING ACTIVITIES

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Table B-1. Drill-Confirmed Breccia Pipes within the Proposed Withdrawal Area
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Table B-1. Drill-Confirmed Breccia Pipes within the Proposed Withdrawal Area (Continued)
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B.6 MINERAL POTENTIAL

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B.7 FUTURE TRENDS AND ASSUMPTIONS

B.7.1 Commodities of Interest

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B.7.2 Commodity Markets

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Field Code Changed

Figure B-3. Worldwide annual production and reactor-related requirements (1945–2005) (Source: International Atomic Energy Agency 2009).[1]

[1] U = uranium

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Figure B-4. Historical uranium market prices (U.S. dollars per pound) (Source: Infomine 2010).

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B.7.3 Technology

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B.7.4 Industry Mining and Milling Capacity

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B.7.5 Legislative Changes

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B.8 FUTURE LOCATABLE MINERAL EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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B.8.1 Alternative A: No Action (No Withdrawal)

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Future Locatable Mineral Exploration and Development

(b) (5)

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Currently Approved Mines

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Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

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Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

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Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Table B-2. Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment*

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Table B-4. Estimated Number of Mines Required to Extract Undiscovered Uranium Endowment

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Industry Limitations on Active Mines

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Uncertainty Factors and Estimate of Mine Life Cycle

COMMODITY PRICES

(b) (5)

NEPA REVIEW

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PRODUCTION TIME FRAME

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VALID EXISTING RIGHTS PROCESS

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Figure B-6. Estimated number of mines able to be supported by industry.

INTERIM MANAGEMENT

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Number of Mines

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Table B-5. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Exploration Activities

(b) (5)

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Table B-6. Amount and Success of Historic Exploration*

Table B-7. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity Needed to Support Uranium Production (20-Year Time Frame)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

(b) (5)

Table B-8 Alternative A—No Withdrawal Estimated Miles of New Roads (20-Year Time Frame)
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Table B-9. Ore Grade for Existing Mines

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Table B-10. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Miles of Power Lines

(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Acreage of Surface Disturbance

(b) (5)

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Table B-11. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-12. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Mine Water Use
(b) (5)

Table B-13. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)

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Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

Table B-14. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)
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Table B-14. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame), Continued

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B.8.2 Alternative B: Proposed Action (~1 Million Acres, 20-Year Withdrawal)

(b) (5)

Future Locatable Minerals Activity

(b) (5)

Currently Approved Mines

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

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Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Number of Mines

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Table B-15. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Exploration Activities

(b) (5)

Table B-16. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity (20–Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

(b) (5)

Table B-17. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Roads (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-18. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Miles of Power Lines

(b) (5)

Table B-19. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Acreage of Surface Disturbance

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Mine Water Use

(b) (5)

Table B-20. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)

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Table B-21. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)
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Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

Table B-22. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

B.8.3 Alternative C: Partial Withdrawal (~700,000 Acres)

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Future Locatable Mineral Exploration and Development

(b) (5)

Currently Approved Mines

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Table B-23 Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment Available under Alternative C

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Number of Mines

(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Exploration Activities

(b) (5)

Table B-24. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-25. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity Needed to Support Uranium Production (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips
(b) (5)

Table B-26. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal. Estimated Miles of New Roads (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-27 Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Miles of Power Lines

(b) (5)

Table B-28. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Acreage of Surface Disturbance

(b) (5)

Table B-29. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Mine Water Use

(b) (5)

Table B-30. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal. Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

Table B-31. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)
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Table B-31. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time

(b) (5)

B.8.4 Alternative D: Partial Withdrawal (~300,000 Acres)

(b) (5)

Future Locatable Mineral Exploration and Development

(b) (5)

Currently Approved Mines

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

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Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

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Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Number of Mines

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Table B-32. Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment Available under Alternative D
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Table B-33. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Exploration Activities

(b) (5)

Table B-34. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity Needed to Support Uranium Production (20-Year Time Frame)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

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Table B-35. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Roads (20-Year Time Frame)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Miles of Power Lines

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Table B-36. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-37. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Acreage of Surface Disturbance

(b) (5)

Table B-38. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Mine Water Use

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Table B-39. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)
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Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

Table B-40. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)
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B.9 SUMMARY

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Table B-41. Reasonably Foreseeable Future Mineral Exploration and Development by Alternative (20-Year Time Frame)

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Table B-41. Reasonably Foreseeable Future Mineral Exploration and Development by Alternative (20-Year Time Frame), Continued

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Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios

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Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
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Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
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Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
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Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
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Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued

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B.10 LITERATURE CITED

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ATTACHMENT B1

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FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL PERMITS TYPICALLY REQUIRED PRIOR TO MINE DEVELOPMENT

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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From:	choryza@blm.gov
To:	JhLin@blm.gov1; Rai, Vijai N; Simon, Benjamin M
Cc:	Kenna, James G; Florence, Scott R; Pool, Michael J
Subject:	Updated Comment Tracking and Suggested Comment Resolutions
Date:	Wednesday, December 15, 2010 11:05:27 AM
Attachments:	Comment-Resolution-Tracking-2010-12-15.pdf

Janet,

Attached is a (rather large) PDF file that has the most current version of the Comment Tracking table at the beginning, and is followed with documents that show the specific edits we (the RFD development Team and some of the interagency EIS team) suggest for actually resolving or responding to the comments. There are still a couple that are pending resolution as the consultants economist has had difficulty contacting BLM's counterpart, but they are working on resolution.

To use the PDF, I have attempted (and I think mostly successfully) to link the actual suggested edit to the table row that has the comment. Text that appears in blue font in the table are links to the documents that show the actual suggested edit. There should be a button somewhere on the pages with edits that take you back to the table. Since the table is wide, you may have to pan back and forth if ypou don't have a wide screen monitor on your PC (I think it's pretty good, but not perfect...) The whole RFD (intact) with appropriate markups is linked and attached at the end in case you prefer to see the edits in the context of the whole RFD.

Ben and Vijai,

I know this is the first you have seen these, and I hope you can both negotiate the file and clearly see (and understand) our responses. The State Director has scheduled an Interagency Executive Oversight Team conference call at 9:30 MST tomorrow to brief them on our progress.If you want to have a conference call to discuss our responses, please let me know and I'll arrange it.

To all, if you have any problems with the PDF file, let me know... making it involved some new skills and I won't be surprised if I made mistakes!

Chris

Chris Horyza
Planning and Environmental Coordinator
BLM, Arizona State Office
602-417-9446

Commentor	#	Section	Comment/Change	Action Taken	Links to Documents with suggested text to resolve comment
Vijai N. Rai, Ph.D. Team Leader Natural Resources Management Team Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance Office of the Secretary U.S. Department of the Interior	1	EIS Section 2.6	(b) (5)		
Vijai N. Rai, Ph.D. Team Leader Natural Resources Management Team Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance Office of the Secretary U.S. Department of the Interior	2	RFD			RFD Discussion of Range of Values
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	3	RFD B.1.2 Scope – First Paragraph			Edit to RFD Section B.1.2
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	4	RFD B.1.3 – 3rd Paragraph			Historic Mine Development within Project rea - Suggested Edits to Section B.1.3
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	5	RFD B.3.1 – Federal Surface Regulations - 3rd Paragraph			Suggested Edit to RFD Section B.3.1
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	6	RFD B.3.1 – Performance Standards – 4th Paragraph.			Bulleted Summary of 3809 Regulations
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	7	RFD B.4.4 – Mine Development – Second Paragraph			Suggested Edit to RFD Section B.3.2 Permits and Approvals Table (Attachment B.1)

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Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	8	RFD B.5 Curren Exploration and Mining Activiti	Suggested Edit to RFD Section B.5
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	9	RFD B.6 Miner Potential	Suggested Edit to RFD Section B.6
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	10	RFD B.8.1 Alternative A – Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimat of Uranium Resources	Suggested Edits to RFD Section B.8.1 Search on "Assumption:"
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	11	RFD B.8.1 Reasonable Foreseeable Development under Alternativ A – Number of Mines	Suggested Edits to RFD Section B.8.1 – ncertainty Factors
Janet Lin - Comments reflect Departmental concerns	12	RFD B.8.1 Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternativ A – Exploration Activities – Paragraphs 4 an 5	Suggested Edits to RFD Section B.8.1 – RFD for lternative A, Exploration

Ben Simon, DOI Office of Public Policy Analysis	13	EIS Section 4.1, end (b) (5)	RESOLUTION PENDING
Ben Simon, DOI Office of Public Policy Analysis	14	RFD section B.7.2.	**Suggested Edits to RFD Section B.7.2 – Commodity Markets**

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Ben Simon, DOI Office of Public Policy Analysis	15a	EIS - New Section at end of 4.1.2	Suggested Edits to section EIS 4.1.2 - Uncertainty
Ben Simon, DOI Office of Public Policy Analysis	15b	EIS Chapter 4, Economic Analysis	Suggested edit to EIS Section 4.16 - Non-Market Impacts
Ben Simon, DOI Office of Public Policy Analysis	16	EIS - Chapter 4, page 4-252	RESOLUTION PENDING

Linked here is the whole RFD with the latest edits showing as Track Changes

I evaluated the Finch and others (1990) report. In all "Favorable Area A"s listed in the report the p=0.05 resource number was 26.3% of the mean value and the p=0.95 resource number was 208% of the mean values. Since all three withdrawal areas are within Favorable Area A (Finch's figure 2), these percentages could be applied to the numbers in Table 7 of the Otton and Van Gosen chapter.

Following the wording of Table 3 in Finch's report, the odds are 9 to 1 that the unconditional uranium endowment in each of the three withdrawal areas is between 0.263 times the mean and 2.08 times the mean. The range for the withdrawal areas would thus look like this:

North Segregation Area has an endowment that ranges from 24,186 to 191,283 tons U_3O_8

East Segregation Area has an endowment that ranges from 5,742 to 45,411 tons U_3O_8

South Segregation Area has an endowment that ranges from 12,931 to 102,272 tons U_3O_8

Jim Otton

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Table B-2. Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment*

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Table B-4. Estimated Number of Mines Required to Extract Undiscovered Uranium Endowment
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Number of Mines

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Table B-5. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)
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B.1.2 SCOPE

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Historic Mine Development within Project Area

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Table X1. Historical Mine Development within Project Area

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Table X2. Historical Number of Producing Mines

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B.1.3 STUDY AREA

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Table X1. Historical Mine Development within Project Area

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Table X2. Historical Number of Mines Concurrently in Production
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B.3.1 FEDERAL SURFACE MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS

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Performance Standards

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ATTACHMENT B1

FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL PERMITS TYPICALLY REQUIRED PRIOR TO MINE DEVELOPMENT

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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B.3.2 ARIZONA STATE AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

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B.5 CURRENT EXPLORATION AND MINING ACTIVITIES

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B.6 MINERAL POTENTIAL

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Section B.8.1, subsection entitled:

Uncertainty Factors and Estimate of Mine Life Cycle

Commodity prices

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B.8.1 ALTERNATIVE A: NO ACTION (NO WITHDRAWAL)

(b) (5)

Future Locatable Mineral Exploration and Development

(b) (5)

Currently Approved Mines

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Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

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Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

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Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Table B-2. Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment*
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Table B-3. Percent Ore Grade for Existing and Historic Mines
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Table B-4. Estimated Number of Mines Required to Extract Undiscovered Uranium Endowment

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Industry Limitations on Active Mines

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Uncertainty Factors and Estimate of Mine Life Cycle

COMMODITY PRICES

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NEPA REVIEW

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PRODUCTION TIME FRAME

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VALID EXISTING RIGHTS PROCESS

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Figure B-6. Estimated number of mines able to be supported by industry.

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INTERIM MANAGEMENT

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Number of Mines

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Table B-5. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Exploration Activities

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Table B-6. Amount and Success of Historic Exploration*

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Table B-7. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity Needed to Support Uranium Production (20-Year Time Frame)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

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Table B-8. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Roads (20-Year Time Frame)
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Table B-9. Ore Grade for Existing Mines
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Table B-10. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Miles of Power Lines
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Acreage of Surface Disturbance
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Table B-11. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)
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Table B-12. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Mine Water Use

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Table B-13. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)
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Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

Table B-14. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)
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Table B-14. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame), Continued

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Exploration Activities

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Table B-6. Amount and Success of Historic Exploration*

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B.7.2 COMMODITY MARKETS

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Figure B-3. Worldwide annual production and reactor-related requirements (1945–2005) (Source: International Atomic Energy Agency 2009).[1]

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Figure B-4. Historical uranium market prices (U.S. dollars per pound) (Source: Infomine 2010).

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[1] U = uranium.

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Uncertainty
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Uncertainty
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Recreation/Visual/Air Quality

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Appendix B

LOCATABLE MINERAL RESOURCES— REASONABLY FORESEEABLE DEVELOPMENT SCENARIOS

B.1 INTRODUCTION

B.1.1 Purpose

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B.1.2 Scope

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B.1.3 Study Area

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Table X1. Historical Mine Development within Project Area

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Table X2. Historical Number of Mines Concurrently in Production

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B.2 MINING LAW OF 1872

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B.3 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

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B.3.1 Federal Surface Management Regulations

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Performance Standards

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Monitoring Plan

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Reclamation Requirements

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Enforcement Provisions

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B.3.2 Arizona State and Other Requirements

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B.3.3 Notice and Notice of Intent Review Process

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B.3.4 Plan of Operations Approval Process

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Figure B-1. Plan of operations approval process diagram.

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B.4 DEVELOPMENT OF A URANIUM MINE

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B.4.1 Reconnaissance

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Figure B-2. Mine life cycle diagram.

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B.4.2 Prospecting

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B.4.3 Exploration

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B.4.4 Mine Development

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Interim Management

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TYPICAL SHORT-TERM INTERIM MANAGEMENT

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TYPICAL LONG-TERM INTERIM MANAGEMENT

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B.4.5 Mine Closure and Reclamation

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B.5 CURRENT EXPLORATION AND MINING ACTIVITIES

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Table B-1. Drill-Confirmed Breccia Pipes within the Proposed Withdrawal Area
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Table B-1. Drill-Confirmed Breccia Pipes within the Proposed Withdrawal Area (Continued)
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B.6 MINERAL POTENTIAL
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B.7 FUTURE TRENDS AND ASSUMPTIONS

B.7.1 Commodities of Interest

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B.7.2 Commodity Markets

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Field Code Changed

Figure B-3. Worldwide annual production and reactor-related requirements (1945–2005) (Source: International Atomic Energy Agency 2009).[1]

[1] U = uranium

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Figure B-4. Historical uranium market prices (U.S. dollars per pound) (Source: Infomine 2010).

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B.7.3 Technology

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B.7.4 Industry Mining and Milling Capacity

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B.7.5 Legislative Changes

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B.8 FUTURE LOCATABLE MINERAL EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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B.8.1 Alternative A: No Action (No Withdrawal)

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Future Locatable Mineral Exploration and Development

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Currently Approved Mines

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Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

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Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

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Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Table B-2. Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment*

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Table B-3. Percent Ore Grade for Existing and Historic Mines
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Table B-4. Estimated Number of Mines Required to Extract Undiscovered Uranium Endowment

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Industry Limitations on Active Mines

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Uncertainty Factors and Estimate of Mine Life Cycle

COMMODITY PRICES

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NEPA REVIEW

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PRODUCTION TIME FRAME

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VALID EXISTING RIGHTS PROCESS

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Figure B-6. Estimated number of mines able to be supported by industry.

INTERIM MANAGEMENT
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Number of Mines

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Table B-5. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Exploration Activities

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Table B-6. Amount and Success of Historic Exploration*

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Table B-7. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity Needed to Support Uranium Production (20-Year Time Frame)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

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Table B-8 Alternative A—No Withdrawal Estimated Miles of New Roads (20-Year Time Frame)

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Table B-9. Ore Grade for Existing Mines
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Table B-10. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Miles of Power Lines

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Acreage of Surface Disturbance

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Table B-11. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)
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Table B-12. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative A—Mine Water Use

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Table B-13. Alternative A—No Withdrawal, Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)

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Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

Table B-14. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)
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Table B-14. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative A—No Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame), Continued

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B.8.2 Alternative B: Proposed Action (~1 Million Acres, 20-Year Withdrawal)

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Future Locatable Minerals Activity

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Currently Approved Mines

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Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

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Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

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Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Number of Mines

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Table B-15. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Exploration Activities

(b) (5)

Table B-16. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity (20–Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

(b) (5)

Table B-17. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Roads (20-Year Time Frame)
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Table B-18. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Miles of Power Lines

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Table B-19. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Acreage of Surface Disturbance

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative B—Mine Water Use

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Table B-20 Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)

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Table B-21. Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)
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Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

Table B-22. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative B—Proposed Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)
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B.8.3 Alternative C: Partial Withdrawal (~700,000 Acres)

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Future Locatable Mineral Exploration and Development

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Currently Approved Mines

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Undiscovered Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Table B-23. Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment Available under Alternative C

(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Number of Mines

(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Exploration Activities

(b) (5)

Table B-24. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-25. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity Needed to Support Uranium Production (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

(b) (5)

Table B-26. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Roads (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-27. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Miles of Power Lines

(b) (5)

Table B-28. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Acreage of Surface Disturbance

(b) (5)

Table B-29. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative C—Mine Water Use

(b) (5)

Table B-30. Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

Table B-31. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-31. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative C—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame), Continued

(b) (5)

B.8.4 Alternative D: Partial Withdrawal (~300,000 Acres)

(b) (5)

Future Locatable Mineral Exploration and Development

(b) (5)

Currently Approved Mines

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with Estimated Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Known Mineralized Breccia Pipes with No Estimate of Uranium Resources

(b) (5)

Known Breccia Pipes with Undetermined Mineralization

(b) (5)

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Undiscovered Uranium Resources

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Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Number of Mines

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table B-32. Estimated Undiscovered Uranium Endowment Available under Alternative D
(b) (5)

Table B-33 Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal Estimated Number of Mines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Exploration Activities

(b) (5)

Table B-34. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Exploratory Activity Needed to Support Uranium Production (20-Year Time Frame)

(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Miles of New Roads and Number of Haul Trips

(b) (5)

Table B-35. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Roads (20-Year Time Frame)

(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Miles of Power Lines

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table B-36. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Number of Haul Trips (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Table B-37. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Miles of New Power Lines (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Acreage of Surface Disturbance

(b) (5)

Table B-38. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal, Estimated Surface Disturbance (20-Year Time Frame)
(b) (5)

Reasonably Foreseeable Development under Alternative D—Mine Water Use

(b) (5)

Table B-39. Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal Estimated Water Use (20-Year Time Frame)

(b) (5)

Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

Table B-40. Summary of Activity Associated with Alternative D—Partial Withdrawal (20-Year Time Frame)

(b) (5)

B.9 SUMMARY

(b) (5)

Table B-41. Reasonably Foreseeable Future Mineral Exploration and Development by Alternative (20-Year Time Frame)

(b) (5)

Table B-41. Reasonably Foreseeable Future Mineral Exploration and Development by Alternative (20-Year Time Frame). Continued

(b) (5)

Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios

(b) (5)

Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
(b) (5)

Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
(b) (5)

Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
(b) (5)

Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
(b) (5)

Table B-42. Assumptions Used to Develop Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenarios, Continued
(b) (5)

B.10 LITERATURE CITED

(b) (5)

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ATTACHMENT B1

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FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL PERMITS TYPICALLY REQUIRED PRIOR TO MINE DEVELOPMENT

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

(b) (5)

Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

(b) (5)

Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

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Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

(b) (5)

Environmental Concern	Permit Authorizations	Agency	Triggering Activity	Timing/Comment

(b) (5)

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From:	Conklin, Meghan M
To:	Lin, Janet H
Subject:	Fw: Draft AZ Mineral Withdrawal Comm
Date:	Wednesday, February 16, 2011 9:10:44 AM
Attachments:	nps.NOA-N-AZ-Mineral-Withdrawal-DEIS-briefing-paper-09-11-10.docx nps.02-07-11 NOA AZ Mineral Withdrawal Comm Plan SOL.docx

---

Janet: did jane share her changes to the NOA with you?

Thanks
Meghan

----- Original Message -----
From: Lyder, Jane
To: Conklin, Meghan M
Cc: Shafroth, William
Sent: Sat Feb 12 13:23:35 2011
Subject: FW: Draft AZ Mineral Withdrawal Comm

Meghan,
I worked on this with the NPS folks. (b) (5)

Jane

_____
From: Martha_Hahn@nps.gov [Martha_Hahn@nps.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2011 3:09 PM
To: Frost, Herbert
Cc: Balsom, Janet R.; Lyder, Jane; Wilson, Palma E.
Subject: Re: Draft AZ Mineral Withdrawal Comm

Bert,

Attached are NPS comments on the subject documents.

Martha

(See attached file: nps.NOA-N-AZ-Mineral-Withdrawal-DEIS-briefing-paper-09-11-10.docx)(See attached file: nps.02-07-11 NOA AZ Mineral Withdrawal Comm Plan SOL.docx)

****
Martha Hahn
Chief, Science and Resource Management
PO Box 129
Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023
Phone: 928-638-7759
Fax: 928-638-7797

Federal Register Notice Briefing Paper
Notice of Availability (NOA) to Publish a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for a Proposed Withdrawal in the Vicinity of the Grand Canyon, Arizona

1. State Office

   Arizona State Office (ASO)

2. What is the title of this notice?

   Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal

3. What are the key issues raised by the underlying decision documents for this notice?

   (b) (5)

(b) (5)

Revised 09_11_10

(b) (5)

4. Who are the primary users affected by or parties interested in the underlying decisions or actions? What are their concerns?

(b) (5)

5. Is tribal consultation appropriate under E.O. 13175?

(b) (5)

6. Will this notice be controversial?

(b) (5)

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Revised 09_11_10

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7. What will the underlying decision or action change?

(b) (5)

8. Will this notice need Communications Materials, e.g., press release, Communication Plan? If so, enclose these materials with the notice package submitted.

(b) (5)

9. What are the reasons for the timing of the notice and the consequences, if any, of delaying or canceling the release?

(b) (5)

10. How has this been analyzed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

11. Is there any additional pertinent, descriptive information that reviewers need to know or would increase understanding?

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

12. List the names and positions of the people who have prepared, reviewed, and approved the notice and the underlying decisions and documents.

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

COMMUNICATION PLAN

Notice of Availability (NOA) of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a Proposed Withdrawal in Northern Arizona in the Vicinity of the Grand Canyon

1. PURPOSE: (b) (5)

Goals
(b) (5)

2. ISSUE: (b) (5)

(b) (5)

3. KEY AUDIENCES:

Tribal Governments (b) (5)

Local Governments
(b) (5)

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Elected Officials
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Advisory Councils
(b) (5)

Interest Groups
(b) (5)

Industry Groups (mining)
(b) (5)

Industry Groups (water)
(b) (5)

State Agencies

(b) (5)

Cooperating Agencies
(b) (5)

Employees
(b)
(5)

4. OUTREACH:

TIMING

(b) (5)

MEDIA / PUBLIC

(b) (5)

CONTACTS

BLM Process
(b) (5)

News Media Inquiries
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Status of project, copies of notices, other relevant documents

(b) (5)

Questions and Answers

1. **What happens next?**
   (b) (5)

2. **Who are the cooperating agencies on this planning effort? How will they contribute to the EIS?**
   (b) (5)

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)

3. How can I get a copy of the Environmental Impact Statement?
(b) (5)

4. Could new mining claims still be filed? Could mining activities still be conducted?
(b) (5)

BLM NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Department of the Interior • Bureau of Land Management • Arizona Strip District Office • 345 East Riverside Drive • St. George, UT 84790

For Immediate Release: (Insert date later), 2011
Contact: Rachel Tueller, Public Affairs Specialist (435) 688-3303

BLM Issues Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Public Review for a Proposed Withdrawal in Northern Arizona near the Grand Canyon

St. George, Utah – (b) (5)

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- BLM -

From:	Conklin, Meghan M
To:	Barkoff, Kendra; Boddington, Celia
Subject:	Fw: Draft AZ Mineral Withdrawal Comm
Date:	Wednesday, February 16, 2011 9:30:54 AM
Attachments:	nps.NOA-N-AZ-Mineral-Withdrawal-DEIS-briefing-paper-09-11-10.docx nps.02-07-11 NOA AZ Mineral Withdrawal Comm Plan SOL.docx

---

Making sure these comments on some of the other communications materials from NPS.

Meghan

----- Original Message -----
From: Lyder, Jane
To: Conklin, Meghan M
Cc: Shafroth, William
Sent: Sat Feb 12 13:23:35 2011
Subject: FW: Draft AZ Mineral Withdrawal Comm

Meghan,
I worked on this with the NPS folks. (b) (5)
(b) (5)

Jane

_____
From: Martha_Hahn@nps.gov [Martha_Hahn@nps.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2011 3:09 PM
To: Frost, Herbert
Cc: Balsom, Janet R.; Lyder, Jane; Wilson, Palma E.
Subject: Re: Draft AZ Mineral Withdrawal Comm

Bert,

Attached are NPS comments on the subject documents.

Martha

(See attached file: nps.NOA-N-AZ-Mineral-Withdrawal-DEIS-briefing-paper-09-11-10.docx)(See attached file: nps.02-07-11 NOA AZ Mineral Withdrawal Comm Plan SOL.docx)

****
Martha Hahn
Chief, Science and Resource Management
PO Box 129
Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023
Phone: 928-638-7759
Fax: 928-638-7797

Federal Register Notice Briefing Paper
Notice of Availability (NOA) to Publish a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for a Proposed Withdrawal in the Vicinity of the Grand Canyon, Arizona

1. State Office

   Arizona State Office (ASO)

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3. What are the key issues raised by the underlying decision documents for this notice?

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(b) (5)

4. Who are the primary users affected by or parties interested in the underlying decisions or actions? What are their concerns?

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5. Is tribal consultation appropriate under E.O. 13175?

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6. Will this notice be controversial?

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8. Will this notice need Communications Materials, e.g., press release, Communication Plan? If so, enclose these materials with the notice package submitted.
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10. How has this been analyzed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?
(b) (5)

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11. Is there any additional pertinent, descriptive information that reviewers need to know or would increase understanding?

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12. List the names and positions of the people who have prepared, reviewed, and approved the notice and the underlying decisions and documents.

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

COMMUNICATION PLAN

Notice of Availability (NOA) of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a Proposed Withdrawal in Northern Arizona in the Vicinity of the Grand Canyon

1. PURPOSE: (b) (5)

Goals
(b) (5)

2. ISSUE: (b) (5)

(b) (5)

3. KEY AUDIENCES:

Tribal Governments (b) (5)

Local Governments
(b) (5)

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Elected Officials
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Advisory Councils
(b) (5)

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Interest Groups
(b) (5)

Industry Groups (mining)
(b) (5)

Industry Groups (water)
(b) (5)

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State Agencies

(b) (5)

Cooperating Agencies
(b) (5)

Employees
(b)
(5)

4. OUTREACH:

TIMING

(b) (5)

MEDIA / PUBLIC

(b) (5)

CONTACTS

BLM Process
(b) (5)

News Media Inquiries
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Status of project, copies of notices, other relevant documents

(b) (5)

Questions and Answers

1. **What happens next?**
   (b) (5)

2. **Who are the cooperating agencies on this planning effort? How will they contribute to the EIS?**
   (b) (5)

(b) (5)

3. How can I get a copy of the Environmental Impact Statement?
(b) (5)

4. Could new mining claims still be filed? Could mining activities still be conducted?
(b) (5)

BLM NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Department of the Interior • Bureau of Land Management • Arizona Strip District Office • 345 East Riverside Drive • St. George, UT 84790

For Immediate Release: (Insert date later), 2011
Contact: Rachel Tueller, Public Affairs Specialist (435) 688-3303

BLM Issues Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Public Review for a Proposed Withdrawal in Northern Arizona near the Grand Canyon

St. George, Utah – (b) (5)

(b) (5)

Ha, Richard W

From: Grimes, Janis on behalf of Echohawk, Larry
Sent: Friday, September 17, 2010 1:02 PM
To: Luckey, Lauren
Subject: Accepted: FW: Information Update - There are multiple changes: [CR#1352] - Grand Canyon Withdrawal Mtg [Bridge Line: (b) (5) pc (b) (5)

From:	Echohawk, Larry
To:	Tsosie, Paul
Subject:	FW:
Date:	Friday, January 21, 2011 6:37:24 PM
Attachments:	Action Items 01.21.11.docm

From: Lane, Kenneth
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2011 3:39 PM
To: Abbey, Robert V; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Jarvis, Jon; McNutt, Marcia K; Bromwich, Michael R; Connor, Michael L; Gould, Rowan; Ashe, Dan; Lewis, Wilma; Strickland, Thomas; Echohawk, Larry; Babauta, Tony; Suh, Rhea; Castle, Anne; Mansour, Christopher; Tompkins, Hilary C; Davis, Laura; Hayes, David; Conklin, Meghan M; Screnar, Brian; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Padilla, Joan; Perriello, Mark L
Subject:

Secretary asked I send this to you directly weekly

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

January 21, 2011

TO: Secretary Salazar
FROM: Ken Lane
SUBJECT: January 24-28 Week Ahead Summary & Action Items

Media Announcements/Events

Wednesday, January 26

- Press release announcing DOI 2011-2016 strategic plan

Schedule Items of Note

Monday, January 24

- Welcome remarks at National Indian Gaming Commission Tribal Conference
- Meeting with Hon. Martin Ferguson, Australian Minister for Resources & Energy
- Meeting with David Axelrod
- Internal: International Arctic issues
- Internal: Meeting on LWCF
- Internal: Meeting on BOEMRE JIT investigation

Tuesday, January 25

- (T) Meeting with Hon. Peter Kent, new Canadian Minister for Environment
- Meeting with North Slope Borough, Alaska, Mayor Edward Itta
- Internal: Briefing on DOI Diversity
- Internal: Briefing on Secretary's Youth Initiative
- Internal: Briefing on Office of Natural Resources Revenue
- President's State of the Union Address

Wednesday, January 26

- Meeting with AG Holder, Secretary Vilsack and Senator Menendez re Hispanic farmers claims
- All-hands address to DOI employees
- Meeting with Senators Reid and Menendez re Latino Museum
- Meeting with Senator Lee (UT)

Thursday, January 27

- Meeting with Shell President Marvin Odum

Action Items

Protecting America's Treasured Landscapes & Wildlife	**Action Date**
1. ***AGO Report***	
• Rollout	Wednesday, February 16
• Follow-up site action plan post-rollout	TBD
2. ***Grand Canyon Area Lands Withdrawal (Uranium Mining)***	(T) Friday, February 18
• Draft EIS being finalized	
3. ***U.S.-Mexico Binational Park Action Plan***	
4. ***U.S.-Russia Binational Park***	
5. ***Caribou Protection Strategy***	
6. ***FWS Draft Plan for Arctic National Wildlife Refuge***	(T) Mid-March?
7. ***Western States Conservation/Energy Tour***	TBD
8. ***Comprehensive ESA Settlement***	
• Information memo being prepared for Secretary re potential February settlement of 15 lawsuits regarding FWS failure to process petitions addressing 251 species	In progress

Developing Renewable Energy & Oversight of Energy Production	**Action Date**
1. ***Arctic Offshore/Onshore Development***	
• Follow-up Arctic international action meeting	Monday, January 24
• Follow-up onshore meeting	TBD
• Arctic Council conference (Greenland)	Thursday, May 12
2. ***Alaska CD-5 Pipeline Resolution***	
3. ***Other OCS Development***	
• Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) re additional drilling safety requirements	End of January
• Draft additional workplace/rig operations safety rule being developed	End of January
• BOEM-NOAA environmental review MOU	End of January
• Shell Exploration Permit action	End of January
4. ***International Action Plan for Offshore Oil & Gas Drilling/Safety***	In progress
5. ***Onshore/Offshore Energy Transmission Lines Development***	
• Meeting with Secretary Chu & FERC Chair Wellinghoff	To be scheduled
6. ***Onshore Royalty Rate Reform***	
• Cost-benefit and economic impact analysis completion—on track	End of January

7. ***Hydraulic Fracturing***
   - BLM finalizing proposed guidance for review — In progress

8. ***UT 77 Lease Sales***
   - Next steps finalized, ready for implementation — In progress

9. ***Wind & Solar Energy Zone Mining Claim Rule***
   - BLM directed to develop dual track interim & final rules
   - Ready for internal review — (T) Wednesday, February 2
   - Ready for OMB review — (T) Friday, February 4
   - Send to *Federal Register* — (T) Thursday, May 5

10. ***Atlantic Wind Energy Development***
    - DOI-DOE strategic plan announcement w/Secretary Chu — (T) Week of January 31
    - Wind Energy Areas designations — (T) Week of January 31

11. ***Secretary's Onshore Renewable Energy Conference*** — Wednesday, February 9

12. ***Migratory Birds/Bald and Golden Eagle Wind Energy Action Plan***
    - Status memo requested; Secretary meeting — In progress; To be scheduled
    - Rollout — (T) Wednesday, February 9?

13. ***ESA Action Plan for Permitting Renewable Energy on Private Lands***
    - Status memo requested — In progress
    - Rollout — (T) Wednesday, February 9?

From:	Hanna, Jeanette on behalf of Echohawk, Larry
To:	Tsosie, Paul
Subject:	FW:
Date:	Friday, December 10, 2010 1:06:24 PM
Attachments:	Action Items 12.10.10.docm

From: Lane, Kenneth
Sent: Friday, December 10, 2010 1:02 PM
To: Strickland, Thomas; Davis, Laura; Hayes, David; Conklin, Meghan M; Black, Steve; Mansour, Christopher; Rivera, Ray; Faeth, Lori; Padilla, Joan; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Echohawk, Larry; Lewis, Wilma; Castle, Anne; Babauta, Tony; Suh, Rhea; Ashe, Dan; Jarvis, Jon; Connor, Michael L; McNutt, Marcia K; Bromwich, Michael R; Abbey, Robert V; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Tompkins, Hilary C
Subject:

While the attached report is included in the Secretary's weekend weekly report binder, he nevertheless asked that I share it with the senior team. So here you go.

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

December 10, 2010

TO: Secretary Salazar
FROM: Ken Lane
SUBJECT: December 13-22 Week Ahead Summary & Action Items

Media Announcements/Events

Tuesday, December 14

- Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial construction site hard hat tour
- Rollout of federal action plan in conjunction with release of California's Bay Delta (water) Conservation Plan

Wednesday, December 15

- Remarks at White House Environmental Justice Forum

Thursday, December 16

- Speech at White House Tribal Nation's Conference
- Publication in *Nature* magazine of USGS updated sea-ice polar bear habitat study
- Release of BLM's solar energy development PEIS

Friday, December 17

- **Las Vegas, NV**: (1) Remarks at the Colorado River Water Users Association Annual Conference; (2) meeting with state of California officials and the state's major water user associations, and; (3) public signing of Navajo Nation water rights settlement

Saturday, December 18-Wednesday, December 22

- **Mexico:** Meetings with Mexican federal officials concerning Colorado River water, creation of a binational park, and oil and gas development and drilling safety in the Gulf of Mexico; possible signing of Colorado River water storage agreement

Next Week TBD

- FWS rule on Dunes Sagebrush Lizard endangered species listing

Other TBD

- Rollout of BLM wilderness policy?

Schedule Items of Note

Monday, December 13

- DOI *Cobell* settlement commemoration event
- Cabinet/WH holiday dinner

Tuesday, December 14

- Internal: Wilderness policy meeting
- Internal: BIE 2011 priorities meeting
- Internal: BIA 2011 priorities meeting
- Internal: BOEMRE 2011 priorities meeting
- Internal: Renewable energy meeting
- Meeting with Denis McDonough, Deputy National Security Advisor
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial construction site hard hat tour
- Meeting with Renee Stone
- Secretary's meeting with DOI appointees
- Secretary's Holidays Celebration reception

Wednesday, December 15

- Internal: New York Harbor meeting
- Internal: NPS Yearly Report presentation
- Internal: OSM 2011 priorities meeting
- Internal: BLM priorities meeting
- Internal: Arctic International/Onshore meeting
- Meeting with SecState Clinton re Mexico trip
- Internal: Mexico trip meeting
- WH meeting with tribal leaders
- Remarks at White House Environmental Justice Forum
- Meeting with Neil Mulholland, Pres/CEO NPF
- Meeting with Tom Kiernan, Pres NPCA and Alan Lacy Chair, Bd of Trustees NPCA

Thursday, December 16

- White House Tribal Nation's Conference
- Travel to Las Vegas

Friday, December 17

- **Las Vegas, NV**: (1) Remarks at the Colorado River Water Users Association Annual Conference; (2) meeting with state of California officials and the state's major water user associations, and; (3) public signing of Navajo Nation water rights settlement
- Travel to Mexico

Saturday, December 18-Wednesday, December 22

- **Mexico:** Meetings and other events with Mexican federal officials concerning Colorado River water, creation of a binational park, and oil and gas development and drilling safety in the Gulf of Mexico

Action Items

Protecting America's Treasured Landscapes & Wildlife	**Action Date**
1. ***Grand Canyon Area Lands Withdrawal (Uranium Mining)***	
• Draft EIS being finalized for release	Delayed
2. ***BLM Wilderness Policy***	TBD
3. ***Alaska CD5 Pipeline***	

Developing Renewable Energy & Oversight of Energy Production	**Action Date**
1. ***Arctic Offshore/Onshore Development***	
• Memo to Secretary being prepared:	Tuesday, December 15
1. David Hayes to direct memo describing all Arctic region DOI areas, Secretarial legal authorities and constraints over such areas, and DOI action timelines	
2. Possible Secretary attendance at May 2011 Arctic Council meeting in Greenland	
3. Draft potential resolutions for presentation at Arctic Council meeting Re oil and gas development, climate change, cross-Arctic transportation or other issues?	
4. Pre-Arctic Council "Summit of the Arctic" co-hosted by Secretary?	
5. Partnership with Canada on a North American Arctic action plan?—possible Secretary visit to Canadian Arctic at invitation of Canadian Ambassador to U.S.	
2. ***Other OCS Development***	
• Emergency rule requiring CEO certification requirement & containment enforceability mechanism per 10/12 moratorium decision	
• Decision on re-filing of 2007-2012 OCS plan	
• Announcement on Mar 2011 Gulf lease sale	
• Additional drilling safety rule being developed	January-February?
• Additional workplace/rig operations safety rule being developed	January-February?
• BOEM-NOAA environmental review MOU	
3. ***Interior Appropriations Report***	
• Undergoing final OBM and USDA review and approval	
4. ***Onshore Royalty Rate Reform***	
• Cost-benefit and economic impact analysis completion	January
5. Hydraulic Fracturing	
• BLM guidance to field offices requiring disclosure of process & chemicals used during fracturing	TBD

From:	Echohawk, Larry
To:	Tsosie, Paul
Subject:	FW:
Date:	Monday, January 31, 2011 11:04:38 AM
Attachments:	Action Items 01.28.11.doc

From: Lane, Kenneth
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2011 11:02 AM
To: Jarvis, Jon; Abbey, Robert V; Pizarchik, Joseph G; McNutt, Marcia K; Connor, Michael L; Gould, Rowan; Ashe, Dan; Bromwich, Michael R; Lewis, Wilma; Castle, Anne; Strickland, Thomas; Babauta, Tony; Echohawk, Larry; Henderson, Chris; Mansour, Christopher; Tompkins, Hilary C; Padilla, Joan; Perriello, Mark L; Davis, Laura; Hayes, David; Conklin, Meghan M
Subject:

I forgot to send on Friday

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

January 28, 2011

TO: Secretary Salazar
FROM: Ken Lane
SUBJECT: January 31-February 4 Week Ahead Summary & Action Items

Media Announcements/Events

Monday, January 31

- Announcement of implementation of Interior's scientific integrity policy
- FWS announcement on Pacific walrus ESA listing

Tuesday, February 1

- NPS announcement of Save America's Treasures grants

Thursday, February 3

- (T) Rollout/release of proposed FWS wind energy rules/guidance and BLM renewable energy field guidances

Schedule Items of Note

Monday, January 31

- Swearing-in of U.S. Park Police Chief Chambers
- Call with Sen. Landrieu re legislation to allocate BP liability penalties moneys

Tuesday, February 1

- Cabinet meeting
- Internal: FWS wind energy meeting re 3 proposed rules/guidance
- Internal: FWS briefing on wolves
- President's Interagency Task Force on Trafficking in Persons meeting—State Dept.

Wednesday, February 2

- Internal: Onshore Arctic action items meeting
- Internal: BOEMRE action items meeting
- Internal: BLM meeting re proposed renewable energy-related guidance
- Internal: AGO update meeting

Thursday, February 3

- Meeting with Sens Reid, Schumer & Menendez re Latino museum
- Dinner meeting with Daniel Yohannes

- **Action Items**

Protecting America's Treasured Landscapes & Wildlife	**Action Date**
1. ***AGO Report***	
• Rollout	(T) Wednesday, February 16
• Follow-up site action plan post-rollout	TBD
2. ***Grand Canyon Area Lands Withdrawal (Uranium Mining)***	
• Draft EIS being finalized	Unknown
3. ***U.S.-Mexico Binational Park Action Plan***	
4. ***U.S.-Russia Binational Park***	
5. ***Western States Conservation/Energy Tour***	TBD
6. ***Western Oregon Forest Plan***	
7. ***Wild Horse & Burro Management Plan***	
8. ***ESA Litigation Settlements***	(T) Mid-February

Developing Renewable Energy & Oversight of Energy Production	**Action Date**
1. ***Arctic Onshore Development***	
• Follow-up onshore meeting	Wednesday, February 2
2. ***Alaska CD-5 Pipeline Resolution***	
3. ***OCS Development***	
• Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) re additional drilling safety requirements	Unknown
• Draft additional workplace/rig operations safety rule	Unknown
• BOEM-NOAA environmental review MOU	Unknown
• Shell Exploration Permit action	Unknown
4. ***Flow Rate Technical Group (FRTG) Final Report***	(T) Mid-February
5. ***Onshore/Offshore Energy Transmission Lines Development***	
• Meeting with Secretary Chu & FERC Chair Wellinghoff	Thursday, February 10
6. ***Onshore Royalty Rate Reform***	
• Cost-benefit and economic impact analysis completion—on track	End of January
7. ***Hydraulic Fracturing***	
• BLM finalizing proposed guidance for review	Unknown
8. ***UT 77 Lease Sales***	
• Next steps finalized, ready for implementation	Unknown

9. ***Oil Shale Litigation Settlement*** Mid-February

10. ***Onshore Renewable Energy Development Rules/Guidance***
- FWS Eagle Wind Energy Rule (T) Week of January 31
- FWS Wind Turbine Guidelines (T) Week of January 31
- FWS ESA Guidance for Permitting on Private Lands (T) Week of January 31
- BLM Field Office Guidances on (T) Week of January 31
  (1) NEPA reviews
  (2) Due diligence procedures to address speculative permits
  (3) Renewable energy project siting
- BLM wind & solar energy zone mining segregation interim & final rules
  - Ready for internal review (T) Wednesday, February 2
  - Ready for OMB review (T) Friday, February 4
  - Send to *Federal Register* (T) Thursday, May 5

11. ***Atlantic Wind Energy Development***
- DOI-DOE strategic plan announcement w/Secretary Chu (T) Monday, February 7
- Wind Energy Areas designations (T) Monday, February 7

12. ***Secretary's Onshore Renewable Energy Conference*** Wed-Thu, February 9-10

From: Echohawk, Larry
To: Tsosie, Paul; Laverdure, Del; Gillette, Jodi
Subject: FW: 2012 House Action on Interior Bill
Date: Friday, July 08, 2011 5:05:49 PM
Attachments: House Summary 7 7 11_3_.pdf

From: Haze, Pam K
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 4:55 PM
To: Hayes, David; Babauta, Tony; Castle, Anne; Echohawk, Larry; Lewis, Wilma; Shafroth, William; Suh, Rhea; Abbey, Robert V; Ashe, Dan; Black, Michael; Connor, Michael L; Jarvis, Jon; McNutt, Marcia K; Moore, Keith; Pizarchik, Joseph G
Cc: Jackson, Andrew; Lewis, Courtenay; Screnar, Brian; Davis, Laura; Lee-Ashley, Matt
Subject: RE: 2012 House Action on Interior Bill

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Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 10:07 AM
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Cc: Jackson, Andrew; Lewis, Courtenay; Screnar, Brian; Davis, Laura; Lee-Ashley, Matt
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Attached for your use is a summary/set of talking points on the House bill for 2012 Interior appropriations. This is in follow-up to the Tuesday POG meeting – we talked about the impending House markup of the Interior bill. On Thursday the Subcommittee adopted the bill. Full Committee markup is scheduled for Tuesday, July 12.

Also attached is a summary of the Energy and Water Development bill. The House is expected to complete their work on the Defense appropriations bill today and move onto Energy and Water appropriations.

HOUSE INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MARK SUMMARY

Department of the Interior
Funding Summary
(dollars in millions)

	2011 Enacted	2012 President's Request	2012 House Action (as of 7/5/11)	2012 House Action v. 2012 Request (in $)	2012 House Action v. 2012 Request (in %)	2012 House Action v. 2011 Enacted (in $)	2012 House Action v. 2011 Enacted (in %)
Interior and Related Agencies							
Total, Interior and Related Agencies	**10,682**	**11,175**	**9,969**	**-1,207**	**-10.8%**	**-713**	**-6.7%**
Bureau of Land Management	1,125	1,129	1,069	-60	-5.3%	-55	-4.9%
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management	226	133	154	20	15.3%	-72	-32.0%
Office of Surface Mining	163	146	151	5	3.2%	-12	-7.4%
Geological Survey	1,084	1,118	1,054	-64	-5.8%	-30	-2.8%
Fish and Wildlife Service	1,505	1,695	1,189	-506	-29.9%	-317	-21.0%
National Park Service	2,611	2,892	2,482	-409	-14.1%	-129	-4.9%
Bureau of Indian Affairs	2,594	2,501	2,530	29	1.2%	-64	-2.5%
Departmental Management	119	284	250	-34	-11.8%	132	110.9%
Insular Affairs	101	97	86	-11	-11.7%	-15	-14.7%
Office of the Solicitor	65	68	65	-4	-5.2%	0	0.0%
Office of Inspector General	48	49	48	-1	-2.0%	0	0.0%
Office of Special Trustee for American Indians	161	152	152	0	0.0%	-8	-5.2%
Department Wide Programs (including Wildland Fire)	881	911	739	-172	-18.9%	-142	-16.1%

At $10 billion, the House mark is $713 million or 7% below the 2011 enacted level and $1.2 billion or 11% below the 2012 President's request. The bill:

- Takes **significant cuts in land acquisition**, **grant** and **operations accounts.** For example, the **Fish and Wildlife Service** operations account is -$173 million or -14% below the 2012 request.
- Does **not provide the full amount requested for offshore energy reforms** in BOEMRE, when considering the amount of offsetting collections provided in the House bill (-$34.7 million or -9.7% below the 2012 request); and costs the U.S. Treasury more because it fails to increase the inspection fee charged to offshore operations by $55 million.
- **Protects** funding for the **Bureau of Indian Affairs** (+$29 million or +1.2% above the request) and the **Office of Surface Mining** (+$5 million or +3.2% above the request).
- **Limits reductions in the National Park Service operations** "to allow all National Parks to remain open and NPS activities to continue through the next year without furloughs or reductions in employees," (-$54 million or -2.3% below the request).
- Adds a number of **"legislative riders"** aimed at limiting NEPA review and judicial action against land management and endangered species activities on the public lands.

The most significant reductions from the current level are taken against:

- **Land and Water Conservation Fund** – A total of $50 million is provided for land acquisition and leveraged grant programs. This is a cut of -$626 million (-93%) below the 2012 requested level and -$194 million (-80%) below the 2011 current level. A total of $31 million is proposed for Federal land acquisition, which generates two dollars of economic spending for every dollar invested. This equates to an economic loss of over $600 million from the requested level.

    - An example of the type of project impacted is the Rocky Mountain Front Conservation Area in Montana where the majority of inholdings at Rocky Mountain Front are owned by ranchers, many of whom have expressed an interest in selling conservation easements to the FWS. Several entities have joined together, including Federal and State government and private

groups, to protect the water resources and grasslands to restrict subdivision and development, without interfering with ranch operations. Ranchers use the money from the sale of conservation easements to pay down debt, reinvest in capital improvements, or buy other lands to expand their operations.

- **Land Management Operations** – Funds core operations activities for BLM, NPS and FWS at $4.4 billion. This is -$241 million or -5% below the 2012 request and -$195 million or -4% below the 2011 level.
  - Hardest hit is the Fish and Wildlife Service operations account with a cut of -$146 million (-12%) from the 2011 level. The reduction is expected to result in a loss of 801 FTE, risk closure or program elimination at an estimated 128 refuges, and reduce visitation by 4 million.

- **Major Grant Programs** – House provides $105 million for conservation and historic preservation grant programs. This is -$162 million or -61% below the current level and -$416 million or -80% below the President's request. Most notable are proposed cuts to:
  - **NPS Grants** are funded at $2.8 million, a -$197 million reduction from the amount proposed in the President's request. This is -$37 million or -93% below the current level. The loss of $197.2 million in grants means that States and Territories will miss out on an estimated $540 million in economic output. Funds are equally matched by States. In addition, States lose a significant source of funding to improve recreational access at a time when the demand for State and local recreational opportunities is very high. In 2010, States and Territories estimated an unmet funding need of $18.5 billion.
  - **Cooperative Endangered Species Grants**, funded at $2.9 million, a cut of -$97 million (-97%) from the President's request and -$57 million (-95%) from the current level. Only the administrative portion of the program would remain to complete appraisal and title work. No funds would be available for States and communities to acquire lands and plan development consistent with species needs. As a result, FWS will be unable to provide funding for States to implement important conservation activities, and States would lose approximately $191 million in economic output. States provide funding to leverage these funds.
  - **State and Tribal Wildlife Grants,** which are funded at $22 million, would impact local economies by cutting at least $144 million in wildlife conservation supported directly and indirectly through this program in States, Territories and Tribes. The reduction also means an estimated 650 private sector, 204 State and tribal, and 17 Federal jobs will be eliminated. Currently, the States provide a 25% match to the Federal share of planning grants. Language proposed in 2012 would increase the State share to 35%. The State share of implementation grants is 50%.
  - **Historic Preservation Fund Grants** are funded at $50 million. A reduction of $12 million below the President's request for these grants could result in the loss of $32 million in economic output to States, Territories, and Tribes and undercuts historic preservation work in States. States are required to provide a 40% matching contribution; there are no matching requirements for grants to Territories or Tribes**.**

Bureau of Land Management: $1.1 billion, - $59.7 million or -5% from the 2012 request and -$55.5 million or -5% from 2011:

- Does not approve new inspection fees to offset the cost of the oil and gas program. This would require BLM to take an additional $38 million in reductions to other BLM operating programs.
- Reductions in land acquisition program would dramatically eliminate plans to purchase easements or acquire land to increase recreational opportunities, and protect unique and vulnerable natural and cultural resources.

- The House bill makes the Service First authority permanent as requested in the President's budget.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Regulation and Enforcement: $323.7 million, -$34.7 million or -9.7% below the 2012 request (includes offsetting collections). Compared against 2011 enacted, adjusted to reflect BOEMRE only, the House mark is +$42.2 million above the 2011 level or +15%. The increase reflects BOEMRE's full use of offsetting collections in 2012. In 2011, they are shared with ONRR.

BOEMRE Summary of 2012 PB and House Mark					
(thousands of dollars)	2011 Operating Plan*	2012 President's Request	2012 House Mark	House Mark Change from 2011 Operating Plan	House Mark Change from 2012 PB
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement					
Ocean Energy Management	174,122	118,265	138,605	-35,517	+20,340
Less OCS Connect Rescission	-25 000	0	0	+25 000	0
Total, OEM	149,122	118,265	138,605	-10,517	+20,340
Oil Spill Research	11,744	14,923	14,923	+3,179	0
Total Direct Appropriations	160,866	133,188	153,528	-7,338	+20,340
Offsetting Collections - Rental Receipts and Cost Recovery	110,403	160,163	160,163	+49,760	0
Inspection Fees	10,000	65,000	10,000	0	-55,000
Total, BOEMRE	281,269	358,351	323,691	+42,422	-34,660
* This includes $19.9 million in General Administration funding that supports the Office of Natural Resource Revenue and is transferred to the Office of the Secretary in 2012.					
* Total offsetting collections equal $154,890, of which $44,487 is allocated to the Office of Natural Resource Revenue and is transferred to the BOEMRE in 2012.					

- Sustains but does not advance the additional capacity required to implement reforms.
- Up to 60 personnel planned to improve inspection/monitoring will not be hired hindering the use of a new multi-person/multi-disciplinary approach to inspections.
- Up to 21 additional personnel needed to review and process drilling and other permits would not be hired. These positions are required to review and process lease agreements, determine qualifications, and evaluate requests for development activities including drilling plans and permit processing and approval.
- Halts development of new environmental enforcement and expanded operational safety oversight capabilities needed for robust regulations and policies and subsequent stakeholder outreach.
- Up to 14 additional personnel for an Investigations and Review Unit would not be hired leaving the unit understaffed with 6 employees. The team of law enforcement and technical experts was formed to response to allegations or evidence of misconduct and unethical behavior.

Office of Surface Mining: $150.5 million, $4.6 million or 3% above the 2012 request and -$12.0 million or -7% from 2011:

- Eliminates funding for oversight of regulatory programs in States
- Restores funding for State and tribal regulatory programs.

U.S. Geological Survey: $1.1 billion, -$64.3 million or -6% from the 2012 request and -$30.1 million or -3.0% from 2011:

- An additional 100 FTE would be lost above the 100 FTE proposed to be reduced in the 2012 request. USGS would have to significantly rescope operational efforts in research, assessments, and monitoring to retain critical scientific capacity.
- House funds ongoing Landsat 8 funds but provides no funding for the proposed transfer of Landsat 9 activities from NASA to Interior. Consistent with this the bill, does not provide a separate account for National Land Imaging activities as requested.
- Maintains the Cooperative Water Program at the FY 2010 level.
- The House mark does not provide no-year funding authority for satellite operations and deferred maintenance. These two areas have development and construction activities which can span more than two years and this would limit acquisition options.
- Details on reductions in cooperative landscape conservation activities are not available.

Fish and Wildlife Service: $1.2 billion, -$506 million or -30% below the request and -$316.5 million or -21% below 2011 enacted:

- Reductions from the request cut across: Operations, -$173 million; Land Acquisition, -$129 million; Grants and Payments -$193 million; and Construction, -$11 million.
- Based on preliminary information, estimate House mark could result in the loss of 801 FTEs and 40,000 volunteers, risk closure or major program elimination at 128 refuges, and reduce visitation by nearly 4 million across FWS sites.
- Reductions in FWS operations would adversely impact conservation planning assistance with potential project delays for 340 energy projects on DOI and non-DOI lands; delay the ability to provide required consultations to evaluate endangered species impacts; reduce habitat restoration; and further delay accomplishment of 33 critical deferred maintenance projects.
- A 49% reduction from the request for Construction activities would impact health and safety projects such as needed repairs to 4 dams at Crab Orchard NWR, and delay, therefore escalating the cost of four projects in Alaska, Nevada, Colorado, and Maine.
- The proposed $128.5 million cut in land acquisition would fail to protect the proposed 90,000 acres of NWR system inholdings.
- Details on reductions in cooperative landscape conservation activities are not available.

National Park Service: $2.5 billion, -$409.1 million or -14% below the 2012 request and -$128.7 million or -5% below 2011:

- Does not include $65 million requested in operating increases, over 60% of which supports increased responsibilities or expanded programs at park units.
    - This is expected to slow development of operations at new areas and limit targeted efforts such as youth programs. A targeted reduction in cooperative landscape conservation will significantly impact resource monitoring and mitigation activities at park sites.
- Significant cuts in land acquisition greatly impact NPS' ability to remediate threats to resources from development, most notably at Grand Teton in Wyoming and the Everglades and Big Cypress in South Florida.

Bureau of Indian Affairs: $2.5 billion, +$29 million or +1% above the 2012 request and -$64.4 million or -3% below 2011 enacted:

- Fully funds the presumed need for 2012 in Contract Support with $228 million.
- The House provides an increase of $5 million above the request for Indian Loan Guarantees.
- Indian Land and Water Settlements are funded level with the request.
- Construction is funded at $155 million, $50 million above the 2012 request.

Departmental Management/ Operations: $250.2 million, -$33.5 million or -12% below the 2012 request and +$131.6 million or +111% above the 2011 enacted:

- The large increase above 2011 enacted is due to the transfer of ONRR from BOEMRE into the Office of the Secretary.
- Need additional details from report language to determine individual office impacts and ONRR funding level.

Office of Insular Affairs: $85.9 million, -$11.4 million or -12% below the request and -$14.8 million or -15% below 2011 enacted:

- Does not provide funding to stand up the Guam field office.
- Funds the Compact of Free Association at the request level of $3.3 million and does not provide 2012 funding for Palau.

Office of the Inspector General: $48.5 million, -$1 million or -2% below the request and equal to 2011 enacted.

Office of Solicitor: $64.9 million, -$3.5 million or -5 % below the request and equal to 2011 enacted.

Office of Special Trustee: $152 million, equal to the 2012 request and -$8.4 million or -5% below 2011 enacted.

Working Capital Fund: $57.0 million, -$16.1 million or -22% below the 2012 request and -$28.6 million or -33% below the 2011 level:

- Need additional details from report language to determine impacts to FBMS, IT Innovation, acquisitions and consolidation efforts.

Central HazMat Fund: $10.1 million, equal to the 2012 request and the 2011 enacted level.

NRDA Fund: $5.8 million, -$500,000 or -8% below the 2012 request and -$686,000 or -11% below 2011 enacted.

Wildland Fire: $666.1 million, $155.5 million or -23% below the request and -$112.9 million or -14% below the 2011 enacted level.

- The House provides an increase of $26 million for fuels and an increase of $7 million for rural fire assistance.
- House adds language directing the use of available emergency supplemental funds, about $189 million, for fire suppression activities. The House bill directs funding the 10-year fire average with a portion of prior year unobligated balances and new budget authority.

- The bill adds appropriations language authorizing the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture to transfer not more than $50 million between Departments if the Secretaries determine the transfer will enhance efficiency or effectiveness of Federal suppression activities.
- As requested in the President's budget, the bill includes appropriations language authorizing the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture to transfer $50 million of wildland fire management funds between Departments when such transfers would facilitate and expedite jointly funded wildland fire management programs and projects. However, similar language for the Forest Service limits this transfer to $10 million – will need clarification.

Legislative Provisions Requested in the 2012 budget and Not Included in the House Bill

- BLM – Authority to charge inspection fees for oil and gas activities. These fees were proposed to offset $38 million in program requirements in FY 2012.
- BOEMRE – Proposal to increase OCS inspection fees by $55 million to offset program costs. House bill maintains $10 million in fees.
- BOEMRE – Proposal to increase the review period of OCS leases from 30 to 90 days.
- BIA – Proposed language clarifying the Carcieri decision.
- BIA – Proposed language to address Jones Academy eligibility requirements.
- NPS – Provision pertaining to administration and joint ticketing for the Pearl Harbor complex.
- NPS – Does not continue authority to make payment for North Shore Road.
- General – House did not accept proposed language providing bureaus flexibility to transfer or reprogram funds to complete Recovery Act projects using surplus funds from projects that were incorporated into statute by reference.

New Legislative Provisions in the House Bill Not Proposed in the 2012 President's Budget

- FWS – Bill includes a limitation on Endangered Species Act listing activities that would prohibit funding to respond to petitions to list, to add species to the list, to designate critical habitat or to reclassify species from threatened to endangered. Funding could be used for the limited purposes of 5 year reviews, reclassifications from endangered to threatened, and delistings.

- Wildland Fire – Bill language makes available $189 million in emergency supplemental funding for fire suppression. Provision directs the Wildland Fire program to use "emergency supplemental" for suppression activities before using newly appropriated funding.

- NPS – Authorizes implementation of preferred alternative modifications to the Tamiami Trail. The NPS, through the Army Corps of Engineers, is constructing one mile of bridging along Tamiami Trail to improve water flows to the Everglades National Park. However, the NPS did not have the authority to construct the additional 5.5 miles of bridging identified in the preferred alternative cited in Section 108. The total cost for implementation of that alternative is approximated $300 million. This funding was not requested in FY 2012.

- Sec. 114 Provision provides authority to the heads of BIE schools to enter into rental and lease agreements for private entities (churches, ad companies, etc.) to utilize land or facilities and retain funding to apply toward its BIE programs.

- Sec. 115 Provision requires the FWS to implement a system of mass marking of salmonid stocks that are released from Federal hatcheries.

- Sec. 116 Prohibits the use of funds to implement regulations concerning boating and other activities on the water within the Yukon-Charley National Preserve.

- Sec. 117 Provides direct hiring authority within two years for qualified candidates who have completed a rigorous undergraduate or graduate summer internship with a land management agency.

- Sec. 118 Limits Federal court claims concerning BLM grazing activities to those which have been challenged at the agency level and exhausted all administrative hearing and appeals procedures.
- Sec. 119 Protects from judicial review, any final rule that provides that gray wolves in Wyoming or within the range of the Western Great Lakes are not an endangered or threatened species, if the State has entered into an agreement with Interior authorizing the State to manage the wolves.

- Sec. 120 Exempts for 2012 through 2014, BLM livestock "trailing" practices and implementation from NEPA review. "Trailing" refers to the movement of livestock from private land across public land. The provision would authorize BLM to walk the cattle across the public lands without a NEPA analysis.

- Sec. 411 Provides authority to enter into reciprocal agreements with foreign fire organizations for wildfire services and liability coverage to foreign firefighters.

- Sec. 415 Extends the current extension authority for established grazing permits for FY 2012 - 2016.

- Sec. 425 For all agencies, bureaus and offices, requires quarterly reports on the status of balances of appropriations, identified by source year of funding.

- Sec. 426 Requires the President (OMB) to submit a comprehensive report on all climate change related Federal funding for FY 2011 and FY 2012.

- Sec. 430 Allows Tribes to provide single audit reports for 477 grants. This language clarifies confusion regarding the 477 law and OMB auditing requirements.

- Sec. 432 Prohibits the use of funds for OSM to develop, carryout, implement, or enforce the proposed Stream Buffer Protection regulations.

- Sec. 440 Clarifies claim maintenance fee charges allowed for placer claims used mainly for gold mining by panning or dredging in a stream. The provision amends existing law with respect to the payment of mining claim maintenance fees for placer claims. An individual cannot stake a claim of more than 20 acres. The fee for a claim is $140. Up to eight claimants may form an association to mine a larger track and the fee remains $140. The bill provides that when an association is formed the $140 fee is still due for each claim in the association.

- Sec. 442 Prohibits the use of funds through 2012 for managing bighorn sheep populations on Federal lands that will reduce the number of livestock permitted to graze on the land. Language would preclude BLM from addressing bighorn sheep issues in on-going land use plans and implementation actions including NEPA.

- Sec. 445 Prohibits the withdrawal of lands around the Grand Canyon from location and entry under the General Mining Law of 1872. Provision would overturn Secretary Salazar's recent emergency withdrawal of approximately 1 million acres of Federal lands near Grand Canyon National Park from hard rock mining claim location and entry under the 1872 Mining Law while the Department continues to evaluate whether to withdraw these lands from new mining claims for 20 years. The provision prohibits the withdrawal of land unless expressly authorized by a law enacted after the date of enactment of this Act.

Legislative Provisions Impacting DOI and Other Agencies;

- Sec. 433 Prohibits the use of funds for surface coal mining permit coordination activities between OSM, EPA and the Corps of Engineers.

- Sec. 443 Limits EPA authority regarding permitting of OCS drilling operations and the determination of associated air quality impacts.

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To: Hanna, Jeanette
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Funding Summary
(dollars in millions)

	2011 Enacted	2012 President's Request	2012 House Action (as of 7/5/11)	2012 House Action v. 2012 Request (in $)	2012 House Action v. 2012 Request (in %)	2012 House Action v. 2011 Enacted (in $)	2012 House Action v. 2011 Enacted (in %)
Interior and Related Agencies							
Total, Interior and Related Agencies	**10,682**	**11,175**	**9,969**	**-1,207**	**-10.8%**	**-713**	**-6.7%**
Bureau of Land Management	1,125	1,129	1,069	-60	-5.3%	-55	-4.9%
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management	226	133	154	20	15.3%	-72	-32.0%
Office of Surface Mining	163	146	151	5	3.2%	-12	-7.4%
Geological Survey	1,084	1,118	1,054	-64	-5.8%	-30	-2.8%
Fish and Wildlife Service	1,505	1,695	1,189	-506	-29.9%	-317	-21.0%
National Park Service	2,611	2,892	2,482	-409	-14.1%	-129	-4.9%
Bureau of Indian Affairs	2,594	2,501	2,530	29	1.2%	-64	-2.5%
Departmental Management	119	284	250	-34	-11.8%	132	110.9%
Insular Affairs	101	97	86	-11	-11.7%	-15	-14.7%
Office of the Solicitor	65	68	65	-4	-5.2%	0	0.0%
Office of Inspector General	48	49	48	-1	-2.0%	0	0.0%
Office of Special Trustee for American Indians	161	152	152	0	0.0%	-8	-5.2%
Department Wide Programs (including Wildland Fire)	881	911	739	-172	-18.9%	-142	-16.1%

At $10 billion, the House mark is $713 million or 7% below the 2011 enacted level and $1.2 billion or 11% below the 2012 President's request. The bill:

- Takes **significant cuts in land acquisition**, **grant** and **operations accounts.** For example, the **Fish and Wildlife Service** operations account is -$173 million or -14% below the 2012 request.
- Does **not provide the full amount requested for offshore energy reforms** in BOEMRE, when considering the amount of offsetting collections provided in the House bill (-$34.7 million or -9.7% below the 2012 request); and costs the U.S. Treasury more because it fails to increase the inspection fee charged to offshore operations by $55 million.
- **Protects** funding for the **Bureau of Indian Affairs** (+$29 million or +1.2% above the request) and the **Office of Surface Mining** (+$5 million or +3.2% above the request).
- **Limits reductions in the National Park Service operations** "to allow all National Parks to remain open and NPS activities to continue through the next year without furloughs or reductions in employees," (-$54 million or -2.3% below the request).
- Adds a number of **"legislative riders"** aimed at limiting NEPA review and judicial action against land management and endangered species activities on the public lands.

The most significant reductions from the current level are taken against:

- **Land and Water Conservation Fund** – A total of $50 million is provided for land acquisition and leveraged grant programs. This is a cut of -$626 million (-93%) below the 2012 requested level and -$194 million (-80%) below the 2011 current level. A total of $31 million is proposed for Federal land acquisition, which generates two dollars of economic spending for every dollar invested. This equates to an economic loss of over $600 million from the requested level.

    - An example of the type of project impacted is the Rocky Mountain Front Conservation Area in Montana where the majority of inholdings at Rocky Mountain Front are owned by ranchers, many of whom have expressed an interest in selling conservation easements to the FWS. Several entities have joined together, including Federal and State government and private

groups, to protect the water resources and grasslands to restrict subdivision and development, without interfering with ranch operations. Ranchers use the money from the sale of conservation easements to pay down debt, reinvest in capital improvements, or buy other lands to expand their operations.

- **Land Management Operations** – Funds core operations activities for BLM, NPS and FWS at $4.4 billion. This is -$241 million or -5% below the 2012 request and -$195 million or -4% below the 2011 level.
  - Hardest hit is the Fish and Wildlife Service operations account with a cut of -$146 million (-12%) from the 2011 level. The reduction is expected to result in a loss of 801 FTE, risk closure or program elimination at an estimated 128 refuges, and reduce visitation by 4 million.

- **Major Grant Programs** – House provides $105 million for conservation and historic preservation grant programs. This is -$162 million or -61% below the current level and -$416 million or -80% below the President's request. Most notable are proposed cuts to:
  - **NPS Grants** are funded at $2.8 million, a -$197 million reduction from the amount proposed in the President's request. This is -$37 million or -93% below the current level. The loss of $197.2 million in grants means that States and Territories will miss out on an estimated $540 million in economic output. Funds are equally matched by States. In addition, States lose a significant source of funding to improve recreational access at a time when the demand for State and local recreational opportunities is very high. In 2010, States and Territories estimated an unmet funding need of $18.5 billion.
  - **Cooperative Endangered Species Grants**, funded at $2.9 million, a cut of -$97 million (-97%) from the President's request and -$57 million (-95%) from the current level. Only the administrative portion of the program would remain to complete appraisal and title work. No funds would be available for States and communities to acquire lands and plan development consistent with species needs. As a result, FWS will be unable to provide funding for States to implement important conservation activities, and States would lose approximately $191 million in economic output. States provide funding to leverage these funds.
  - **State and Tribal Wildlife Grants,** which are funded at $22 million, would impact local economies by cutting at least $144 million in wildlife conservation supported directly and indirectly through this program in States, Territories and Tribes. The reduction also means an estimated 650 private sector, 204 State and tribal, and 17 Federal jobs will be eliminated. Currently, the States provide a 25% match to the Federal share of planning grants. Language proposed in 2012 would increase the State share to 35%. The State share of implementation grants is 50%.
  - **Historic Preservation Fund Grants** are funded at $50 million. A reduction of $12 million below the President's request for these grants could result in the loss of $32 million in economic output to States, Territories, and Tribes and undercuts historic preservation work in States. States are required to provide a 40% matching contribution; there are no matching requirements for grants to Territories or Tribes**.**

Bureau of Land Management: $1.1 billion, - $59.7 million or -5% from the 2012 request and -$55.5 million or -5% from 2011:

- Does not approve new inspection fees to offset the cost of the oil and gas program. This would require BLM to take an additional $38 million in reductions to other BLM operating programs.
- Reductions in land acquisition program would dramatically eliminate plans to purchase easements or acquire land to increase recreational opportunities, and protect unique and vulnerable natural and cultural resources.

- The House bill makes the Service First authority permanent as requested in the President's budget.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Regulation and Enforcement: $323.7 million, -$34.7 million or -9.7% below the 2012 request (includes offsetting collections). Compared against 2011 enacted, adjusted to reflect BOEMRE only, the House mark is +$42.2 million above the 2011 level or +15%. The increase reflects BOEMRE's full use of offsetting collections in 2012. In 2011, they are shared with ONRR.

BOEMRE Summary of 2012 PB and House Mark					
(thousands of dollars)	2011 Operating Plan*	2012 President's Request	2012 House Mark	House Mark Change from 2011 Operating Plan	House Mark Change from 2012 PB
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement					
Ocean Energy Management	174,122	118,265	138,605	-35,517	+20,340
Less OCS Connect Rescission	-25 000	0	0	+25 000	0
Total, OEM	149,122	118,265	138,605	-10,517	+20,340
Oil Spill Research	11,744	14,923	14,923	+3,179	0
Total Direct Appropriations	160,866	133,188	153,528	-7,338	+20,340
Offsetting Collections - Rental Receipts and Cost Recovery	110,403	160,163	160,163	+49,760	0
Inspection Fees	10,000	65,000	10,000	0	-55,000
Total, BOEMRE	281,269	358,351	323,691	+42,422	-34,660
* This includes $19.9 million in General Administration funding that supports the Office of Natural Resource Revenue and is transferred to the Office of the Secretary in 2012.					
* Total offsetting collections equal $154,890, of which $44,487 is allocated to the Office of Natural Resource Revenue and is transferred to the BOEMRE in 2012.					

- Sustains but does not advance the additional capacity required to implement reforms.
- Up to 60 personnel planned to improve inspection/monitoring will not be hired hindering the use of a new multi-person/multi-disciplinary approach to inspections.
- Up to 21 additional personnel needed to review and process drilling and other permits would not be hired. These positions are required to review and process lease agreements, determine qualifications, and evaluate requests for development activities including drilling plans and permit processing and approval.
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- Eliminates funding for oversight of regulatory programs in States
- Restores funding for State and tribal regulatory programs.

U.S. Geological Survey: $1.1 billion, -$64.3 million or -6% from the 2012 request and -$30.1 million or -3.0% from 2011:

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- Details on reductions in cooperative landscape conservation activities are not available.

Fish and Wildlife Service: $1.2 billion, -$506 million or -30% below the request and -$316.5 million or -21% below 2011 enacted:

- Reductions from the request cut across: Operations, -$173 million; Land Acquisition, -$129 million; Grants and Payments -$193 million; and Construction, -$11 million.
- Based on preliminary information, estimate House mark could result in the loss of 801 FTEs and 40,000 volunteers, risk closure or major program elimination at 128 refuges, and reduce visitation by nearly 4 million across FWS sites.
- Reductions in FWS operations would adversely impact conservation planning assistance with potential project delays for 340 energy projects on DOI and non-DOI lands; delay the ability to provide required consultations to evaluate endangered species impacts; reduce habitat restoration; and further delay accomplishment of 33 critical deferred maintenance projects.
- A 49% reduction from the request for Construction activities would impact health and safety projects such as needed repairs to 4 dams at Crab Orchard NWR, and delay, therefore escalating the cost of four projects in Alaska, Nevada, Colorado, and Maine.
- The proposed $128.5 million cut in land acquisition would fail to protect the proposed 90,000 acres of NWR system inholdings.
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National Park Service: $2.5 billion, -$409.1 million or -14% below the 2012 request and -$128.7 million or -5% below 2011:

- Does not include $65 million requested in operating increases, over 60% of which supports increased responsibilities or expanded programs at park units.
    - This is expected to slow development of operations at new areas and limit targeted efforts such as youth programs. A targeted reduction in cooperative landscape conservation will significantly impact resource monitoring and mitigation activities at park sites.
- Significant cuts in land acquisition greatly impact NPS' ability to remediate threats to resources from development, most notably at Grand Teton in Wyoming and the Everglades and Big Cypress in South Florida.

Bureau of Indian Affairs: $2.5 billion, +$29 million or +1% above the 2012 request and -$64.4 million or -3% below 2011 enacted:

- Fully funds the presumed need for 2012 in Contract Support with $228 million.
- The House provides an increase of $5 million above the request for Indian Loan Guarantees.
- Indian Land and Water Settlements are funded level with the request.
- Construction is funded at $155 million, $50 million above the 2012 request.

Departmental Management/ Operations: $250.2 million, -$33.5 million or -12% below the 2012 request and +$131.6 million or +111% above the 2011 enacted:

- The large increase above 2011 enacted is due to the transfer of ONRR from BOEMRE into the Office of the Secretary.
- Need additional details from report language to determine individual office impacts and ONRR funding level.

Office of Insular Affairs: $85.9 million, -$11.4 million or -12% below the request and -$14.8 million or -15% below 2011 enacted:

- Does not provide funding to stand up the Guam field office.
- Funds the Compact of Free Association at the request level of $3.3 million and does not provide 2012 funding for Palau.

Office of the Inspector General: $48.5 million, -$1 million or -2% below the request and equal to 2011 enacted.

Office of Solicitor: $64.9 million, -$3.5 million or -5 % below the request and equal to 2011 enacted.

Office of Special Trustee: $152 million, equal to the 2012 request and -$8.4 million or -5% below 2011 enacted.

Working Capital Fund: $57.0 million, -$16.1 million or -22% below the 2012 request and -$28.6 million or -33% below the 2011 level:

- Need additional details from report language to determine impacts to FBMS, IT Innovation, acquisitions and consolidation efforts.

Central HazMat Fund: $10.1 million, equal to the 2012 request and the 2011 enacted level.

NRDA Fund: $5.8 million, -$500,000 or -8% below the 2012 request and -$686,000 or -11% below 2011 enacted.

Wildland Fire: $666.1 million, $155.5 million or -23% below the request and -$112.9 million or -14% below the 2011 enacted level.

- The House provides an increase of $26 million for fuels and an increase of $7 million for rural fire assistance.
- House adds language directing the use of available emergency supplemental funds, about $189 million, for fire suppression activities. The House bill directs funding the 10-year fire average with a portion of prior year unobligated balances and new budget authority.

- The bill adds appropriations language authorizing the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture to transfer not more than $50 million between Departments if the Secretaries determine the transfer will enhance efficiency or effectiveness of Federal suppression activities.
- As requested in the President's budget, the bill includes appropriations language authorizing the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture to transfer $50 million of wildland fire management funds between Departments when such transfers would facilitate and expedite jointly funded wildland fire management programs and projects. However, similar language for the Forest Service limits this transfer to $10 million – will need clarification.

Legislative Provisions Requested in the 2012 budget and Not Included in the House Bill

- BLM – Authority to charge inspection fees for oil and gas activities. These fees were proposed to offset $38 million in program requirements in FY 2012.
- BOEMRE – Proposal to increase OCS inspection fees by $55 million to offset program costs. House bill maintains $10 million in fees.
- BOEMRE – Proposal to increase the review period of OCS leases from 30 to 90 days.
- BIA – Proposed language clarifying the Carcieri decision.
- BIA – Proposed language to address Jones Academy eligibility requirements.
- NPS – Provision pertaining to administration and joint ticketing for the Pearl Harbor complex.
- NPS – Does not continue authority to make payment for North Shore Road.
- General – House did not accept proposed language providing bureaus flexibility to transfer or reprogram funds to complete Recovery Act projects using surplus funds from projects that were incorporated into statute by reference.

New Legislative Provisions in the House Bill Not Proposed in the 2012 President's Budget

- FWS – Bill includes a limitation on Endangered Species Act listing activities that would prohibit funding to respond to petitions to list, to add species to the list, to designate critical habitat or to reclassify species from threatened to endangered. Funding could be used for the limited purposes of 5 year reviews, reclassifications from endangered to threatened, and delistings.

- Wildland Fire – Bill language makes available $189 million in emergency supplemental funding for fire suppression. Provision directs the Wildland Fire program to use "emergency supplemental" for suppression activities before using newly appropriated funding.

- NPS – Authorizes implementation of preferred alternative modifications to the Tamiami Trail. The NPS, through the Army Corps of Engineers, is constructing one mile of bridging along Tamiami Trail to improve water flows to the Everglades National Park. However, the NPS did not have the authority to construct the additional 5.5 miles of bridging identified in the preferred alternative cited in Section 108. The total cost for implementation of that alternative is approximated $300 million. This funding was not requested in FY 2012.

- Sec. 114 Provision provides authority to the heads of BIE schools to enter into rental and lease agreements for private entities (churches, ad companies, etc.) to utilize land or facilities and retain funding to apply toward its BIE programs.

- Sec. 115 Provision requires the FWS to implement a system of mass marking of salmonid stocks that are released from Federal hatcheries.

- Sec. 116 Prohibits the use of funds to implement regulations concerning boating and other activities on the water within the Yukon-Charley National Preserve.

- Sec. 117 Provides direct hiring authority within two years for qualified candidates who have completed a rigorous undergraduate or graduate summer internship with a land management agency.

- Sec. 118 Limits Federal court claims concerning BLM grazing activities to those which have been challenged at the agency level and exhausted all administrative hearing and appeals procedures.
- Sec. 119 Protects from judicial review, any final rule that provides that gray wolves in Wyoming or within the range of the Western Great Lakes are not an endangered or threatened species, if the State has entered into an agreement with Interior authorizing the State to manage the wolves.

- Sec. 120 Exempts for 2012 through 2014, BLM livestock "trailing" practices and implementation from NEPA review. "Trailing" refers to the movement of livestock from private land across public land. The provision would authorize BLM to walk the cattle across the public lands without a NEPA analysis.

- Sec. 411 Provides authority to enter into reciprocal agreements with foreign fire organizations for wildfire services and liability coverage to foreign firefighters.

- Sec. 415 Extends the current extension authority for established grazing permits for FY 2012 - 2016.

- Sec. 425 For all agencies, bureaus and offices, requires quarterly reports on the status of balances of appropriations, identified by source year of funding.

- Sec. 426 Requires the President (OMB) to submit a comprehensive report on all climate change related Federal funding for FY 2011 and FY 2012.

- Sec. 430 Allows Tribes to provide single audit reports for 477 grants. This language clarifies confusion regarding the 477 law and OMB auditing requirements.

- Sec. 432 Prohibits the use of funds for OSM to develop, carryout, implement, or enforce the proposed Stream Buffer Protection regulations.

- Sec. 440 Clarifies claim maintenance fee charges allowed for placer claims used mainly for gold mining by panning or dredging in a stream. The provision amends existing law with respect to the payment of mining claim maintenance fees for placer claims. An individual cannot stake a claim of more than 20 acres. The fee for a claim is $140. Up to eight claimants may form an association to mine a larger track and the fee remains $140. The bill provides that when an association is formed the $140 fee is still due for each claim in the association.

- Sec. 442 Prohibits the use of funds through 2012 for managing bighorn sheep populations on Federal lands that will reduce the number of livestock permitted to graze on the land. Language would preclude BLM from addressing bighorn sheep issues in on-going land use plans and implementation actions including NEPA.

- Sec. 445 Prohibits the withdrawal of lands around the Grand Canyon from location and entry under the General Mining Law of 1872. Provision would overturn Secretary Salazar's recent emergency withdrawal of approximately 1 million acres of Federal lands near Grand Canyon National Park from hard rock mining claim location and entry under the 1872 Mining Law while the Department continues to evaluate whether to withdraw these lands from new mining claims for 20 years. The provision prohibits the withdrawal of land unless expressly authorized by a law enacted after the date of enactment of this Act.

Legislative Provisions Impacting DOI and Other Agencies;

- Sec. 433 Prohibits the use of funds for surface coal mining permit coordination activities between OSM, EPA and the Corps of Engineers.

- Sec. 443 Limits EPA authority regarding permitting of OCS drilling operations and the determination of associated air quality impacts.

From:	Echohawk, Larry
To:	Hanna, Jeanette
Subject:	FW: 2012 House Action on Interior Bill
Date:	Friday, July 08, 2011 1:55:14 PM
Attachments:	House SummaryInterior 7.7.11.docx E&WD H Comm Summ.06.29.11.pdf

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From: Haze, Pam K
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 10:07 AM
To: Hayes, David; Babauta, Tony; Castle, Anne; Echohawk, Larry; Lewis, Wilma; Shafroth, William; Suh, Rhea; Abbey, Robert V; Ashe, Dan; Black, Michael; Connor, Michael L; Jarvis, Jon; McNutt, Marcia K; Moore, Keith; Pizarchik, Joseph G
Cc: Jackson, Andrew; Lewis, Courtenay; Screnar, Brian; Davis, Laura; Lee-Ashley, Matt
Subject: 2012 House Action on Interior Bill

Attached for your use is a summary/set of talking points on the House bill for 2012 Interior appropriations. This is in follow-up to the Tuesday POG meeting – we talked about the impending House markup of the Interior bill. On Thursday the Subcommittee adopted the bill. Full Committee markup is scheduled for Tuesday, July 12.

Also attached is a summary of the Energy and Water Development bill. The House is expected to complete their work on the Defense appropriations bill today and move onto Energy and Water appropriations.

HOUSE INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MARK
SUMMARY

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- Fully funds the presumed need for 2012 in Contract Support with $228 million.
- The House provides an increase of $5 million above the request for Indian Loan Guarantees.
- Indian Land and Water Settlements are funded level with the request.
- Construction is funded at $155 million, $50 million above the 2012 request.

Departmental Management/ Operations: $250.2 million, -$33.5 million or -12% below the 2012 request and +$131.6 million or +111% above the 2011 enacted:

- The large increase above 2011 enacted is due to the transfer of ONRR from BOEMRE into the Office of the Secretary.
- Need additional details from report language to determine individual office impacts and ONRR funding level.

Office of Insular Affairs: $85.9 million, -$11.4 million or -12% below the request and -$14.8 million or -15% below 2011 enacted:

- Does not provide funding to stand up the Guam field office.
- Funds the Compact of Free Association at the request level of $3.3 million and does not provide 2012 funding for Palau.

Office of the Inspector General: $48.5 million, -$1 million or -2% below the request and equal to 2011 enacted.

Office of Solicitor: $64.9 million, -$3.5 million or -5 % below the request and equal to 2011 enacted.

Office of Special Trustee: $152 million, equal to the 2012 request and -$8.4 million or -5% below 2011 enacted.

Working Capital Fund: $57.0 million, -$16.1 million or -22% below the 2012 request and -$28.6 million or -33% below the 2011 level:

- Need additional details from report language to determine impacts to FBMS, IT Innovation, acquisitions and consolidation efforts.

Central HazMat Fund: $10.1 million, equal to the 2012 request and the 2011 enacted level.

NRDA Fund: $5.8 million, -$500,000 or -8% below the 2012 request and -$686,000 or -11% below 2011 enacted.

Wildland Fire: $666.1 million, $155.5 million or -23% below the request and -$112.9 million or -14% below the 2011 enacted level.

- The House provides an increase of $26 million for fuels and an increase of $7 million for rural fire assistance.
- House adds language directing the use of available emergency supplemental funds, about $189 million, for fire suppression activities. The House bill directs funding the 10-year fire average with a portion of prior year unobligated balances and new budget authority.

- The bill adds appropriations language authorizing the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture to transfer not more than $50 million between Departments if the Secretaries determine the transfer will enhance efficiency or effectiveness of Federal suppression activities.
- As requested in the President's budget, the bill includes appropriations language authorizing the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture to transfer $50 million of wildland fire management funds between Departments when such transfers would facilitate and expedite jointly funded wildland fire management programs and projects. However, similar language for the Forest Service limits this transfer to $10 million – will need clarification.

Legislative Provisions Requested in the 2012 budget and Not Included in the House Bill

- BLM – Authority to charge inspection fees for oil and gas activities. These fees were proposed to offset $38 million in program requirements in FY 2012.
- BOEMRE – Proposal to increase OCS inspection fees by $55 million to offset program costs. House bill maintains $10 million in fees.
- BOEMRE – Proposal to increase the review period of OCS leases from 30 to 90 days.
- BIA – Proposed language clarifying the Carcieri decision.
- BIA – Proposed language to address Jones Academy eligibility requirements.
- NPS – Provision pertaining to administration and joint ticketing for the Pearl Harbor complex.
- NPS – Does not continue authority to make payment for North Shore Road.
- General – House did not accept proposed language providing bureaus flexibility to transfer or reprogram funds to complete Recovery Act projects using surplus funds from projects that were incorporated into statute by reference.

New Legislative Provisions in the House Bill Not Proposed in the 2012 President's Budget

- FWS – Bill includes a limitation on Endangered Species Act listing activities that would prohibit funding to respond to petitions to list, to add species to the list, to designate critical habitat or to reclassify species from threatened to endangered. Funding could be used for the limited purposes of 5 year reviews, reclassifications from endangered to threatened, and delistings.

- Wildland Fire – Bill language makes available $189 million in emergency supplemental funding for fire suppression. Provision directs the Wildland Fire program to use "emergency supplemental" for suppression activities before using newly appropriated funding.

- NPS – Authorizes implementation of preferred alternative modifications to the Tamiami Trail. The NPS, through the Army Corps of Engineers, is constructing one mile of bridging along Tamiami Trail to improve water flows to the Everglades National Park. However, the NPS did not have the authority to construct the additional 5.5 miles of bridging identified in the preferred alternative cited in Section 108. The total cost for implementation of that alternative is approximated $300 million. This funding was not requested in FY 2012.

- Sec. 114 Provision provides authority to the heads of BIE schools to enter into rental and lease agreements for private entities (churches, ad companies, etc.) to utilize land or facilities and retain funding to apply toward its BIE programs.

- Sec. 115 Provision requires the FWS to implement a system of mass marking of salmonid stocks that are released from Federal hatcheries.

- Sec. 116 Prohibits the use of funds to implement regulations concerning boating and other activities on the water within the Yukon-Charley National Preserve.

- Sec. 117 Provides direct hiring authority within two years for qualified candidates who have completed a rigorous undergraduate or graduate summer internship with a land management agency.

- Sec. 118 Limits Federal court claims concerning BLM grazing activities to those which have been challenged at the agency level and exhausted all administrative hearing and appeals procedures.
- Sec. 119 Protects from judicial review, any final rule that provides that gray wolves in Wyoming or within the range of the Western Great Lakes are not an endangered or threatened species, if the State has entered into an agreement with Interior authorizing the State to manage the wolves.

- Sec. 120 Exempts for 2012 through 2014, BLM livestock "trailing" practices and implementation from NEPA review. "Trailing" refers to the movement of livestock from private land across public land. The provision would authorize BLM to walk the cattle across the public lands without a NEPA analysis.

- Sec. 411 Provides authority to enter into reciprocal agreements with foreign fire organizations for wildfire services and liability coverage to foreign firefighters.

- Sec. 415 Extends the current extension authority for established grazing permits for FY 2012 - 2016.

- Sec. 425 For all agencies, bureaus and offices, requires quarterly reports on the status of balances of appropriations, identified by source year of funding.

- Sec. 426 Requires the President (OMB) to submit a comprehensive report on all climate change related Federal funding for FY 2011 and FY 2012.

- Sec. 430 Allows Tribes to provide single audit reports for 477 grants. This language clarifies confusion regarding the 477 law and OMB auditing requirements.

- Sec. 432 Prohibits the use of funds for OSM to develop, carryout, implement, or enforce the proposed Stream Buffer Protection regulations.

- Sec. 440 Clarifies claim maintenance fee charges allowed for placer claims used mainly for gold mining by panning or dredging in a stream. The provision amends existing law with respect to the payment of mining claim maintenance fees for placer claims. An individual cannot stake a claim of more than 20 acres. The fee for a claim is $140. Up to eight claimants may form an association to mine a larger track and the fee remains $140. The bill provides that when an association is formed the $140 fee is still due for each claim in the association.

- Sec. 442 Prohibits the use of funds through 2012 for managing bighorn sheep populations on Federal lands that will reduce the number of livestock permitted to graze on the land. Language would preclude BLM from addressing bighorn sheep issues in on-going land use plans and implementation actions including NEPA.

- Sec. 445 Prohibits the withdrawal of lands around the Grand Canyon from location and entry under the General Mining Law of 1872. Provision would overturn Secretary Salazar's recent emergency withdrawal of approximately 1 million acres of Federal lands near Grand Canyon National Park from hard rock mining claim location and entry under the 1872 Mining Law while the Department continues to evaluate whether to withdraw these lands from new mining claims for 20 years. The provision prohibits the withdrawal of land unless expressly authorized by a law enacted after the date of enactment of this Act.

Legislative Provisions Impacting DOI and Other Agencies;

- Sec. 433 Prohibits the use of funds for surface coal mining permit coordination activities between OSM, EPA and the Corps of Engineers.

- Sec. 443 Limits EPA authority regarding permitting of OCS drilling operations and the determination of associated air quality impacts.

Department of the Interior Highlights
of House Full Committee Action on the
Fiscal Year 2012 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill

The House Full Appropriations Committee reported its 2012 bill on June 15, following the Energy and Water Development Subcommittee's markup on June 2. The Committee bill provides $971.3 million for Reclamation, $91.3 million below the 2011 enacted level and $47.1 million below the President's request. The bill provides $28.7 million for CUPCA, $3.2 million below the 2011 enacted level and $4.3 million below the President's request. Floor action has not been scheduled.

Funding Overview

The House Appropriations Committee includes $30.6 billion for agencies funded under the bill, including the Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of Energy, Interior's Bureau of Reclamation and Central Utah Project Completion Act, and other independent agencies. The bill total is $1.0 billion below the 2011 enacted level and $5.9 billion below the President's request. Highlights of Committee action for Interior's programs include the following:

Bureau of Reclamation

(thousands of dollars) Appropriation	2011 Enacted Level	2012 President's Budget	2012 House Committee Mark	House Committee +/- 2011 Op Plan	House Committee +/- 2012 Pres. Bud
Water & Related Resources	911,673	805,187	822,300	-89,373	17,113
Policy and Administration	61,078	60,000	60,000	-1,078	0
California Bay-Delta Restoration	39,920	39,651	35,928	-3,992	-3,723
Indian Water Rights Settlement Accounts [1]	0	51,483	0	0	-51,483
San Joaquin River Restoration Fund	0	9,000	0	0	-9,000
Central Valley Project Restoration Fund	49,914	53,068	53,068	3,154	0
Subtotal Current Authority	**1,062,585**	**1,018,389**	**971,296**	**-91,289**	**-47,093**
CVP Restoration Fund offset	-49,614	-52,767	-52,767	-3,153	0
Total Net Discretionary Authority	**1,012,971**	**965,622**	**918,529**	**-94,442**	**-47,093**
San Joaquin River Restoration Fund Rescission [2/]			**-66,000**	**-66,000**	**-66,000**

[1] Newly proposed IWRS account includes $51 5 million for recently passed settlements including Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project ($2
settlements in the Claims Resolution Act of 2010 ($26 7 million)

[2/] Rescission of mandatory funds is shown for tracking purposes

The House Committee funds Reclamation at $971.3 million, $91.3 million below the 2011 operating plan and $47.1 million below the President's budget. Comparison below the account level are with the 2011 operating plan submitted to Congress on May 13, 2011.

Water & Related Resources Account: The House Committee funds this account at $822.3 million, $89.4 million below the 2011 enacted level and $17.1 million above the President's budget. However, this increase above the President's budget is largely due to

inclusion of $50.6 million for water settlements. The House rejected the budget proposal to establish a separate Indian Water Rights Settlement account.

The Secretary's WaterSMART initiative is funded at $38.8 million, $30.9 million below the 2011 operating plan and $20.1 million below the President's budget. Funds within the program are allocated as follows:

($000s) Program/Project	2011 Operating Plan	2012 Pres. Bud	House Committee	House Committee +/- 2011 Op Plan	House Committee +/- 2011 Pres. Bud
Basin Studies	8,288	6,000	4,000	-4,288	-2,000
Cooperative Watershed Mgt.	0	250	0	0	-250
Water Conservation Field Services	7,839	5,108	4,000	-3,839	-1,108
WaterSMART Grants	33,046	18,500	10,798	-22,248	-7,702
Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program	20,542	29,000	20,000	-542	-9,000
Total, WaterSMART	**69,715**	**58,858**	**38,798**	**-30,917**	**-20,060**

Other Programs and Projects:
In order to obtain its target, the Committee imposed a roughly two percent pro-rata cut to most projects and programs. The following are funded at the 2012 President's budget request, minus the pro-rata cut. Comparisons against the 2011 operating plan are as follows:

- Animas La Plata: $12.5 million, $6.1 million above the 2011 operating plan
- Arkansas Valley Conduit: $2.9 million, $87,000 below the 2011 operating plan
- Central Valley Project: $152.0 million, $18.1 million below the 2011 operating plan
- Colorado-Big Thompson: $10.9 million, $1.8 million below the 2011 operating plan
- Colorado River Basin, Central Arizona Project: $6.9 million, $2.5 million below the 2011 operating plan
- Colorado River Basin Salinity Control: $22.4 million, $388,000 above the 2011 operating plan
- Colorado River Storage Project: $12.1 million, $564,000 below the 2011 operating plan
- Columbia Basin Project: $7.6 million, $6.0 million below the 2011 operating plan
- ESA Conservation/Recovery: $37.1 million, $4.5 million below the 2011 operating plan
- Klamath: $18.3 million, $4.2 million below the 2011 operating plan
- Lower Colorado River Operation: $25.5 million, $289,000 above the 2011 operating
- Minidoka Area Projects: $14.2 million. $9.0 million above the 2011 operating plan
- Native American Affairs Programs: The President's budget requested a new Indian Water Rights Settlement account with funding of $51.5 million for recently authorized settlements in the Claims Resolution Act of 2010 and the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply project. The Committee rejected the President's request for a separate account and instead funded the individual settlements within the Water and Related Resources account. The Committee reduced funding for these settlements by $877,000 as part of the pro-rata cuts. Funds for the settlement requests, a subset of Native American Affairs Programs, are allocated as follows:

($000s) Discretionary funding only. Settlement	2011 Operating Plan	2012 Pres. Bud *	House Committee	House Comm. +/- 2011 Op Plan	House Comm. +/- 2012 Pres. Bud
Aamodt	0	9,400	9,240	9,240	-160
Crow	0	8,336	8,194	8,194	-142
Navajo-Gallup	9,980	24,797	24,375	14,395	-422
Taos Pueblo	3	4,000	3,932	3,929	-68
White Mtn. Apache	0	4,950	4,865	4,865	-85
Total, Rural Water Projects	**9,983**	**51,483**	**50,606**	**40,623**	**-877**

* Funds were requested in new Indian Water Rights Settlement Account, but Committee provided funds in the Water and Related Resources account.

- Rural Water Projects: $34.9 million, $27.9 million below the 2011 operating plan. Funds within the program are allocated as follows:

($000s) Project*	2011 Operating Plan	2012 Pres. Bud	House Committee	House Comm. +/- +/- 2011 Op Plan	House Comm. +/- +/- 2012 Pres. Bud
Fort Peck	1,996	493	484	-1,512	-9
Jicarilla	499	496	487	-12	-9
Lewis and Clark	1,996	493	484	-1,512	-9
Mni Wiconi	29,425	26,328	25,880	-3,545	-448
Pick Sloan (Garrison)	27,964	7,240	7,117	-20,847	-123
Rocky Boys/N. Central MT	998	493	484	-514	-9
Total, Rural Water Projects	**62,878**	**35,543**	**34,936**	**-27,942**	**-607**

* Amounts are only for the rural water components of these projects.

- Safety of Dams: $83.7 million, $11.3 million below the 2011 operating plan
- Site Security: $25.5 million, $4.7 million below the 2011 operating plan
- Yakima River Basin: $14.2 million, $6.6 million below the 2011 operating plan

Key projects that the Committees funded at levels different than the President's budget request:

- Title XVI, Water Reclamation and Reuse program: $20.0 million, $542,000 below the 2011 operating plan and $9.0 below the President's budget. Eliminated funding ($1.5 million) for the Calleguas (CA) Municipal Recycling project because the $20.0 million ceiling was reached in the FY 2011 Operating Plan, and reduced the Commissioner's Office amount from the requested level of $23.6 million to $16.1 million, $4.4 million above the 2011 operating plan and $7.5 million below the President's request.
- Desalination Research and Development Program: $0.0 million, $3.7 million below the 2011 operating plan and $2.1 million below the President's request – eliminated based on the authorization for appropriations expiring at the end of FY 2011 under current law.

No projects were funded by the Committee that were not in the President's budget.

CALFED: The Committee funds the California Bay-Delta Restoration program at $35.9 million, $4.0 million below the 2011 operating plan and $3.7 million below the 2012 President's budget. A breakout of this funding is not available at this time.

Other Accounts: The Committee funds the Central Valley Project Restoration Fund at $53.1 million, $3.2 million above the 2011 operating plan and the same as the President's budget. The increase for this account is a result of a statutory requirement that calculates funding levels based on a three-year rolling average. The increase is offset by discretionary receipts that are also based on the three-year rolling average calculation.

The Committee funds the Policy and Administration account at $60.0 million, $1.1 million below the 2011 operating plan and the same as the President's budget.

The President's budget requested $9.0 million in discretionary funds in the San Joaquin River Restoration Fund account. The Committee did not fund the request of $9.0 million. In addition, bill language permanently cancels all (mandatory) unobligated balances and assumes a $66.0 million savings in the bill as a result.

Other Bill/Report Language

In addition to that already described, the bill or report includes the following:

Interceptor drain for the San Luis Unit: Consistent with prior years, the Committee bill states that none of the funds may be used to determine the final point of discharge for the interceptor drain for the San Luis Unit, until development of a plan by the Secretary and the State of California, which shall conform to the water quality standards of California as approved by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Costs of the Kesterson Reservoir Cleanup Program and San Joaquin Valley Drainage Program: Consistent with prior years, the Committee bill states that the costs of these programs shall be classified by the Secretary as reimbursable or nonreimbursable and collected until fully repaid pursuant to the "Cleanup Program-Alternative Repayment Plan" and the "SJVDP-Alternative Repayment Plan" described in the report "Repayment Report, Kesterson Reservoir Cleanup Program and San Joaquin Valley Drainage Program, February 1995." It further directs that any future obligations of funds by the U.S. regarding drainage services or studies for the San Luis Unit shall be fully reimbursable by San Luis Unit beneficiaries.

Desert Terminal Lakes: Unlike the recent past, the Committee did not direct any funding from Desert Terminal Lakes.

Underfinancing: The Committee did not provide any underfinancing (a reduction to account for schedule slippages, accelerations or other unforeseen conditions).

Amendments

Of 24 amendments offered, seven were adopted, and four of those indirectly affect Reclamation and CUPCA:

- An amendment striking language that prohibited certain Davis-Bacon wage and McNamara-O'Hara Service Contract Act requirements.
- An amendment requiring agencies funded in the bill to use "E-Verify" to confirm the eligibility of new hires to work in the U.S.
- An amendment prohibiting the government from entering into contracts or agreements with any corporation that was convicted of a felony criminal violation under any Federal law within the preceding 24 months.
- An amendment prohibiting funds for contracts or agreements with entities with unpaid Federal tax liabilities that have not entered into payment agreements to remedy the liability.

Central Utah Project Completion Act

$000	2011 Operating Plan	2012 Pres. Bud	2012 House Committee	House Comm. +/- 2011 Op Plan	House Comm. +/- 2012 Pres. Bud
CUPCA Total	31,940	32,991	28,704	-3,236	-4,287

The Committee funds the Central Utah Project Completion Act at $28.7 million, $3.2 million below the 2011 operating plan and $4.3 million below the President's budget.

From: Echohawk, Larry
To: Atine, Patrese
Subject: FW: 2012 House Action on Interior Bill
Date: Friday, July 08, 2011 5:06:09 PM
Attachments: House Summary 7 7 11_3_.pdf

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for briefing book

From: Haze, Pam K
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 4:55 PM
To: Hayes, David; Babauta, Tony; Castle, Anne; Echohawk, Larry; Lewis, Wilma; Shafroth, William; Suh, Rhea; Abbey, Robert V; Ashe, Dan; Black, Michael; Connor, Michael L; Jarvis, Jon; McNutt, Marcia K; Moore, Keith; Pizarchik, Joseph G
Cc: Jackson, Andrew; Lewis, Courtenay; Screnar, Brian; Davis, Laura; Lee-Ashley, Matt
Subject: RE: 2012 House Action on Interior Bill

In case you had trouble opening the file on the Interior House mark I sent you this morning here is an easier to use version.

From: Haze, Pam K
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 10:07 AM
To: Hayes, David; Babauta, Tony; Castle, Anne; Echohawk, Larry; Lewis, Wilma; Shafroth, William; Suh, Rhea; Abbey, Robert V; Ashe, Dan; Black, Michael; Connor, Michael L; Jarvis, Jon; McNutt, Marcia K; Moore, Keith; Pizarchik, Joseph G
Cc: Jackson, Andrew; Lewis, Courtenay; Screnar, Brian; Davis, Laura; Lee-Ashley, Matt
Subject: 2012 House Action on Interior Bill

Attached for your use is a summary/set of talking points on the House bill for 2012 Interior appropriations. This is in follow-up to the Tuesday POG meeting – we talked about the impending House markup of the Interior bill. On Thursday the Subcommittee adopted the bill. Full Committee markup is scheduled for Tuesday, July 12.

Also attached is a summary of the Energy and Water Development bill. The House is expected to complete their work on the Defense appropriations bill today and move onto Energy and Water appropriations.

HOUSE INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MARK SUMMARY

Department of the Interior
Funding Summary
(dollars in millions)

	2011 Enacted	2012 President's Request	2012 House Action (as of 7/5/11)	2012 House Action v. 2012 Request (in $)	2012 House Action v. 2012 Request (in %)	2012 House Action v. 2011 Enacted (in $)	2012 House Action v. 2011 Enacted (in %)
Interior and Related Agencies							
Total, Interior and Related Agencies	**10,682**	**11,175**	**9,969**	**-1,207**	**-10.8%**	**-713**	**-6.7%**
Bureau of Land Management	1,125	1,129	1,069	-60	-5.3%	-55	-4.9%
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management	226	133	154	20	15.3%	-72	-32.0%
Office of Surface Mining	163	146	151	5	3.2%	-12	-7.4%
Geological Survey	1,084	1,118	1,054	-64	-5.8%	-30	-2.8%
Fish and Wildlife Service	1,505	1,695	1,189	-506	-29.9%	-317	-21.0%
National Park Service	2,611	2,892	2,482	-409	-14.1%	-129	-4.9%
Bureau of Indian Affairs	2,594	2,501	2,530	29	1.2%	-64	-2.5%
Departmental Management	119	284	250	-34	-11.8%	132	110.9%
Insular Affairs	101	97	86	-11	-11.7%	-15	-14.7%
Office of the Solicitor	65	68	65	-4	-5.2%	0	0.0%
Office of Inspector General	48	49	48	-1	-2.0%	0	0.0%
Office of Special Trustee for American Indians	161	152	152	0	0.0%	-8	-5.2%
Department Wide Programs (including Wildland Fire)	881	911	739	-172	-18.9%	-142	-16.1%

At $10 billion, the House mark is $713 million or 7% below the 2011 enacted level and $1.2 billion or 11% below the 2012 President's request. The bill:

- Takes **significant cuts in land acquisition**, **grant** and **operations accounts.** For example, the **Fish and Wildlife Service** operations account is -$173 million or -14% below the 2012 request.
- Does **not provide the full amount requested for offshore energy reforms** in BOEMRE, when considering the amount of offsetting collections provided in the House bill (-$34.7 million or -9.7% below the 2012 request); and costs the U.S. Treasury more because it fails to increase the inspection fee charged to offshore operations by $55 million.
- **Protects** funding for the **Bureau of Indian Affairs** (+$29 million or +1.2% above the request) and the **Office of Surface Mining** (+$5 million or +3.2% above the request).
- **Limits reductions in the National Park Service operations** "to allow all National Parks to remain open and NPS activities to continue through the next year without furloughs or reductions in employees," (-$54 million or -2.3% below the request).
- Adds a number of **"legislative riders"** aimed at limiting NEPA review and judicial action against land management and endangered species activities on the public lands.

The most significant reductions from the current level are taken against:

- **Land and Water Conservation Fund** – A total of $50 million is provided for land acquisition and leveraged grant programs. This is a cut of -$626 million (-93%) below the 2012 requested level and -$194 million (-80%) below the 2011 current level. A total of $31 million is proposed for Federal land acquisition, which generates two dollars of economic spending for every dollar invested. This equates to an economic loss of over $600 million from the requested level.

    - An example of the type of project impacted is the Rocky Mountain Front Conservation Area in Montana where the majority of inholdings at Rocky Mountain Front are owned by ranchers, many of whom have expressed an interest in selling conservation easements to the FWS. Several entities have joined together, including Federal and State government and private

groups, to protect the water resources and grasslands to restrict subdivision and development, without interfering with ranch operations. Ranchers use the money from the sale of conservation easements to pay down debt, reinvest in capital improvements, or buy other lands to expand their operations.

- **Land Management Operations** – Funds core operations activities for BLM, NPS and FWS at $4.4 billion. This is -$241 million or -5% below the 2012 request and -$195 million or -4% below the 2011 level.
  - Hardest hit is the Fish and Wildlife Service operations account with a cut of -$146 million (-12%) from the 2011 level. The reduction is expected to result in a loss of 801 FTE, risk closure or program elimination at an estimated 128 refuges, and reduce visitation by 4 million.

- **Major Grant Programs** – House provides $105 million for conservation and historic preservation grant programs. This is -$162 million or -61% below the current level and -$416 million or -80% below the President's request. Most notable are proposed cuts to:
  - **NPS Grants** are funded at $2.8 million, a -$197 million reduction from the amount proposed in the President's request. This is -$37 million or -93% below the current level. The loss of $197.2 million in grants means that States and Territories will miss out on an estimated $540 million in economic output. Funds are equally matched by States. In addition, States lose a significant source of funding to improve recreational access at a time when the demand for State and local recreational opportunities is very high. In 2010, States and Territories estimated an unmet funding need of $18.5 billion.
  - **Cooperative Endangered Species Grants**, funded at $2.9 million, a cut of -$97 million (-97%) from the President's request and -$57 million (-95%) from the current level. Only the administrative portion of the program would remain to complete appraisal and title work. No funds would be available for States and communities to acquire lands and plan development consistent with species needs. As a result, FWS will be unable to provide funding for States to implement important conservation activities, and States would lose approximately $191 million in economic output. States provide funding to leverage these funds.
  - **State and Tribal Wildlife Grants,** which are funded at $22 million, would impact local economies by cutting at least $144 million in wildlife conservation supported directly and indirectly through this program in States, Territories and Tribes. The reduction also means an estimated 650 private sector, 204 State and tribal, and 17 Federal jobs will be eliminated. Currently, the States provide a 25% match to the Federal share of planning grants. Language proposed in 2012 would increase the State share to 35%. The State share of implementation grants is 50%.
  - **Historic Preservation Fund Grants** are funded at $50 million. A reduction of $12 million below the President's request for these grants could result in the loss of $32 million in economic output to States, Territories, and Tribes and undercuts historic preservation work in States. States are required to provide a 40% matching contribution; there are no matching requirements for grants to Territories or Tribes**.**

Bureau of Land Management: $1.1 billion, - $59.7 million or -5% from the 2012 request and -$55.5 million or -5% from 2011:

- Does not approve new inspection fees to offset the cost of the oil and gas program. This would require BLM to take an additional $38 million in reductions to other BLM operating programs.
- Reductions in land acquisition program would dramatically eliminate plans to purchase easements or acquire land to increase recreational opportunities, and protect unique and vulnerable natural and cultural resources.

- The House bill makes the Service First authority permanent as requested in the President's budget.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Regulation and Enforcement: $323.7 million, -$34.7 million or -9.7% below the 2012 request (includes offsetting collections). Compared against 2011 enacted, adjusted to reflect BOEMRE only, the House mark is +$42.2 million above the 2011 level or +15%. The increase reflects BOEMRE's full use of offsetting collections in 2012. In 2011, they are shared with ONRR.

BOEMRE Summary of 2012 PB and House Mark					
(thousands of dollars)	2011 Operating Plan*	2012 President's Request	2012 House Mark	House Mark Change from 2011 Operating Plan	House Mark Change from 2012 PB
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement					
Ocean Energy Management	174,122	118,265	138,605	-35,517	+20,340
Less OCS Connect Rescission	-25 000	0	0	+25 000	0
Total, OEM	149,122	118,265	138,605	-10,517	+20,340
Oil Spill Research	11,744	14,923	14,923	+3,179	0
Total Direct Appropriations	160,866	133,188	153,528	-7,338	+20,340
Offsetting Collections - Rental Receipts and Cost Recovery	110,403	160,163	160,163	+49,760	0
Inspection Fees	10,000	65,000	10,000	0	-55,000
Total, BOEMRE	281,269	358,351	323,691	+42,422	-34,660
* This includes $19.9 million in General Administration funding that supports the Office of Natural Resource Revenue and is transferred to the Office of the Secretary in 2012.					
* Total offsetting collections equal $154,890, of which $44,487 is allocated to the Office of Natural Resource Revenue and is transferred to the BOEMRE in 2012.					

- Sustains but does not advance the additional capacity required to implement reforms.
- Up to 60 personnel planned to improve inspection/monitoring will not be hired hindering the use of a new multi-person/multi-disciplinary approach to inspections.
- Up to 21 additional personnel needed to review and process drilling and other permits would not be hired. These positions are required to review and process lease agreements, determine qualifications, and evaluate requests for development activities including drilling plans and permit processing and approval.
- Halts development of new environmental enforcement and expanded operational safety oversight capabilities needed for robust regulations and policies and subsequent stakeholder outreach.
- Up to 14 additional personnel for an Investigations and Review Unit would not be hired leaving the unit understaffed with 6 employees. The team of law enforcement and technical experts was formed to response to allegations or evidence of misconduct and unethical behavior.

Office of Surface Mining: $150.5 million, $4.6 million or 3% above the 2012 request and -$12.0 million or -7% from 2011:

- Eliminates funding for oversight of regulatory programs in States
- Restores funding for State and tribal regulatory programs.

U.S. Geological Survey: $1.1 billion, -$64.3 million or -6% from the 2012 request and -$30.1 million or -3.0% from 2011:

- An additional 100 FTE would be lost above the 100 FTE proposed to be reduced in the 2012 request. USGS would have to significantly rescope operational efforts in research, assessments, and monitoring to retain critical scientific capacity.
- House funds ongoing Landsat 8 funds but provides no funding for the proposed transfer of Landsat 9 activities from NASA to Interior. Consistent with this the bill, does not provide a separate account for National Land Imaging activities as requested.
- Maintains the Cooperative Water Program at the FY 2010 level.
- The House mark does not provide no-year funding authority for satellite operations and deferred maintenance. These two areas have development and construction activities which can span more than two years and this would limit acquisition options.
- Details on reductions in cooperative landscape conservation activities are not available.

Fish and Wildlife Service: $1.2 billion, -$506 million or -30% below the request and -$316.5 million or -21% below 2011 enacted:

- Reductions from the request cut across: Operations, -$173 million; Land Acquisition, -$129 million; Grants and Payments -$193 million; and Construction, -$11 million.
- Based on preliminary information, estimate House mark could result in the loss of 801 FTEs and 40,000 volunteers, risk closure or major program elimination at 128 refuges, and reduce visitation by nearly 4 million across FWS sites.
- Reductions in FWS operations would adversely impact conservation planning assistance with potential project delays for 340 energy projects on DOI and non-DOI lands; delay the ability to provide required consultations to evaluate endangered species impacts; reduce habitat restoration; and further delay accomplishment of 33 critical deferred maintenance projects.
- A 49% reduction from the request for Construction activities would impact health and safety projects such as needed repairs to 4 dams at Crab Orchard NWR, and delay, therefore escalating the cost of four projects in Alaska, Nevada, Colorado, and Maine.
- The proposed $128.5 million cut in land acquisition would fail to protect the proposed 90,000 acres of NWR system inholdings.
- Details on reductions in cooperative landscape conservation activities are not available.

National Park Service: $2.5 billion, -$409.1 million or -14% below the 2012 request and -$128.7 million or -5% below 2011:

- Does not include $65 million requested in operating increases, over 60% of which supports increased responsibilities or expanded programs at park units.
    - This is expected to slow development of operations at new areas and limit targeted efforts such as youth programs. A targeted reduction in cooperative landscape conservation will significantly impact resource monitoring and mitigation activities at park sites.
- Significant cuts in land acquisition greatly impact NPS' ability to remediate threats to resources from development, most notably at Grand Teton in Wyoming and the Everglades and Big Cypress in South Florida.

Bureau of Indian Affairs: $2.5 billion, +$29 million or +1% above the 2012 request and -$64.4 million or -3% below 2011 enacted:

- Fully funds the presumed need for 2012 in Contract Support with $228 million.
- The House provides an increase of $5 million above the request for Indian Loan Guarantees.
- Indian Land and Water Settlements are funded level with the request.
- Construction is funded at $155 million, $50 million above the 2012 request.

Departmental Management/ Operations: $250.2 million, -$33.5 million or -12% below the 2012 request and +$131.6 million or +111% above the 2011 enacted:

- The large increase above 2011 enacted is due to the transfer of ONRR from BOEMRE into the Office of the Secretary.
- Need additional details from report language to determine individual office impacts and ONRR funding level.

Office of Insular Affairs: $85.9 million, -$11.4 million or -12% below the request and -$14.8 million or -15% below 2011 enacted:

- Does not provide funding to stand up the Guam field office.
- Funds the Compact of Free Association at the request level of $3.3 million and does not provide 2012 funding for Palau.

Office of the Inspector General: $48.5 million, -$1 million or -2% below the request and equal to 2011 enacted.

Office of Solicitor: $64.9 million, -$3.5 million or -5 % below the request and equal to 2011 enacted.

Office of Special Trustee: $152 million, equal to the 2012 request and -$8.4 million or -5% below 2011 enacted.

Working Capital Fund: $57.0 million, -$16.1 million or -22% below the 2012 request and -$28.6 million or -33% below the 2011 level:

- Need additional details from report language to determine impacts to FBMS, IT Innovation, acquisitions and consolidation efforts.

Central HazMat Fund: $10.1 million, equal to the 2012 request and the 2011 enacted level.

NRDA Fund: $5.8 million, -$500,000 or -8% below the 2012 request and -$686,000 or -11% below 2011 enacted.

Wildland Fire: $666.1 million, $155.5 million or -23% below the request and -$112.9 million or -14% below the 2011 enacted level.

- The House provides an increase of $26 million for fuels and an increase of $7 million for rural fire assistance.
- House adds language directing the use of available emergency supplemental funds, about $189 million, for fire suppression activities. The House bill directs funding the 10-year fire average with a portion of prior year unobligated balances and new budget authority.

- The bill adds appropriations language authorizing the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture to transfer not more than $50 million between Departments if the Secretaries determine the transfer will enhance efficiency or effectiveness of Federal suppression activities.
- As requested in the President's budget, the bill includes appropriations language authorizing the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture to transfer $50 million of wildland fire management funds between Departments when such transfers would facilitate and expedite jointly funded wildland fire management programs and projects. However, similar language for the Forest Service limits this transfer to $10 million – will need clarification.

Legislative Provisions Requested in the 2012 budget and Not Included in the House Bill

- BLM – Authority to charge inspection fees for oil and gas activities. These fees were proposed to offset $38 million in program requirements in FY 2012.
- BOEMRE – Proposal to increase OCS inspection fees by $55 million to offset program costs. House bill maintains $10 million in fees.
- BOEMRE – Proposal to increase the review period of OCS leases from 30 to 90 days.
- BIA – Proposed language clarifying the Carcieri decision.
- BIA – Proposed language to address Jones Academy eligibility requirements.
- NPS – Provision pertaining to administration and joint ticketing for the Pearl Harbor complex.
- NPS – Does not continue authority to make payment for North Shore Road.
- General – House did not accept proposed language providing bureaus flexibility to transfer or reprogram funds to complete Recovery Act projects using surplus funds from projects that were incorporated into statute by reference.

New Legislative Provisions in the House Bill Not Proposed in the 2012 President's Budget

- FWS – Bill includes a limitation on Endangered Species Act listing activities that would prohibit funding to respond to petitions to list, to add species to the list, to designate critical habitat or to reclassify species from threatened to endangered. Funding could be used for the limited purposes of 5 year reviews, reclassifications from endangered to threatened, and delistings.

- Wildland Fire – Bill language makes available $189 million in emergency supplemental funding for fire suppression. Provision directs the Wildland Fire program to use "emergency supplemental" for suppression activities before using newly appropriated funding.

- NPS – Authorizes implementation of preferred alternative modifications to the Tamiami Trail. The NPS, through the Army Corps of Engineers, is constructing one mile of bridging along Tamiami Trail to improve water flows to the Everglades National Park. However, the NPS did not have the authority to construct the additional 5.5 miles of bridging identified in the preferred alternative cited in Section 108. The total cost for implementation of that alternative is approximated $300 million. This funding was not requested in FY 2012.

- Sec. 114 Provision provides authority to the heads of BIE schools to enter into rental and lease agreements for private entities (churches, ad companies, etc.) to utilize land or facilities and retain funding to apply toward its BIE programs.

- Sec. 115 Provision requires the FWS to implement a system of mass marking of salmonid stocks that are released from Federal hatcheries.

- Sec. 116 Prohibits the use of funds to implement regulations concerning boating and other activities on the water within the Yukon-Charley National Preserve.

- Sec. 117 Provides direct hiring authority within two years for qualified candidates who have completed a rigorous undergraduate or graduate summer internship with a land management agency.

- Sec. 118 Limits Federal court claims concerning BLM grazing activities to those which have been challenged at the agency level and exhausted all administrative hearing and appeals procedures.
- Sec. 119 Protects from judicial review, any final rule that provides that gray wolves in Wyoming or within the range of the Western Great Lakes are not an endangered or threatened species, if the State has entered into an agreement with Interior authorizing the State to manage the wolves.

- Sec. 120 Exempts for 2012 through 2014, BLM livestock "trailing" practices and implementation from NEPA review. "Trailing" refers to the movement of livestock from private land across public land. The provision would authorize BLM to walk the cattle across the public lands without a NEPA analysis.

- Sec. 411 Provides authority to enter into reciprocal agreements with foreign fire organizations for wildfire services and liability coverage to foreign firefighters.

- Sec. 415 Extends the current extension authority for established grazing permits for FY 2012 - 2016.

- Sec. 425 For all agencies, bureaus and offices, requires quarterly reports on the status of balances of appropriations, identified by source year of funding.

- Sec. 426 Requires the President (OMB) to submit a comprehensive report on all climate change related Federal funding for FY 2011 and FY 2012.

- Sec. 430 Allows Tribes to provide single audit reports for 477 grants. This language clarifies confusion regarding the 477 law and OMB auditing requirements.

- Sec. 432 Prohibits the use of funds for OSM to develop, carryout, implement, or enforce the proposed Stream Buffer Protection regulations.

- Sec. 440 Clarifies claim maintenance fee charges allowed for placer claims used mainly for gold mining by panning or dredging in a stream. The provision amends existing law with respect to the payment of mining claim maintenance fees for placer claims. An individual cannot stake a claim of more than 20 acres. The fee for a claim is $140. Up to eight claimants may form an association to mine a larger track and the fee remains $140. The bill provides that when an association is formed the $140 fee is still due for each claim in the association.

- Sec. 442 Prohibits the use of funds through 2012 for managing bighorn sheep populations on Federal lands that will reduce the number of livestock permitted to graze on the land. Language would preclude BLM from addressing bighorn sheep issues in on-going land use plans and implementation actions including NEPA.

- Sec. 445 Prohibits the withdrawal of lands around the Grand Canyon from location and entry under the General Mining Law of 1872. Provision would overturn Secretary Salazar's recent emergency withdrawal of approximately 1 million acres of Federal lands near Grand Canyon National Park from hard rock mining claim location and entry under the 1872 Mining Law while the Department continues to evaluate whether to withdraw these lands from new mining claims for 20 years. The provision prohibits the withdrawal of land unless expressly authorized by a law enacted after the date of enactment of this Act.

Legislative Provisions Impacting DOI and Other Agencies;

- Sec. 433 Prohibits the use of funds for surface coal mining permit coordination activities between OSM, EPA and the Corps of Engineers.

- Sec. 443 Limits EPA authority regarding permitting of OCS drilling operations and the determination of associated air quality impacts.

From:	Hanna, Jeanette on behalf of Echohawk, Larry
To:	Laverdure, Del
Subject:	FW: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Date:	Tuesday, August 30, 2011 12:49:15 PM
Attachments:	8-30-11 Econ-Comparison-of-FEIS-vs-DEIS.pdf 8-30-11 Executive Summary of Changes to Economic Analysis.pdf 8-30-11 N AZ Prop Withdrawal PFEIS Review Results.v3 82911.docx
Importance:	High

From: Diehl, Barbara
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 11:47 AM
To: Kenna, James G; Hoffmann, John P; Wessels, John; Jarvis, Jon; Echohawk, Larry; McNutt, Marcia K; Burke, Marcilynn A; Hahn, Martha G.; Conklin, Meghan M; Williams, Michael R; Shulters, Michael V; Pool, Michael J; Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor; Suazo, Raymond M; Florence, Scott R; Tidwell, Tom; Falsey, William D; BLM_WO_MIB Conference Room 5071/BLM_WO_MIB; Castle, Anne; Tuggle, Benjamin; Newman, Corbin; Ashe, D M; Hayes, David; Crandall, Doug; Tompkins, Hilary C; Kenna, James G; Hoffmann, John P; Wessels, John; Jarvis, Jon; Horyza, Christopher L; Atine, Patrese
Subject: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal preliminary Final EIS and public comment Discussion (VTC/Audio with Arizona)
Importance: High

Good Afternoon Team,

BLM is experiencing some email issues this morning due to the migration, so I am sending documents for the 1pm (EST) meeting this afternoon. Attached are documents, please print and bring them to the meeting with you.

Thanks.

Barbara Diehl
Executive Assistant to the Deputy Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
202-208-6291
202-208-1873 (fax)
barbara_diehl@ios.doi.gov

Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal
Results of Preliminary Final EIS

The internal/cooperating agency review of the Preliminary Final EIS took place August 18-25, 2011. Comments were submitted by:

- DOI Solicitors
- National Park Service
- US Geological Survey
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Hualapai Tribe
- Kaibab Paiute Tribe
- Arizona State Lands Department
- San Juan County, Utah
- Garfield County, Utah
- Kane County, Utah
- 8 individual agency staff members

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(b) (5)

Summary of Changes to the Economic Analysis for the Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS

A large number of comments were received from cooperating agencies and the public concerning the economic sections of the Draft EIS. Working through SWCA, BLM retained BBC Research & Consulting to revise and enhance the economic analysis for the FEIS. BBC has extensive experience in conducting socioeconomic assessments for NEPA compliance, including past and current work with BLM on other projects. This narrative briefly describes the changes being made to the analysis and narrative and the status of this effort.

Changes for Chapter 3 – Description of the Affected Environment for Economics. Based upon the comments, and BBC's review of the original section prepared for the Draft EIS, BBC identified several objectives for the revised description of the economic affected environment in the FEIS. These included:

(b) (5)

The draft, revised description of the affected environment for economics has been completed and is now being reviewed by economists from BLM, USGS, NPS and other agencies (the Economics Review Team).

Changes for Chapter 4 – Effects Analysis for Economics. Again based on the comments and BBC's review of the Draft EIS section, the revised economic effects analysis is intended to:

(b) (5)

The draft, revised description of economic effects has been completed and is now being reviewed by economists from BLM, USGS, NPS and other agencies (the Economics Review Team). A summary of the preliminary effects evaluation, by alternative and component, is attached.

Selected Quantitative Comparisons: FEIS Economic Analysis vs. DEIS Analysis

Category/Metric	FEIS Analysis	DEIS Analysis	Reasons for Differences
	(b) (5)		
Affected Environment			
Tourism Employment			
Effects Analysis -- Alternative A			
Employment Effects of Mining			
Direct Employment			
Indirect/Induced Employment			
Regional Economic Output Effects from Mining			
Fiscal Effects from Mining			
Effects Analysis -- Alternative B			
Employment Effects of Mining			
Direct Employment			
Indirect/Induced Employment			
Regional Economic Output Effects from Mining			
Fiscal Effects from Mining			

From:	Echohawk, Larry
To:	Laverdure, Del
Subject:	FW: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal Final EIS and Record of Decision (VTC/Audio with Arizona) - Bridge Line: (b) (5) pc(b) (5)
Date:	Thursday, September 01, 2011 8:59:21 PM
Importance:	High

From: Luckey, Lauren
Sent: Thursday, September 01, 2011 4:46 PM
To: 'Benjamin Tuggle/RO/R2/FWS/DOI@FWS'; 'Corbin Newman/R3/USDAFS@FSNOTES'; 'Dan Ashe/ARL/R9/FWS/DOI@FWS'; Hayes, David; 'Doug Crandall/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES'; Tompkins, Hilary C; Kenna, James G; 'John P Hoffmann/WRD/USGS/DOI@USGS'; 'John Wessels/DENVER/NPS@NPS'; 'Jon Jarvis/WASO/NPS@NPS'; Echohawk, Larry; Caramanian, Lori; 'Marcia K McNutt/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS'; Burke, Marcilynn A; 'Martha Hahn/GRCA/NPS@NPS'; Conklin, Meghan M; 'Michael R Williams/R8/USDAFS@FSNOTES'; 'Michael V Shulters/DO/USGS/DOI@USGS'; Pool, Michael J; Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor; Suazo, Raymond M; Florence, Scott R; 'Tom Tidwell/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES'; Falsey, William D; Nedd, Michael D; Leverette, Mitchell; Horyza, Christopher L; Atine, Patrese; 'Douglas_Crandall@osec.usda.gov'; 'mailto:Doug.Crandall@osec.usda.gov'; Diehl, Barbara; Walker, Claudia B; Calhoun, Dianne; Smith, Erica C; Rees, Gareth C; Battle, Gladys L; 'jacqueline.howerton@osec.usda.gov'; 'Karla J Hawley/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES'; Luckey, Lauren; Ontiveros, Lucille R; Walker, Margaret J; 'Monique.Pickett@osec.usda.gov'; Dash, Robert C; Sellars, Roslyn; 'Tasha Robbins/WASO/NPS@NPS'; Lassiter, Tracie L; BLM_WO_MIB_Conference_Room_5071; Castle, Anne; Castle, Anne
Subject: Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal Final EIS and Record of Decision (VTC/Audio with Arizona) - Bridge Line: (b) (5) p (b) (5)

Hello All,

We have officially migrated over to Outlook, yiippeee!!!! However, we are experiencing some minor calendar issues. I wanted to make sure that everyone received the updated information with the bridge line for the meeting on Thursday, September 8, 2011 from 1pm - 3pm in CR#5071 (MIB). The Bridge Line is:

(b) (5)

pc (b) (5)

Should you have an questions/concerns, please feel free to contact me on one of the numbers listed below.

Thanks.

"Be kinder than necessary, for everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle"

Lauren D. Luckey
US Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Office of the Director (WO-100)
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Lauren_Luckey@blm.gov

From:	Echohawk, Larry
To:	Tsosie, Paul
Subject:	Fw: weekly bureau reports
Date:	Friday, April 30, 2010 8:13:47 PM
Attachments:	Bureau Reports.docx OIG report responses.xlsx

From: Pustay, Katherine
To: Amos, Adell; Archuleta, Deanna; Babauta, Tony; Barkoff, Kendra; 'Batten, Kit'; Bean, Michael; Belin, Letty; Birnbaum, Liz; Black, Steve; Burke, Marcilynn A; Callaway, Catherine; Caminiti, Mariagrazia; Caramanian, Lori; Castle, Anne; Davis, Laura; Doherty, Stephen; Dubin, Lindsay; Echohawk, Larry; Elton, Kim; Garriott, Wizipan; Gary, Art; Gilbert, Alan; Graves, Carmiece; Hanley, Kallie; Hayes, David; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Holley, Amy; Hundt, Nate; Ihenetu, Camilla; Ishee, Mary Katherine; Iudicello, Fay; Jacobson, Rachel; Jarvis, Jon; Johnson, Terri; Kemkar, Neal; Kimball, Suzette M; Koenigsberg, Melissa; Lane, Kenneth; Laverdure, Del; Levison, Lara; Lewis, Courtenay; Lewis, Wilma; Lucero, Jeffrey M; Mansour, Christopher; Marsters, Lizzie; McNutt, Marcia K; Murray, Reed; Mussenden, Paul; Nawi, David; Padilla, Joan; Pourchot, Pat; Rogers, Constance; Russell, Lisa; Scott, Janea; Screnar, Brian; Sobeck, Eileen; Stevens, Tracie; Stone, Renee; Strickland, Thomas; Suh, Rhea; Thomas, Pilar; Thornhill, Alan D; Tompkins, Hilary C; Tsosie, Paul; Tubbs, John; Urban, Heather; Ward, Vincent J; Weedman, Suzanne D; Wheeler, Kathleen J; Ahmad, Fatima
Sent: Fri Apr 30 17:11:40 2010
Subject: weekly bureau reports

Attached are your weekly bureau reports and outstanding OIG report responses. Have a great weekend!

Kat Pustay
Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary
Department of the Interior
kat_pustay@ios.doi.gov
Office: 202.208.3744

April 30, 2010 Attorney/Client Privileged

Memorandum

To: Laura Davis
Associate Deputy Secretary

From: Rachel Jacobson
Principal Deputy Solicitor

Subject: Weekly Report Items for the Week of May 3, 2010

Mojave Cross Supreme Court Decision

(b) (5)

Beaufort and Chukchi Exploration Plans – Argument in the 9th Circuit

(b) (5)

Cape Wind

(b) (5)

Klamath Water Year

(b) (5)

Tohono O'odham Nation v. *Salazar (D.D.C.)*

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Center for Biological Diversity v. BLM (D. Ariz)

(b) (5)

Catron County, NM Notice of Intent to Sue

(b) (5)

Biodiversity Conservation Alliance v. BLM; Western Organization of Resource Councils v. BLM (Powder River Basin Oil and Gas Development Project and Plan Amendment)

(b) (5)

Conservation Northwest v. Rey (W.D. Wash) (Northwest Forest Plan "survey and manage"
WildEarth Guardians et al. v. USFWS, (10th Cir.) (Challenge to ITP for Utah prairie dogs)

(b) (5)

In the Matter of the BIA FLSA Grievance, Labor Arbitration before Arbitrator Ronald Hoh; Settlement Offer

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

CBD v. Salazar, D. Ariz. (Grand Canyon Withdrawal Litigation)

(b) (5)

County of San Bernandino v. BLM (E.D. Calif.)

(b) (5)

BLM Air Quality Discussion

(b) (5)

RS 2477/Utah Pilot Project

(b) (5)

BLM Draft Guidance on Integrating Climate Change Into NEPA Documents

(b) (5)

Friends of Animals, et al. v. Mike Caldwell et al. (E.D. Pa)

(b) (5)

ESA Civil Penalty Action against Primerica Group One, Inc. and Kevin Brooks

(b) (5)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
THREE WEEK OUT REPORT
April 30, 2010

WEEK AHEAD

State of Hawaii Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) Review. At the request of the Chair of Hawaii's Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Historic Hawaii Foundation is convening a May 5 meeting of professional organizations and agencies to discuss the NPS Report on the SHPD. The agenda will include presentations from NPS and SHPD, followed by a work session that includes community stakeholders to discuss issues related to the corrective action plan.

Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area (MA) – Proposed Wind Turbine. The mayors of Boston and Quincy, MA, have proposed a 1.65-megawatt wind turbine on Moon Island in the Boston Harbor Islands NRA. Moon Island is owned by the City of Boston, and located within the municipal boundaries of Quincy. The proposed turbine, roughly 400 feet tall at the tip of its highest blade, meets a series of standards for a successful wind energy projects, including meeting Federal Aviation Administration height restrictions. A 2005 study, "The Boston Harbor Island Renewable Planning Guide," outlines recommendations for energy development on the grid-tied islands in the harbor.

ON THE HORIZON

Potential Arkansas Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Sanctions. A current Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is a statutory prerequisite for a State to participate in the LWCF grant assistance program. A SCORP is required from each State at least every 5 years and prior to consideration for financial assistance for acquisition and development projects. Each SCORP must be approved by the State Governor and contain a Governor's certification that ample public participation has taken place. Arkansas' last SCORP extended eligibility through December 31, 2008. The State has not submitted an updated plan for NPS review or approval. Under an informal but mutually agreeable probation, Arkansas agreed to not seek new grants or increased funding for existing grants. The NPS Midwest Region believes it is time to formally suspend Arkansas' LWCF eligibility and to detail what actions NPS will continue to accept and approve and those it will not. The draft NPS letter formalizes the informal status that Arkansas has already accepted.

FWS Week Ahead Report
April 26, 2010

Gulf Coast Oil Spill

The U.S. Coast Guard and the Responsible Party (British Petroleum - BP) continue to conduct planning and response for the Mississippi Canyon Oil Spill from a primary command center in Louisiana; the Coast Guard has also just activated the Sector Mobile Incident Command (IC) to cover Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida. The Fish and Wildlife Service has Environmental Contaminants Specialists, admin staff, and a Service helicopter supporting response efforts, and to initiate NRDAR activities. FWS is conducting aerial flights, and was responsible for detecting whales in the oil slick. National Wildlife Refuges are assessing potential threats, submitting priority areas to protect, and conducting planning. FWS staffing will be increasing to support response operations in Mobile and will be prepared if and when additional Sectors are established. A southeast regional response team is being organized now in the Atlanta Regional Office to help coordinate the response. The encroachment of oil into coastal zones appears imminent. Primary FWS concerns include potential impacts to 20 coastal National Wildlife Refuges within the possible trajectory of the spill. In addition, this is the avian nesting season, sea turtle nesting season is approaching, Gulf sturgeon are congregating in coastal waters for upstream migration, and manatees are migrating back into summer areas more widespread than winter gathering spots in warm springs areas; all of these resources could be affected by the spill. There are many factors which make predictions on timing and degree of impact difficult, including tidal patterns, wind, weather, and the unknown impact of the spill recovery actions, which may include igniting the oil spill.

Polar Bear - NOA Analysis of the Economic Impacts of Proposed Critical Habitat

An NOA will be published in early May that announces a draft economic analysis of the potential impacts of designating critical habitat for the threatened polar bear. It also announces that it will reopen the public comment period on the proposed designation of critical habitat for the polar bear under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Both measures will be subject to a 60-day comment period that will open upon publication in the Federal Register. The State of Alaska and members of the Congressional Delegation have expressed concern over the potential impacts of designation of critical habitat to Alaska's economic development, especially oil and gas exploration and development. Similar concerns have been expressed by Alaska Native entities, e.g., the North Slope and Northwest Arctic Boroughs, businesses, and industry. The conservation community is generally supportive of the proposed designation. FWS has prepared an outreach package with Qs and As.

Report to Congress on the Recovery of Threatened and Endangered Species for FY 2006-2008

Section 4 of the ESA requires the Secretary of the Interior to report to Congress at 2-year intervals on the status of all species for which recovery plans have been developed and on the progress of efforts to develop and implement recovery plans for other species. The FY2007-2008 Report to Congress on the Recovery Program for Threatened and Endangered Species provides an update on the recovery of listed species between October 1, 2006, and September 30, 2008. This report represents the success of the FWS's efforts, in cooperation with our partners, to recover those species under our jurisdiction and those the FWS manages jointly with the

NOAA's Fisheries Service. Once the report has been approved by the Department, the Service will send individual letters to members of Congress transmitting final copies of the report. The report will also be available at http://endangered.fws.gov/recovery/index.html. Not expected to be controversial.

Trilateral Committee for Wildlife and Ecosystem Conservation and Management annual meeting in Halifax - Partners in Flight release tri-national conservation assessment for birds

The *Saving our Shared Birds: Partners in Flight Tri-National Vision for Landbird Conservation* report -- a collaboration report by bird conservation experts from the three nation's leading conservation organizations – will be released May 11 at the XVth Trilateral Committee for Wildlife and Ecosystem Conservation and Management annual meeting in Halifax, at which the three countries are participating. This assessment highlights landbird conservation needs in Canada, the United States and Mexico, and underscores the importance of international collaboration to address those needs.

Announcement of Tribal Wildlife Grants Request for Proposals

On May 3, 2010, FWS will announce the request for proposals for the Tribal Wildlife Grants (TWG) program for FY 2011. The RFP will be open for 120 days through September 1, 2010. In FY 2010, TWG awarded 42 grants totaling $ 7 million from a pool of 136 proposals. We expect similar numbers in FY 2011. TWG provides support to tribal governments in addressing their fish and wildlife conservation priorities. The program was established in 2002 and has put over $60 million to work in Indian Country on over 350 projects. Announcements will be made on Grants.gov, a broadly distributed News Bulletin, FWS's website, through the regional Native American liaisons and through the Office of the Native American Liaison in the Washington Office.

April 2010: Notice of availability of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker final Recovery Plan to publish in *Federal Register*

FWS will publish a notice of availability (NOA) of the 256-page final Recovery Plan for the Ivory-billed Woodpecker in the *Federal Register* in the near future. The Ivory-billed Woodpecker Draft Recovery Plan was revised subsequent to comments provided by the Recovery Team in 2009. Public comments were received in 2007, and a peer review was completed by The Wildlife Society. The Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology this year suspended its search effort.

Wind Turbine Guidelines Advisory Committee Recommendations to the Secretary

The Wind Turbine Guidelines Advisory Committee provided its final recommendations to the Acting Director on April 12, 2010, for pending FWS transmittal to the Secretary. After Secretarial review, FWS anticipates producing revised national guidelines per direction from the Secretary and the Acting Director. These revised guidelines will be published in the *Federal Register* for public comment. The potential for controversy is low.

LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT
May 2 – May 8, 2010

SENIOR OFFICIALS' ACTIVITIES

Wilma A. Lewis, Assistant Secretary – In Washington, D.C.
Ned Farquhar, Deputy Asst. Secretary – (b) (6) in Washington, D.C. remainder of the week.
Sylvia V. Baca, Deputy Asst. Secretary – In Washington, D.C.

HOT TOPICS

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Update: **Renewable Energy:** *The BLM has prepared the final policy for establishing a rental schedule for solar energy right-of-way authorizations on public lands. BLM Director Bob Abbey is expected to sign the directive on May 3. The BLM has scheduled a meeting with the Solar Energy Industry Association on Apr. 30, where the BLM will provide an update on the status of the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and the processing of solar fast track projects. A release date for the policy has not yet been determined.*

Update: **Renewable Energy:** *The NOA for the Draft EIS for the 1,577-acre, 84-MW Daggett Ridge wind project in San Bernardino County, CA, has been approved by the Department for publication in the Federal Register. BLM-CA has requested a publication date of May 21.*

Update: **Transmission:** *On May 5, CEQ will host an interagency meeting to discuss finalizing the MOU. BLM in the process of finalizing a draft instruction memorandum on procedures for implementing the MOU.*

Update: **Westwide Energy Corridor:** *Settlement discussions in the Westwide Energy Corridor EIS lawsuit continue. The plaintiffs furnished the agencies with their list of corridors they have approved and disapproved for development in preparation settlement discussions scheduled for Apr. 27. The plaintiffs are a consortium of environmental groups, led by The Wilderness Society, who sued BLM, USFS, and DOE, alleging violations of the Endangered Species Act, NEPA, and other laws in the agencies' EIS on the corridor.*

Update: **Oil Shale:** *The BLM received three applications for the second round of the Oil Shale Research, Development and Demonstration program: one each from ExxonMobil and Natural Soda Holdings in CO, and one from AuraSource in UT. The Interdisciplinary Review Team members have been reviewing the applications and a meeting is scheduled for May 3-4 in Denver to develop a consensus report. BLM Director Bob Abbey will then work with the Secretary and ASLM to award the leases.*

Update: **Red Devil Mine:** *The BLM-AK Anchorage Field Office has scheduled community meetings from late April through June in villages near the Red Devil Mine facility, located 250 miles west of Anchorage, to discuss environmental cleanup projects planned for the summer field*

season. The BLM and the Department are working with EPA to develop a process for cleaning up the site.

Update: **Grand Canyon Uranium Mining Withdrawal:** *The BLM-AZ Arizona Strip District will meet the first week of May with interest groups to discuss the proposed withdrawal of nearly one million acres of Federal lands managed by BLM and USFS. Meetings will be held May 3-5 with representatives of Denison Mines and other exploration companies, cooperating agencies, interested tribes, and the Arizona Resource Advisory Council to discuss comments received on the withdrawal, the schedule, and the status of MOUs and other agreements.*

Update: **Air Quality:** *Representatives from BLM, EPA, NPS, FWS, and USFS met in Denver on Apr. 20-21 to further negotiate terms for a MOU to resolve disagreements on analyses and management of air quality impacts associated with oil and gas development on federal lands. A communication plan is being developed to obtain input and review from state government air quality management agencies.*

Minerals Management Service (MMS)

New: **Transocean Deepwater Horizon Rig Explosion:** *The MMS continues to work closely with numerous parties on the monitoring and investigation of the deepwater rig explosion in the Gulf of Mexico on Apr. 20.*

Update: **MMS Alaska Received an Application for Permit to Drill (APD) for Chukchi:** *Consistent with Shell's conditionally approved exploratory drilling plan, MMS Alaska Region received an APD on Apr. 15.*

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

New: **OSM Announces Notice of Intent to Conduct Environmental Impact Statement for Stream Protection Rule:** *On Apr. 29, the NOI was published, which announced OSM's intent to prepare an EIS for the Stream Protection Rule. OSM posted a news release on its website announcing the publication of the NOI and notified key congressional delegations and appropriate state officials of the NOI's publication.*

WEEK AHEAD – May 2 to May 8

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Tuesday, May 4:

- ***New:*** **Commercial Thinning in Oregon:** *The BLM-OR Roseburg District will release the Third Elk Commercial Thinning Environmental Assessment (EA) for a 30-day public comment period. A total of 685 acres is proposed for commercial thinning in forest stands 34-57 years old. The EA includes proposals for three separate timber sales: the Milk Shake, Elk Camino, and Off Your Walker. These three timber sales are estimated to provide approximately 7 mmbf of timber for auction. The auctions are tentatively scheduled for Aug. 24 (Milk Shake), Nov. 2010 (Elk Camino), and Apr. 2011 (Off Your*

Walker). All forestry activities in the area have some potential for controversy, though thinning sales are less likely to stir controversy.

Wednesday, May 5:

- ***No change:*** **Wyoming Delegation Courtesy Visits:** BLM-WY State Director Don Simpson, External Affairs Chief Mary Wilson, and BLM legislative affairs staff will meet with members and staff of the WY congressional delegation in Washington to discuss public land management issues in WY.

Thursday, May 6:

- ***New:*** **Oil and Gas Operators Meeting in Wyoming:** *The BLM-WY Rock Springs Field Office will hold its annual oil and gas operators meeting to discuss regulations that govern operations associated with the exploration, development and production of oil and gas.*

- ***New:*** **Delta Wild and Scenic River Management Plan:** *Comments are due to the BLM-AK Anchorage District on the EA for the Delta River Special Recreation Management Area Plan and associated East Alaska Resource Management Plan Amendment. The EA is not expected to be controversial.*

Friday, May 7:

- ***No change:*** **Wild Horse Gather in Wyoming:** Comments are due to the BLM-WY Rock Springs Field Office on a proposal to gather excess wild horses from the White Mountain and Little Colorado Herd Management Areas (HMAs). Depending upon other gathering priorities, the gathering may start on or about Oct. 1, 2010, or after the next foaling season on or about July 1, 2011. Recent population surveys revealed that approximately 301 wild horses reside in the White Mountain HMA and 142 wild horses in the Little Colorado HMA. Census data for these HMAs was collected in May 2009, and wild horse populations exceed the appropriate management level (AML) established for each HMA. The AML range for the White Mountain HMA is 205-300, and the AML range for the Little Colorado HMA is 69-100 wild horses.

Minerals Management Service (MMS)

Thursday, May 6:

- ***New:*** **OCS Policy Committee:** *The Secretary is scheduled to host the OCS Policy Committee meeting.*

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

Monday-Wednesday, May 3-5:

- ***No change:*** **Stakeholder Outreach on Stream Protection Rulemaking in Washington, DC:** Director Pizarchik and rulemaking team leaders will be conducting stakeholder outreach in Washington, DC to discuss draft concepts being considered for the Stream Protection Rule.

WEEKS AHEAD

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Monday, May 10:

- ***New:*** **Geothermal Exploration Project in Nevada:** *Comments are due to the BLM-NV Stillwater Field Office on an EA for the Coyote Canyon/Dixie Meadows Geothermal Exploration project proposed by Terra-Gen Power (TGP) Dixie Development Company, LLC. The Coyote Canyon portion of the project will cover 3,960 acres of federal land, while the Dixie Meadows portion will cover 4,720 acres. Both are expected to produce 62 MW of power. The project is not expected to be controversial.*

Tuesday, May 11:

- ***New:*** **Oil and Gas Sale in Wyoming:** *BLM-WY plans to offer 85 parcels totaling 71,936 acres in a statewide lease sale. Five of the parcels slated to be included in the sale are located within citizen proposed wilderness areas, but lack wilderness characteristics. The BLM has also sent letters to 85 private landowners with joint estates land that would be included in the sale. The protest period on the sale ended Apr. 26. As of Apr. 27, BLM has received protests from: Biodiversity Conservation Alliance, asserting that 48 parcels are located within sage-grouse, prairie dog, and pocket gopher habitat, and citizen proposed wilderness areas; Western Resource Advocates, asserting that 16 parcels are located within sage-grouse habitat; Wyoming Outdoor Council, asserting that 5 parcels are located within sage-grouse habitat; Natural Resources Defense Council and other groups, asserting that 7 parcels are located in citizen proposed wilderness areas; and Wyoming Wildlife Federation, asserting that 44 parcels are located in sage-grouse habitat, big game wintering range, and citizen proposed wilderness areas.*

- ***New:*** **Geothermal Sale in Nevada*:*** *BLM-NV will offer 111 geothermal parcels totaling 328,500 acres in a statewide lease sale. None of the parcels are located within endangered species habitat, roadless areas, or citizen proposed wilderness areas. The protest period on the sale ends Apr. 26. No protests were received.*

Thursday, May 13:

- ***New:*** **Fuels Reduction Project in Oregon:** *Comments are due to the BLM-OR Lakeview District on the Bly Mountain Fuels Reduction and Range Improvement Project EA. The EA examines the use of vegetation management to reduce fuels and to promote a more fire-resilient landscape in the Klamath Forest Estates, a wildland urban interface area located 20 miles east of Klamath Falls.*

- ***Update:*** **Oil and Gas Sale in Colorado:** *BLM-CO will offer 21 parcels totaling 18,607 acres in a statewide lease sale. Three parcels have no surface occupancy stipulations that address concerns regarding endangered or sensitive species. The BLM is working with the Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) to resolve concerns related to parcels that are located within big game and sage-grouse habitat. The protest period on the sale ends Apr. 28.*

Friday, May 14:

- ***New:*** **Fuels Treatment Project in Nevada:** *Comments are due to the BLM-NV Carson City District on a proposed 1,080-acre fuels treatment project in Lyon County, NV. The Upper Colony II Fuels Treatment Project will be on BLM land adjacent to a wildland-urban interface area containing numerous residences and outbuildings. The project is part of a nationwide initiative to help protect communities considered at high risk from wildfire damage.*

Monday-Friday, May 24-28:

- ***New:*** **National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS) Symposium:** *The NLCS is hosting a Decade of Discovery Science Symposium in partnership with the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science in Albuquerque, NM to celebrate ten years of science in the NLCS.*

Tuesday, May 25:

- ***No change:*** **Oil and Gas Sale in Utah:** BLM-UT will offer 6 parcels totaling 4,964 acres in the Vernal, Fillmore, and Moab planning areas. Four parcels totaling 2,794 acres are located in the Vernal planning area, one parcel totaling 957 acres is located in the Fillmore planning area, and one parcel totaling 1,213 acres is located in the Moab planning area. None of the parcels were covered in the Stiles report on the December 2008 lease sale in Utah. The protest deadline on the sale is May 10.

Tuesday, June 8:

- ***New:*** **Oil and Gas Sale in Nevada:** *BLM-NV will offer 101 parcels totaling 193,275 acres in a statewide lease sale. None of the parcels are located within citizen proposed wilderness or roadless areas, areas with endangered species habitat, or in municipal watersheds. The protest period on the sale ends May 24.*

Thursday, June 17:

- ***New:*** **Oil and Gas Sale in Oregon-Washington:** *BLM-OR/WA will offer two parcels totaling 2,722 acres in the Spokane District in a statewide lease sale. A "timing limit stipulation" has been applied to one parcel to protect raptor nests. None of the parcels are located within citizen proposed wilderness or roadless areas, areas with endangered species habitat, or in municipal watersheds. The sale notice was posted on Apr. 30. The protest deadline on the sale is June 1.*

Minerals Management Service (MMS)

Week of May 10:

- ***New*:** **Florida Legislature Request for Offshore Tour*:*** *The respective Chairs of the Florida Senate's Policy and Steering Committee on Energy, Environment, and Land Use, and the Florida House of Representative's Select Policy Council on Strategic and Economic Planning have requested an offshore tour of an oil and gas facility in Federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico during the week of May 10. The offshore tour is expected to include Sen. Haridopolos, Rep. Cannon, and two or three legislative colleagues from Florida.*

Wednesday, May 12:

- ***Update:*** **Atlantic Geological and Geophysical (G&G) Activities:** *An additional meeting will be held in Norfolk Virginia in conjunction with the scoping meeting for Sale 220. The Secretary is planning to open this meeting.*

- ***Update:*** **MMS/New Jersey (NJ) Renewable Energy Task Force:** *The next task force meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 12 in Trenton, NJ.*

June 2010:

- ***Update:*** **Next 5-Year OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program:** *The tentative schedule for the 2012-2017 leasing program calls for scoping meetings in: Washington D.C. (June 14); Norfolk, VA (June 15); Barrow, AK (June 15); Kaktovik, AK (June 16); Savannah, GA (June 17); Nuiqsut, AK (June 17); Anchorage, AKa (June 21); New Orleans, LA (June 22), Mobile, AL (June 23); Trenton, NJ (June 29); Tallahassee, FL (June 29); and Tampa, FL (June 30).*

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

Monday-Friday, May 10-14:

- ***No change:*** **Stream Protection Rulemaking:** Stakeholder outreach on the Stream Protection Rule concepts will take place in OSM's Western Region at a location to be determined. These meetings will include consultations with Tribes in the Western Region. These consultations are part of the process of conducting outreach to discuss the Stream Protection Rule concepts.

Week of May 22:

- ***Update:*** **West Virginia Report on Approximate Original Contour to be Publicly Released:** *OSM's Charleston Field Office will post the 2009 Oversight Report on Mountaintop Approximate Original Contour and Post Mining Land Use on its website. The report was prepared with assistance from the WV Department of Environmental Protection.*

April 30, 2010

Memorandum

To: Laura Davis
Associate Deputy Secretary

From: Anne J. Castle
Assistant Secretary for Water and Science

Subject: Weekly Meeting Issues

Senior Officials' Activities May 3 – May 7:

Anne J. Castle – will be in Washington, DC, attending various internal meetings; will chair the meeting of the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group on May 6.
John Tubbs – will be in Washington, DC, attending various internal meetings.
Deanna Archuleta – will be in Washington, DC, attending various internal meetings.
Marcia McNutt – will attend the Annual Awards Dinner of the National Science Board at the Department of State on May 4; participate in a breakfast to announce the finalists of the 2010 Service to America Medals at the Russell Senate Office Building on May 5; and participate in the National Academy of Sciences Roundtable on Science and Technology for Sustainability on May 6-7.
Mike Connor – will be in Washington, DC May 3-4; attending ACWA Conference on May 5-6, and in Las Cruces, NM on May 7.

Bureau of Reclamation

New: Narrows Project Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS)
Reclamation will conduct two public hearings on the Narrows Project Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS). The meeting dates are: April 28, in Manti, Utah, and April 29 in Price, Utah. The SDEIS describes the effects of Reclamation issuing a loan to the Sanpete Water Conservancy District (SWCD) and Reclamation issuing the SWCD a right of use of federal lands. Both actions would facilitate construction by SWCD of the proposed Narrows Dam and reservoir, a non-federal project to be located on Gooseberry Creek in Sanpete County, Utah. In March, we advised you when a Federal Register notice announcing availability of the SDEIS was routed through your office for approval.

New: Annual Upper Colorado Congressional Visits May 4-6
On May 4, 5, and 6 Regional Director Larry Walkoviak will be in Washington DC to meet with members of Congress whose districts fall within the Upper Colorado Region. Other Regional Director Hill visits will follow in May and June.

New: CWAG Water Law Conference (Colorado)
On April 29-30, Terry Fulp, Deputy Regional Director of Reclamation's Lower Colorado Region, will speak at the conference on Western Attorneys General in Colorado Springs on the Colorado River Compact, and how the river's scarce resources are being shared by many states.

Update: ARRA
Reclamation's ARRA totals through 4/23/10 were:

Obligations - $618,754,726 which is 65.1% of the total ARRA funds and an increase from last week of $2.4 M

Outlays - $143,304,589 which is 15% of the total ARRA funds and an increase from last week of $9.8 M

WaterSMART Grant Projects
In FY 2010, Reclamation will post four Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) to initiate the selection of WaterSMART Grant projects. This year, $18.0 million is available for the program. The first FOA, which made available up to $14.0 million for Water and Energy Efficiency Grants, has already been posted at www.grants.gov for the public (applications are due May 4, 2010). Three additional WaterSMART Grant FOAs: System Optimization Review Grants; Advanced Water Treatment Pilot and Demonstration Project Grants; and Research Grants to Develop Climate Analysis Tools are tentatively scheduled to be posted for the public on April 30, 2010.

Weekly CVP Overview – April 26, 2010
Weather Outlook for the week:
A late season storm will begin to move into California on Monday and then spread inland Monday night and Tuesday. This system has the potential to bring moderate amounts of snow to the mountains. Rainfall amounts range may from about 2 inches at Shasta Dam to about 1.2 inches at Folsom.

Current operations:
Delta Operations:
Combined CVP/SWP exports are at 1,500 cfs and will continue at the rate through April and May per NOAA RPA action IV.2.1 and Vernalis Adaptive Management Program (VAMP). VAMP operations began on April 25.

No adult delta smelt taken since March 14, and no juvenile delta smelt this year.

Season Total for adult delta smelt – 92
Concern Level for adult delta smelt – 92
Take Limit of adult delta smelt – 123

Federal Share of San Luis Reservoir:
861 TAF (101% average for this date)

Releases from Shasta and Folsom were increased last week to manage the fill of the reservoir.

ESA restrictions per Biological Opinions:
FWS Opinion:
No concern right now for adult or juvenile delta smelt. Under the current NOAA Fisheries RPA, daily OMR flows are running around a +1,500 cfs - well beyond the most restrictive delta smelt OMR target.

NOAA Fisheries Opinion:
Combined exports were reduced to a combined rate of 1,500 cfs starting on April 1 per NOAA Fisheries RPA action IV.2.1 to protect out-migrating San Joaquin River steelhead. Flow releases on the Stanislaus River are at 1,000 cfs to meet the minimum fishery flow requirement for this action (1,000 cfs).

The Delta Cross Channel Gate remains closed consistent with the NOAA Fisheries BO and D-1641.

Update: Reclamation Congressional Hearings:

1) 5/12/10 – House Water and Power Subcommittee hearing on bills undetermined. (CANCELED)
2) 5/17/10 – House field hearing in GREELEY, Colorado, on Agriculture and water supplies and conservation in northeastern Colorado.

U.S. Geological Survey

New: National Geographic Special Edition on Volcanoes: As a follow-up to National Geographic's special issue on natural hazards, they are planning a special edition on volcanoes (to be released in June). They have invited the USGS Director to provide an introduction to the book, in addition to USGS scientists providing editorial feedback.

New: Commonly Used Herbicide Affects Fish Reproduction: Atrazine, the widely used herbicide, has been shown to affect hormones in certain vertebrate species, but few studies have examined reproductive effects of this chemical on fish. A USGS article was posted on-line this week in Aquatic Toxicology. Researchers found that total egg production was lower in all atrazine-exposed groups, including at allowable EPA levels, as compared to the non atrazine-exposed fish. In addition, the fish spawned less and exhibited gonad abnormalities in both males and females. The reproductive effects observed in this study warrant further investigation and evaluation of the potential risks posed by atrazine, particularly in wild populations of fish from streams in agricultural areas with high use of this herbicide. The USGS is coordinating with EPA and issuing a press release.

New: Land-Cover Dataset to be released: Conservation professionals across the United States will have another tool to help preserve habitat for both sensitive and non-sensitive species when the USGS Gap Analysis Program (GAP) releases a comprehensive, seamless, national land-cover dataset. This information will help identify places in the country with sufficient habitat to support wildlife. USGS will do a technical release about the GAP information.

New: Baja California Earthquake Effects on Endangered Devils Hole Pupfish: The USGS is leading efforts for a joint FWS, NPS, USGS, and Nevada Department of Wildlife press release and video that depict the effects of the April 4, 2010, 7.2-magnitude Baja California earthquake on the geothermal spring that is the sole habitat for the endangered Devils Hole pupfish. USGS scientists studying the pupfish captured on video the violent "mini-tsunami" of waves that resulted from the earthquake. DOI researchers will monitor the spring for any possible harmful after-effects.

New: Large Amounts of Nitrogen in Agricultural Areas of Nebraska and Maryland: A new USGS/USDA study finding that large amounts of nitrogen are stored in the soils of agricultural areas in Nebraska and Maryland will be published in the May/June issue of the *Journal of Environmental Quality*. Once in the soil, nitrogen can be converted to nitrate, which can readily move to groundwater. A technical announcement is scheduled for May 3. The USGS is coordinating this announcement with the American Society of Agronomy.

New: ARRA-Funded Multi-Hazard Risk and Vulnerability Workshops around Mount Hood: The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries received ARRA funds from the USGS Volcano Hazards Program to develop multi-hazard risk and vulnerability products for select drainages around Mount Hood, Oregon. As part of their ARRA cooperative proposal, stakeholder workshops will be conducted, May 3-12, in three counties that could potentially be affected by future Mount Hood activity. USGS scientists will participate in these workshops to assist with gathering information about the types of products that would be of interest to first responders and public officials.

New: Disaster Mitigation in the North Pacific Region: USGS scientist Christina Neal will participate in an international workshop on Disaster Mitigation in the North Pacific Region, May 10-13, in Hokkaido, Japan, by presenting information about volcano science and warning systems in Alaska. The workshop, sponsored by Hokkaido University and the International Science and Technology Center in Moscow, brings together scientists from Japan, the Russian Far East, and Alaska to discuss collaborative efforts in volcano, earthquake, and tsunami monitoring and research.

New: Congressional Briefing Series: Earthquakes: The second USGS Congressional Briefing Series of 2010 has been tentatively scheduled for May 21. The proposed theme will be social participation in earthquake science. Proposed topics include the use of Twitter to monitor seismic activity, Did You Feel It?, the importance of building codes, Netquake sensors in the Pacific Northwest, and a recap of the ShakeOut exercise with a preview of New Madrid anniversary activities. Tentative speakers include Jack Hayes, National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program/National Institute of Standards and Technology (emcee); David Wald, USGS; John Hooper, structural engineer w/Magnuson Klemencic; and Mark Benthien, Southern California Earthquake Center.

New: The USGS Service Desk Wins Two Prestigious Awards: The USGS Service Desk was just recognized with two prestigious awards during the 9th Annual Government Customer Support Conference in Alexandria, VA. The USGS Service Desk won "Customer Focus Excellence," as well as the highest honor award at the conference, entitled "Overall Customer Support Excellence." The USGS Service Desk is at the Denver Federal Center and provides customer service to all USGS computer users. They have a record of resolving more than 80 percent of the computer issues with a customer's first call, and a customer satisfaction rating of more than 95 percent.

Update: White-Nosed Bat Syndrome – Genetic Signature Detected by USGS: The USGS National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) has detected the genetic signature of the fungus that is the likely cause of white-nose syndrome (WNS) in bats. The samples were from little brown bats from a cave in Pike County Missouri, and from White Oak Blowhole cave in the Great Smoky

Mountains National Park. The NWHC will be issuing a Wildlife Health Bulletin to natural resources biologists, managers and administrators on April 26. The USGS is continuing to work with DOI, State, tribal, and private land managers to document the spread of WNS and investigate methods to mitigate its effects. In addition, WNS was detected in the Outaouais region of Québec and this finding was confirmed by NWHC. The Missouri detection of the fungus represents a significant advance westward, and the White Oak Blowhole cave is the largest known Indiana bat hibernaculum in Tennessee. The Indiana bat is a federally listed endangered species which has undergone population declines in the northeastern United States due to WNS. USGS, NPS, and FWS are beginning to plan a congressional briefing (date TBA) on these new findings related to WNS.

No change: Strategy to address the President's Chesapeake Bay Executive Order: The strategy to address the President's Chesapeake Bay Executive Order will be released on May 12. It includes a large contribution from the Department of the Interior to address land conservation, habitats, fish and wildlife, water quality, citizen stewardship, climate change and providing science for the Bay. The strategy is now under review by the Department with approval needed by April 30. A telephone news conference is planned for the May 12 release.

Memorandum

To: Associate Deputy Secretary

From: Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

Re: Indian Affairs' Weekly Update

FOCUS FOR WEEK OF MAY 2, 2010

National Meeting on Self Governance – The week of May 2, the annual Tribal Self-Governance meeting will take place in Scottsdale, AZ. Nearly three hundred tribes will be represented at the meeting. The Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary will speak for the Indian Affairs. Representatives from Health and Human Services will be involved in the meeting, too. The annual gathering addresses priority issue areas including legislative proposals to expand the scope of self-governance programs for tribes to more federal agencies.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRATRY - INDIAN AFFAIRS

Assistant Secretary Travel to Utah Regions – On May 3, the Assistant Secretary and his Chief of Staff will be visiting with tribal leadership at the Ute Reservations near Fort Duchesne, UT.

Ongoing Consultation Policy Work – In response to the President's Memorandum on Tribal Consultation, DOI, accompanied by various other federal agencies, met with tribes in seven cities across the country to discuss steps Interior should take to implement EO 13175. As a result, Interior developed an Action Plan that will create a Consultation Team comprised of tribal and Interior Bureau representatives tasked with drafting a department-wide consultation policy that will create consistency upon which tribes can rely. A call for nominations for tribal representatives from each of the BIA Regions closed on April 30, 2010. The Interior Consultation Team should be finalized by May 14, 2010.

Office of Justice Services Plans Tribal Consultations – The Office of the Assistant Secretary and BIA will conduct the first of three scheduled Regional Tribal Consultations on Public Safety on May 5 in Rapid City, SD. The consultation will focus on re-districting, regional detention center concept, Indian Country Law Enforcement provisions in the Presidents Emergency Plan for Aids Relief.

BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION

BIE Partnership with National Music Program – The BIE is sending a representative to participate in a music workshop facilitated by the Berklee College of Music in Tucson, Arizona during May 5-6, 2010. The BIE is exploring a partnership with the Berklee College of Music.

Ongoing Department of Education Legislative Reform Planning – The BIE and Indian Affairs is continuing collaboration with the Department of Education's effort to assess

improvements in reauthorizing national education legislation. The Department of Education unveiled the Administration Blueprint for Reform concerning the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The 45-page document can be found on-line. Over the past few weeks, the Office of Management and Budget has provided legislative draft language from the Department of Education on various sections of the Act for review and comment. The BIE has been requested to have information available on its website for the Tribes concerning any requirements set forth by the Tribes concerning modifications to the reauthorization.

On the Horizon, BIE May 2010 HR Meeting – The BIE's Human Resources Office is holding a Teacher Job Fair in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on May 6, 2010.

Summer Institute Planning – The BIE continues to plan for the Summer Institute scheduled for June 2010 in St. Louis, Missouri.

BIE High School Excellence – The BIE High School Excellence Team is continuing to prepare for the rollout of the Career Pathways Program at Sherman Indian High School in partnership with Loma Linda University in Riverside, California.

BIE NASA Partnership – The BIE and NASA continue to plan for a summer workshop in June 14-18, 2010. An estimated seventeen schools will participate in the NASA summer workshop.

On the Horizon, BIE Planning for a Partnership with Nike – A BIE-Nike MOU signing is tentatively scheduled for May 12, 2010. The Assistant Secretary's office anticipates being involved with the signing which may occur at the Nike campus.

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

BIA Involved in Final Stages of Federal Land transfers at Nisqually/Ft. Lewis Land Exchange – The Army Corps of Engineers is finalizing its role in the last stages of a land transfer located in Washington State. BIA is still exploring the land's environmental status and RCRA implications. The Nisqually Tribe will provide input on the land's environmental quality. A Federal Register notice to announce the transfer is primed, but on hold; and the Army wants another letter stating that BIA is accepting the property in trust.

BIA Preparation for Moscow Maine, Over the Horizon Radar Station, Air Force Property for the Penobscot Tribe – The BIA is waiting for a final appraisal from GSA appraisers assessing the land's value. In preparation for a potential June transfer, the BIA is developing a timeline for NEPA related updates, transfer letters and deed of transfer.

BIA Leadership and North Dakota Delegation Discuss Flooding at Devil's Lake – The BIA Director will be attending a summit at Spirit Lake on behalf of the Assistant Secretary with the North Dakota Congressional Delegation and Tribe regarding regular flooding that impacts the Devil's Lake region.

Seminar for Chat Pile Owners – The BIA will be participating with EPA and the Quapaw Tribe in Chat Marketing Seminar for Indian Chat and Land Owners, and Perspective Buyers on May 4 and 5, 2010 at the Ottawa County Office, Picher, Oklahoma from 1:00-4:00PM. The conference will focus on EPA and DOI moving forward in a long-term cooperative partnership; model documents developed to carry out chat sales and roles of the parties in addressing the Tar Creek Super Fund Site.

BIA Director's Travel to Indian Country – The BIA Director will be travelling through the Great Plains and Rocky Mountain Regions the week of May 2, 2010, and meeting with the Tribal Leaders associations from both Regions. He will also hold an all hands meeting with the staff at Rocky Mountain Region. He is looking forward to meeting with the Tribal leaders and giving them an opportunity to open a dialogue with the BIA Director's office. He intends to extend these visits to Tribal Leaders throughout the country in order to develop an improved relationship between the office of the BIA Director and the Tribes BIA serves.

Ongoing BIA Fee-to-Trust Initiative – The BIA Director has prepared the draft policy "Processing Discretionary Fee-to-Trust Applications" and the draft brochure "Fee-to-Trust Process, For Discretionary Acquisitions." The drafts are currently making their way through the Departmental approval process. When approved, the policy will clearly define timelines associated with gathering supporting documents from applicants and processing times for DOI employees to process pending and future fee-to-trust applications. The brochure will provide valuable information to all applicants and the general public regarding the fee-to-trust process. A user acceptance test for version 2.2 of the Fee-to-Trust Tracking system (FTTS) was performed last week by BIA employees at numerous locations across the country. Preliminary results test appear to be good, a full evaluation of the test results will be completed by BIA Fee-to-Trust team next week in Minneapolis.

National Law Enforcement Event in Artesia, NM – The BIA Director will give the keynote address at the National Indian country Law Enforcement Memorial in Artesia, NM. The memorial is dedicated to Indian Country Officers killed in the line of duty. The memorial will induct Officer Frank Horn Cloud-Oglala Lakota killed in the line of duty in 1910.

April 30, 2010

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Laura Davis, Associate Deputy Secretary
Attn: Kat Pustay, Special Assistant

From: Donna Erwin, Principal Deputy Special Trustee

Re: Assistant Secretary Report for May 3, 2010

Office of the Special Trustee (OST)
Assistant Secretary Weekly Report
May 3, 2010

Schedule and Activities
Donna Erwin, Principal Deputy Special Trustee, OST

- Mid-year budget reviews and management meetings in the Albuquerque office (May 3-4 and 7)
- Panelist on appraisal program tribal shares at the 2010 Annual Tribal Self-Governance Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona (May 5-6)

Review –April 26 to May 2

- **New:** Office of Appraisal Service (OAS) Beta tested the Appraisal Request and Review Tracking System (ARRTS). Meetings continue with the National Business Center on the results of the testing and out-year costs associated with its development and implementation.

- **New:** On April 29, Regional Trust Administrator (RTA) Jim James met with the Montana/Wyoming Tribal Leaders Council in Billings, Montana. He gave a presentation on financial skills training and trust reforms. Joining him were Fiduciary Trust Officers (FTOs) from the Crow, Northern Cheyenne and Wind River Agencies.

- **Update:** The Concho Agency FTO took part in the Indian Adult Protection Task Force meeting hosted at the Concho Agency on April 27. Participation in the task force has opened doors to meetings with Oklahoma Adult Protection Services and Medicare and Medicaid offices, a dialogue that helps OST better serve beneficiaries.

- **Update:** OST's Field Operations schedules outreach events, training seminars and meetings at powwows, schools and other venues. More than 50 events took place in April.

- **No Change:** The Regional Trust Administrator and the FTO assigned to Crow Creek have met with Crow Creek's legal counsel and personnel from BIA and the Office of the Solicitor regarding IRS challenges and potential loans from another tribe. The Shakopee tribe's legal counsel provided a package of information that is being reviewed jointly and simultaneously by BIA, OST and SOL. Terms for a loan by the Shakopee to the Crow

Creek are being considered. The review effort is being coordinated by Pilar Thomas in SOL. OST has some reservations regarding encumbering trust funds to repay loans on fee land.

Week Ahead –May 3 to May 9

- **Update:** Donna Erwin, Principal Deputy Special Trustee, and Eldred Lesansee, Director of the Office of Appraisal Services, will attend the 2010 Annual Tribal Self-Governance Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona, May 5-6. They will be panelists on the May 6 breakout session regarding the status of revisions to calculating appraisal program tribal shares. Tribal shares are calculated and allocated to tribes that contract or compact the appraisal program pursuant to P.L. 93-638, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 (referred to as 638) as amended [25 U.S.C. §450j-1(a)]. Current calculations have not changed since 1995. Also, FTOs with the Papago and Pima Agencies will staff a booth at the conference to provide outreach to beneficiaries.

On the Horizon

- **New:** Donna Erwin, Principal Deputy Special Trustee; Steve McEntegart, Director of Budget, Finance and Administration and JP Barham, Director of External Affairs, will attend the Tribal Budget Advisory Council Meeting in Washington, DC, May 18-19.

- **New:** On May 26, RTA Cathy Rugen (Rocky Mountain and Midwest Regions) and RTA Jim James (Eastern and Great Plains Regions) will participate in a panel for the Midwest, Great Plains and Rocky Mountain Regional Social Services conference in Rapid City, South Dakota.

U N I T E D S T A T E S
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

April 30, 2010

Memorandum

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Laura Davis, Associate Deputy Secretary
c/o Kat Pustay, Special Assistant

From: Rhea Suh, Assistant Secretary-Policy, Management and Budget

Subject: April 30, 2010, Policy and Other Issues

This provides major policy and other issues that fall under the purview of the Assistant Secretary – PMB.

Policy

Update: Draft Bill to Restrict Interior and Agriculture Actions Which Impede Border Security. An Administration Position on the bill has been drafted and is being finalized for surnaming this week. DOI will coordinate with DHS as well.

No Change: International Park/Border Crossing. DOI staff are continuing to meet with State Department officials, CBP, and others regarding the Big Bend International Park and border crossing, and have outlined action items to be completed in preparation for the May 19th deadline for announcement of the International Park.

Management

Good Jobs Green Jobs Conference. The conference, May 4-6, 2010, at the Hilton Washington, will provide three days of sessions and workshops dedicated to transforming ideas into action for building a revitalized, green economy that creates good jobs, reduces global warming and preserves America's economic and environmental security. DOI will present a panel discussion on Wednesday, May 5, during the Education, Innovation Learning and Training Workshop, in which Robert Stanton will speak on Laying the Foundation for Green Careers. Bureaus will be engaging participants on the green employment opportunities available at the Department as well as outlining the Department's commitment to youth and promoting a green economy at the Expo portion of the conference and the Youth Office will present the vision for the Department's Youth in the Great Outdoors Initiative.

Update: DEEPWATER HORIZON Oil Rig Accident and Oil Spill. OEPC, and Policy Analysis, and other PMB staff continue to provide support to senior DOI officials and participate in National Response Team conference calls and meetings among Federal agencies to update and discuss preparedness and response to the ongoing oil spill that began the night of April 20 when the oil rig suffered an explosion and fire. DOI resources at risk include migratory waterfowl and birds, FWS national wildlife refuges, and NPS park units. The spill response is expected to last at least until the oil leakages are sealed, which could be several months or more.

Incident Management and Analysis Reporting System: This week Kim Thorsen, Acting DAS--Law Enforcement, Security and Emergency Response, presented the business case for the law enforcement reporting system that is being deployed to the law enforcement bureaus – BIA, FWS, NPS, BLM, BOR. OMB was supportive of the project and asked us to see if we could accelerate the project.

Update: Open Government Plan: OMB, Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), and White House Council are currently reviewing and rating agencies' open government plans. Agencies were asked to complete a self evaluation by Friday, April 23. The White House Open Government Dashboard will be updated by May 1. The Executive Office of the President (EOP) expects that the majority of agencies, including DOI, will receive "yellow" ratings. Agencies receiving "yellow" will be expected to bring their plans up to "green" within 45 days. The basis for DOI's "yellow" score was due to weaknesses in posted FOIA information and lack of specificity in participation of non-governmental partners. Addressing these weaknesses should be relatively low impact and accomplishable by May 1, 2010.

Budget

Update: GAO/OIG Responses. The attached charts provide due dates for pending OIG and GAO responses. The following responses to OIG reports (from attached report) are overdue including:

- **Seriously overdue** – Indian Affairs response to the Audit Report on School Construction due November 2, 2009.

- **Overdue** – Fish and Wildlife Service responses to two audits reports on Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Grants. The response to the audit report on grants awarded to the American Samoa Government was due on April 8, 2010 with the response to the audit report on grants awarded to the State of Nevada due on April 15.

Update: 2010 Supplemental Appropriations Act. House and Senate Appropriations Committees are beginning to formulate supplemental appropriations legislation that will fund the ongoing war costs. Neither the House nor the Senate have filed a supplemental bill as of April 26.

New: FY 2011 Budget Resolution. The 2011 Budget Resolution was adopted by the Senate Budget Committee on April 22, 2010. The overall spending level is $1.122 trillion, which is $4.0 billion below the FY 2011 President's budget. The House has yet to take up the Budget Resolution.

New: OMB Summer Travel. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Examiners for the Bureau of Indian Affairs will be traveling to reservations and sites in Montana and Oklahoma. OMB Examiner Bob Bullock will be traveling the week of July 12th to the Crow Nation in Montana. OMB Examiner Ann Kendrall will be traveling the week of August 9th to meet with tribes in Oklahoma. The Office of Budget and BIA program managers will be coordinating with OMB on details of their travel in June and July.

Attachments:
PMB Office Reports

cc: Deputy Assistant Secretaries—Policy, Management and Budget

POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

New/Complete: OEPC Alaska Participation in the 2010 DOI Conference (Conference) on the Environment – The OEPC Alaska Office's Regional Environmental Assistant will be serving as the moderator for three breakout sessions at the Conference, which will be held April 26-30, in Portland, Oregon. In addition, the OEPC Alaska Office's Regional Environmental Officer will be discussing the M/V Selendang Ayu oil spill as part of a presentation entitled: "DOI Emergency Preparedness and Response to Oil Spills and Hazardous Materials Releases."

New: Grants Mining District, New Mexico, Draft Five-Year Plan to be Released. The Department of the Interior is a partner agency in development and implementation of the subject plan which will address issues from legacy uranium milling and mining within the Grants Mining District. EPA Region 6 and the New Mexico Environment Department are the lead agencies and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and New Mexico Department of Health are the other partners in addition to DOI. A public meeting will be held in Grants, New Mexico, on April 27, and the Department has been asked to provide a representative(s). A representative from BLM will most likely represent DOI but that has yet to be determined. BIA and USGS have been participating as well. The Five-Year Plan can be accessed at: www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6sf/newmexico/grants/nm_grants_index.html.

New: Environmental Justice (EJ). The OEPC is in the process of developing/updating the membership of the DOI EJ Working Group (DOI EJWG). This is one of the first steps in reinvigorating our EJ efforts as outlined in a memorandum to the Heads of Bureaus and Offices from the Assistant Secretary – Policy, Management and budget of April 2, 2010. The OEPC will be working with the EPA and its bureaus and offices to ensure that EJ is fully integrated within the Department's programs and activities as specified by EO 12898. We anticipate a meeting with the DOI EJWG in mid May. The OEPC will maintain its EJ information at, http://www.doi.gov/oepc/justice.html.

Update: Environmental Statement Memorandum (ESMs). The OEPC has finalized its ESMs. ESMs provide complementary information and guidance to bureaus and offices of the Department to ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), CEQ regulations, and 43 CFR Part 46. ESMs supplement 516 DM 1-3. OEPC anticipates the distribution of the effective memoranda to be completed, as well as available on OEPC's web site by early next week at, http://www.doi.gov/oepc/ememoranda.html.

Update: Environmental Review Memorandums (ERMs) and Environmental Compliance Memorandums (ECMs). The OEPC is in the process of finalizing both its ERMs and ECMs. ERMs supplement 516 DM 4 and other directives related to the review of projects proposed by other Federal agencies, and provide similar information and guidance on projects and programs within the Department. ECMs provide guidance to bureaus and offices of the Department to ensure compliance mainly with various pollution control and environmental protection statutes, and are issued as they relate to the general environmental compliance responsibilities of the Department. We anticipate their completion by the end of next week.

Update: Green DOI Challenge. Over the past three months, Department employees have submitted ideas on how to Green the Department. Over 1,800 Green ideas were submitted. Each participant will receive a "thank you" e-mail from the Department along with a "green buffalo" for their e-mails. The ideas have been rated and in the coming weeks, the 10 top ideas will be selected. Winners will receive a letter of congratulations from the Secretary. The top ideas, as well as other honorable mention ideas, will be posted on the Department's Intranet site.

Update: The Department of the Interior 2010 Conference on the Environment. The Conference will take place the week of April 26, in Portland, OR.

Update: DEEPWATER HORIZON Oil Rig Accident and Oil Spill. The OEPC headquarters and regional staff continue to provide support to senior DOI officials and participate twice daily (usually at 9am and 6pm EST) in National Response Team conference calls being led by DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano involving other senior leaders from DOI, EPA, USCG, NOAA, DOJ and other Federal agencies to update and discuss preparedness and response to the ongoing oil spill that began the night of April 20 when the oil rig suffered an explosion and fire. Eleven workers were lost. REO-Albuquerque is involved in activation of the Region 6 Regional Response Team and is keeping regional DOI bureau contacts informed and involved in spill preparedness and response measures for the Gulf coastline that are being managed by the Unified Command following the regional contingency plan. A Pollution Response Funding Authorization (PRFA) has been signed to support funding of DOI response activities. Region 4 Regional Response Team is also mobilizing, and REO-Atlanta is coordinating his activities with the REO-Albuquerque, DOI bureaus, USCG, EPA and the States of MS, AL, and FL. A PRFA has been submitted to the On-scene Coordinator at Coast Guard Sector Mobile to seek reimbursement of response costs expected to be incurred by NPS and OEPC to protect Interior interests in MS, AL, and FL. The Unified Command is working with DOI, NOAA, other Federal agencies, and State and local governments in TX, LA, MS, AL, and FL to prepare for worst case scenarios. The size of the spill is growing and an oil slick is located about 50-60 miles from the Louisiana coast. NOAA's estimates of the volume of the oil spill and the rate of oil leakage (approx 1,000 bbls/day) from the wellhead and riser of the wreckage are increasing. Numerous efforts by British Petroleum (the Responsible Party) to seal the leaks have failed, but attempts continue. BP has applied for permits from MMS to drill two deepwater intercept relief wells to stop the leakage but that will take up to 90 days and will utilize some technologies that have never been used at a depth of 5,000 feet. Given the timeframe, this could result in a major oil spill. DOI resources at risk include migratory waterfowl and birds, and FWS national wildlife refuges and NPS park units (Gulf Islands National Seashore). In NRT meetings, DHS Secretary Napolitano has raised the question of whether the failure of the DEEPWATER HORIZON's blowout prevention mechanism is an isolated case or if there may be a systemic equipment problem that could cause similar accidents at other deepwater oil rigs in the OCS program. DOI/MMS is setting up a high level OCS team of experts to examine that possibility identify possible enhanced safety measures and inspections. DOI and DHS are working on a MOA for MMS and the USCG to guide a coordinated investiga- tion of the accident and its causes. BP is liable to pay all response costs and natural resource damages. The spill response is expected to last at least until the oil leakages are sealed, which could be several months or more.

Office of International Affairs

New: U.S./Mexico Cross-Border Electricity. OIA Acting Director joined Neil Kemkar of the Secretary's staff in a White House interagency discussion on April 22 on how the U.S. could facilitate expanded cross-border electricity trade with Mexico, particularly on the western part of the border. NSC asked DOE to begin lining up state agency and utility support to allow President Calderon's May 19 visit to serve as a starting point for launching a binational vision. In contrast to the northern border, significant work will be needed to enhance Mexican system reliability. While, in Southern California this may be done with a very short traverse. Federal siting issues would be more significant further east, in Arizona. DOI equities include: transmission lines crossing DOI managed lands, mitigation of migratory species impacts, and sharing best practices with Mexico for mitigating environmental impacts of new energy infrastructure. The group will reconvene on April 29.

New: Collaboration with Department of Defense (DOD) on Arctic Science and Guatemala Protected Areas. In a meeting organized by Office of International Affairs and attended by USGS, DOD's Office of the Secretary of Defense and NASA staff briefed us on a proposed effort to develop a multi-layered Earth Observation data system for the Arctic to inform policy decision-making, particularly in response to climate change. DOD staff also met with the International Technical Assistance Program staff to discuss ITAP's Maya Biosphere Reserve activity in Guatemala. DOD staff was impressed with the impact this project could have in addressing the use of a vast protected area as a safe haven for illegal and destabilizing activity, and provided useful advice for building interagency awareness and partnership on these efforts.

New: NGO Inquiries re Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Office staff were contacted by NGO representatives last week seeking a meeting with the Secretary to ask for his support for US ratification of the CBD. We understand that FWS staff were contacted as well. The NGOs have been in touch with the Secretary's scheduling office but had not obtained a meeting as of April 19. (Note: According to State Department staff, State continues to maintain its position that the CBD is not a priority for Senate advice and consent.)

New: Philippines: Planning for New 4-Year Environmental Law Enforcement (ELE) Program. On April 24 - May 2, 2010 the DOI-ITAP Philippines Program Manager will travel to the Republic of the Philippines from April 24 through May 2 to plan the final details with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) office in the Philippines on a new DOI-ITAP 4-Year ELE Program for a total of $640,800. This new program is a follow-up to the successful ELE technical Assistance provided over the previous 4 years. In addition to the planning efforts, DOI-ITAP will attend the: (1) Philippines Protected Area Mgmt Board Summit, focusing on enforcement environmental laws in protected areas; (2) the Public Launching of Special Rules on Environmental Cases, developed with substancial contribution from DOI-ITAP; and (3) the Press Conference of Taal Lake Task Force, highlighting the ELE accomplishments over the last 2 years, also with DOI-ITAP technical assistance.. This activity is funded by the USAID.

YOUTH, PARTNERSHIPS AND SERVICE

Office of Youth in Natural Resources

New: Office of Insular Affairs Youth Intern Program. The Office of Youth has begun to coordinate with the Office of Insular Affairs on the promotion of an internship program that would be placed with territorial and commonwealth Chambers of Commerce. The interns would support invasive species outreach, monitoring, and early detection. A scope of work is currently being developed to support this effort.

Ongoing: Good Jobs, Green Jobs Conference: Investment, Innovation, Action.
The Office of Youth is participating in the Good Jobs, Green Jobs Conference, along with the Bureaus and the External Affairs Office. The conference, May 4-6, 2010, at the Hilton Washington, will provide three days of sessions and workshops dedicated to transforming ideas into action for building a revitalized, green economy that creates good jobs, reduces global warming and preserves America's economic and environmental security. DOI will present a panel discussion on Wednesday, May 5, during the Education, Innovation Learning and Training Workshop. The panel will be moderated by **Cheryl Charles**, Ph.D., Children and Nature Network, President and CEO. Panelists include **Robert Stanton**, Department of the Interior, Senior Advisor to the Secretary; **Juan Martinez**, Children and Nature Network, Natural Leaders Network, Natural Leaders Network Coordinator; **Sally Prouty**, The Corps Network, President and CEO; and **Allison Chin**, Sierra Club, President. They will discuss connecting America's Youth to the Great Outdoors and the importance of promoting and creating green employment opportunities for youth. The Office of Youth will also coordinate a presentation during the Green Innovation Exposition in which all DOI Bureaus will highlight their green employment opportunities.

Ongoing: Outdoor Nation Youth Festival and Summit. The Office of Youth is coordinating with The Outdoor Foundation to participate in this two-day event, June 19-20, 2010, in Central Park, NY. The Office is recommending the event as the platform to showcase and leverage Interior's youth initiative with the Departments of Agriculture and Labor. The Office met with Meryl Harrell, Special Assistant to the Under Secretary, USDA, on March 10th to discuss possible events for Secretaries Salazar, Vilsack, and Solis.

Ongoing: Data Collection and Reporting. The Office of Youth gathered the performance information from the DOI Bureaus and worked with the Office of Planning and Performance Management to submit a report to OMB through PMB. The Office of Youth will continue to follow up with the bureaus to streamline information gathering for reporting to OMB.
The Youth Office will use the 2009 data, the 2010 goals, and the data collected to provide the report on youth employment directly to OMB.

Ongoing: Partnership with Jeff Corwin and Animal Planet. The Office of Youth, Assistant Secretary Suh and PMB staff met with nationally acclaimed environmental educator Jeff Corwin, of the Animal Plant Series – *The Jeff Corwin Experience*. Corwin is interested in presenting a series of programs on the Youth in The Great Outdoors Initiative and connections to our Public Lands. An information memo and strategic plan is currently being developed to best utilize this partnership.

Ongoing: Denver Zoo Environmental Education Partner Program. The Youth Office has developed a working relationship with several partners in the Denver, CO, area to implement a pilot program that would utilize the resources of local grassroots environmental organizations, the Denver Zoo, private partners, and the Department to introduce disadvantaged children to the importance and wonder of our public lands. This pilot will incorporate youth engagement, education, employment, and recreation components. A draft budget for the pilot is currently being reviewed. The Office of Youth has reached out to the bureau regional and field offices in the Denver to help coordinate the event. The pilot is expected to launch in Fall 2010.

Ongoing: Update Office of Youth PowerPoint for DOI. The Youth Office has created a PowerPoint overview of the DOI Youth Initiative, which outlines the milestones and the goals for each bureau. The Youth Task Force has reviewed the PowerPoint and it is currently being modified to be released at the Good Jobs, Green Jobs Conference on May 5, 2010.

Ongoing: AmeriCorps - DOI Collaboration. The Office of Youth met with Suzannah Washburn, Senior Advisor for the Office of Research and Policy Development for the Corporation for National and Community Service. Partnership programs were discussed including the potential for an interagency agreement between DOI and the Corporation that would allow a request for proposals to be issued to non-profit youth partners for work specifically done in the bureaus, thereby allowing the AmeriCorps participants an opportunity to work for DOI, be counted towards the employment goals for the bureaus, and allow the participants to earn education awards. The Youth Office and AmeriCorps are in process of scheduling a time to meet and further develop this proposal.

Ongoing: Diversity Champions. The Office of Youth is contacting program managers and human resources staff in the field to act as an advisory group on diversity workforce planning. The newly formed group will share best management practices from a field perspective as well as help to brainstorm ideas for implementing workforce strategies that ensure diversity. Bureau representatives on the Youth Task Force are being contacted to identify key field participants for this group.

Ongoing: *Let's Move*/Healthy Kids Initiative. The Office of Youth continues to assist in ensuring DOI's involvement with the First Lady's *Let's Move* Initiative especially as it relates to the recreation pillar. This effort is currently being led by the Senior Advisors of PMB, NPS, and Congressional Affairs.

Ongoing: Boy Scout Jamboree. The Office of Youth is coordinating with DOI bureaus to participate in the National Boy Scouts of America Annual Jamboree which will celebrate 100 years of scouting. The Annual Jamboree will be held from July 26- August 4, 2010 at Fort A. P. Hill in Virginia.

Ongoing: Secretary's Internship Program. The Office of Youth has coordinated with DOI Office of External Affairs and Engagement to increase the Secretary's Internship Program from 18 to 100 interns for 2010. The Office of Youth has selected two interns for the summer who will help track and organize events for the office.

Ongoing: Marketing the Office of Youth. The Office of Youth in collaboration with the Office of the Secretary has determined an artist to design a Youth in the Great Outdoors Logo. A Statement of Work has been developed and submitted to the artist who will coordinate with Courtenay Lewis of the Office of Scheduling and Advance. The first round of logo submissions are currently being reviewed internally. The projected date for logo completion is May 14, 2010.

Office of Conservation and Educational Partnerships

Update: Partnership and Science Panels at DOI Environmental Conference. The Director, Office of Conservation and Educational Partnerships, is speaking during three sessions at the DOI Conference on Environment, April 26-29, in Portland, Oregon. The *Learning to Share Water the Walla Walla Way* panel will explore a water resources case study on the Washington-Oregon border in which Tribal, ranching, environmental and county government stakeholders have overcome their differences to reach agreement on water allocation without war. *The Practice of Partnering: Policy and Legal Considerations* panel, co-sponsored with the Office of the Solicitor, will discuss legal issues and best practices for partnering. The Director also will speak on Adaptive Management Tools and Implementation in *A Symposium on Science to Inform Landscape Conservation Cooperatives,* and will introduce the session featuring plans for the National Oceans Policy.

Update: Adaptive Management Applications Guide Writing Teams. Writing teams for the new Adaptive Management Applications Guide have been organized and launched. The Climate Change writing team submitted its work on April 19. Case studies from the other teams are expected in the near future. Work will continue during 2010. The new guide will be a tool for managers to use in addressing challenges associated with climate change, water resources, renewable energy and the interface of natural and human systems.

Ongoing: Secretary's Partners in Conservation Awards. A date is needed for a ceremony to present the Secretary's Partners in Conservation Awards, most of which demonstrate President Obama's recent call for public-private partnerships to support conservation. The Office continues to work with the Bureaus to gather photographs and to finalize the packages for 24 Interior partnership projects to be recognized. The partnerships exemplify excellence in achieving the Secretary's high priority goals in areas such as Youth, Climate Change, Energy, Tribal communities, as well as America's Great Outdoors Initiative.

Completed: NPS Friends Alliance meeting. The Director spoke to the National Park Service Friends Alliance on Friday April 23, in Washington, D.C., on Departmental policies related to partnerships, providing background for understanding the need for model cooperative agreements and other best practices to ensure accountability

No change: Challenge Cost Share Policy. The Office of Conservation and Educational Partnerships is coordinating a draft Department-wide Challenge Cost Share Policy in response to recommendations made by the Office of the Inspector General in a recent report. The new policy will apply to bureaus who exercise challenge cost share authority: National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

Office of Service – Take Pride in America

Update: Draft New Departmental Policy on Volunteers. In conjunction with The Office of Conservation and Educational Partnerships, Service-Take Pride is coordinating a draft Department-wide Volunteer Policy in the wake of recent IRS audits and other issues pertaining to volunteers. Bureaus and relevant Departmental offices are working together to develop the draft. The draft has been sent out for final review of Bureau contacts, comments are due by May 3, 2010.

Ongoing: "Take Pride in America – Volunteer" Events. In partnership with Clear Seas Communications the Take Pride in America program is exploring the possibility of hosting several targeted volunteer events throughout the coming months on various DOI lands throughout the country. Coordination of this initiative will be ongoing.

Ongoing: National Conference on Volunteering and Service. The Take Pride in America program has been selected to present a workshop at the upcoming National Conference on Volunteering and Service to be held in New York City, June 28-30, 2010. The workshop is in partnership with The Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy and the National Public Lands Day program and is entitled "Big Ideas on a Small Scale: Implementing National Initiatives at the Local Level." Preparations for this workshop are ongoing.

Ongoing: Boy Scout Jamboree. Take Pride in America is taking the lead for the Department in coordinating the participation of the Secretary's Office in the upcoming Boy Scout Jamboree that will celebrate 100 years of scouting. The Jamboree is being held at Fort A.P. Hill, in Virginia July 26 – August 4, 2010.

TECHNOLOGY, INFORMATION AND BUSINESS SERVICES

Office of Hearings and Appeals

New/completed: *Estate of Topsekok*. In 2006, the Interior Board of Indian Appeals (IBIA) ruled that the appellant in this case had satisfied the Federal statute that specifies the requirements for an adoption to be recognized in an Indian probate proceeding. In 2007, the OHA Director reversed IBIA, ruling that appellant's custom adoption did not meet the statutory requirements. In 2009, the appellant sought judicial review in Federal court. The Secretary then exercised his review authority under the regulations to consider the matter further, and he delegated his review authority to the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs. On April 23, OHA learned that the Assistant Secretary has withdrawn the Director's 2007 decision as "too narrow" in its interpretation of the statute and has reinstated IBIA's 2006 decision.

Office of the Chief Information Officer

Update: Open Government Plan: OMB, Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), and White House Council are currently reviewing and rating agencies' open government plans. Agencies were asked to complete a self evaluation by Friday, April 23. The White House Open Government Dashboard will be updated by May 1. The Executive Office of the President (EOP)

expects that the majority of agencies will receive "yellow" ratings. Agencies receiving "yellow" will be expected to bring their plans up to "green" within 45 days. The "good government groups" such as OMB Watch and the Sunlight Foundation have announced that they are reviewing the plans and will provide scores of all agency plans on 4/27. They are anticipating some press with the release of their scores.

Preliminary reviews from the OSTP in the Executive Office of the President evaluated DOI as "yellow." The basis for the "yellow" score was due to weaknesses in posted FOIA information and lack of specificity in participation of non-governmental partners. Addressing these weaknesses should be relatively low impact and accomplishable by May 1, 2010.

Update: Issa/McHenry Congressional Request for FOIA Information: The DOI Office of Congressional Affairs (OCL) completed their April 13, 2010 follow-up action on responding to the McHenry/Issa FOIA request. OCL contacted the White House Office of Cabinet Affairs to discuss completion of the FOIA request and was advised that each agency should respond directly. The request will be handled as a congressional inquiry coordinated by the DOI Office of the Executive Secretariat and OCL.

Update: IMARS OMB TechStat: Thursday, April 29, 2010, the Incident Management Analysis and Reporting System (IMARS) Project Team will have their Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) TechStat review.

Update: Q2 EGovernment Scorecard Assessment: The OCIO provided the final Q2 scores for the Bureaus on the E-Government scorecard. As agreed, all Bureaus will receive a rating assessment of "YELLOW" as a result of the blank question on the Budget Request Form and not submitting the ITIM report for Q1 in a timely manner. The OCIO will discuss this at the next joint ITMC/IRB meeting, scheduled for Wednesday April 28, 2010.

Office of Valuation Services

New: Secretarial Order. The Secretarial Order to establish OVS within PMB will be routed for approval this week.

New: **Human Resources Status Meeting.** On April 20, OVS HQ, NBC Human Resources, and MMS Human Resources convened for their weekly status update. The four Client Service Manager positions are next in line to be posted.

New: **Appraisal Request and Review Tracking System (ARRTS) Transition Meeting.** On April 21, OVS HQ met with NBC ARRTS personnel to discuss the changes required of the ARRTS application to reflect the new OVS organizational structure.

New: **OVS Realignment Meeting.** On April 22, OVS HQ met with Tom Krispinsky of the OS budget office to address the transition to the new organizational codes, cost accounting, and other concerns which may need concurrence by his office.

New: Meeting in Colorado. Interim Director Eric Alvarez will be traveling to Lakewood, Colorado on Monday, April 26, 2010, for the Mountain Region's regional meeting.

Update: Contracting Office Set-up. On April 21, Interim Director Eric Alvarez and Maggie Torres met with senior level staff in the Acquisition office to develop a blueprint for our new contracting process. Our target goal is 3 to 4 months for full implementation. The group will continue to have follow-up meetings on a weekly basis.

Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution.

New: CADR move. The CADR office will be moving from the 5th floor at 1801 Pennsylvania Ave. NW to the 4th floor and reducing its current office space allocation by approximately 50 %. The appropriate allocation of space is being negotiated between CADR, PAM and FBMS. CADR will be moving as quickly as possible once this decision is made to free the current space for the lessee on the 5th floor.

Update: Government to Government policy. The CADR office continues to be actively engaged in providing collaborative process support to Tracie Stevens of AS-IA and the DOI team working on the new DOI policy on Government-to-Government consultations. Two facilitators have been selected and are being contracted to design and facilitate a transparent process for engaging the Tribes in the policy development process. The first two meetings with Tribal representatives are being planned.

Update: Environmental Conference. Dave Emmerson is participating in the Environmental Conference in Portland this week. He worked with a private sector trainer to develop a full day training delivered today on Public Participation and Collaboration and is participating on three panels in the collaboration and partnerships track.

Update: Public Participation training. The CADR office is sponsoring a 40 hour public participation skills training during the week of May 2 with reduced rates for DOI employees. The class is full and half the participants are DOI employees.

No change: NBC Customer Satisfaction Review process. Eight focus groups are being planned for May 5, 7 and 14.

Geospatial Information Officer

New: Indigenous Mapping Network. The GIO is meeting with representatives of the Indigenous Mapping Network this week to discuss potential areas of collaboration including participation in an upcoming conference being sponsored by the Network.

Update: Geospatial Platform. The draft document responding to the President's Fiscal Year 2011 Budget and the OMB Passback, which directed DOI to lead development of a roadmap to define the target architecture of a Geospatial Platform, was submitted by the GIO to the DOI Office of Budget this week for transmittal to OMB.

Update: Imagery for the Nation. The draft document responding to Fiscal 2011 OMB Passback, which also directed DOI to develop a FY2012 business case and budget request for

Imagery for the Nation, was submitted by GIO to the DOI Office of Budget this week for transmittal to OMB.

Update: Keynote Invitation for Secretary Salazar. The invitation from Jack Dangermond, president and founder of the major GIS software vendor ESRI, asking Secretary Salazar to give the keynote address at the upcoming International User Conference is awaiting decision.

National Business Center

UPDATE: Organic Garden About 12 DOI volunteers and GSA horticulturist planted the first phase of the organic garden. A variety of vegetables, herbs and flowers were planted. Phase 2 tomato and pepper planting will take place in about two weeks. A proposal on the interpretive sign and text and graphics is being developed for the garden.

At DAS Jackson's request, Mike Cyr will meet with DAS John Burden, early next week to discuss the project and opportunities for a youth educational partnership.

UPDATE: Acting Director's Listening Sessions: Acting Director Donald Swain continues to conduct NBC-wide Active Listening Sessions in light of recent changes in leadership of the NBC. During these sessions, Swain emphasizes the importance of excellence in Customer Service, Executive Leadership and promotes the importance of the DOI NBC Relationship. A 'make-up' session will be held in the SIB on April 30th.

UPDATE: Modernization Barriers: There has been some concern regarding the modernization barriers. The barriers on one side of the wing need to protrude into the main corridor so that the asbestos abatement, rewiring the light fixture (converting from 120v to 277v) and installation and connectivity of both the sprinkler and fire alarm system can take place. Later, during that same phase of modernization the barrier on the other side of the main corridor will be built out into the main corridor to do the same.

HUMAN CAPITAL AND DIVERSITY

Office of Human Resources

New: 2010 Administratively Determined Pay Plan for Emergency Workers. OHR finalized the Personnel Bulletin authorizing the 2010 Administratively Determined Pay Plan for emergency workers. This pay plan allows DOI to quickly supplement its workforce in the event of a major emergency. The Plan will remain in place for approximately one year until it's replaced by the 2011 Plan.

New: Accountability Review. OHR worked with the National Park Service to revise interview guides for their upcoming accountability review of the Intermountain Regional Office in Lakewood, Colorado during the week of May 3, 2010.

New: Accountability Review Comments on a Corrective Action Plan. OHR provided comments to BLM on a corrective action plan developed by their National Operations Center in

response to a Department-led accountability review which took place in May 2009. Once evidence of the corrective actions taken is received, the Department can close-out this review.

New: **DOI Learn Communication Plan.** Two major components of the DOI LEARN communication plan went live this week. The DOI LEARN portal page in now available at http://www.doi.gov/doilearn/. In addition, information was placed in strategic areas of the current site.

New: DOI Learn Upgrade. On April 29, 2010**,** DOI LEARN will shut down from 5 PM to 8 AM on May 6, 2010. We will upgrade the system to provide better EHRI reporting to OPM and improve the users experience. DOI LEARN provides services to over 92,000 employees, contractors, volunteers, and public citizens.

Update: FPPS/Datamart. OHR organized and facilitated a meeting with the FPPS Data Integrity team to dialog on what are the specific requirements on the youth related data requested by OMB.

Update: Personnel Security. OHR developed and submitted some modifications of the organizational designations in the DOI views of the secured portal and in e-QIP. This week we worked specifically with BIA and NBC who are in the process of establishing a new personnel security office.

Update: Employee Viewpoint Survey. On March 26, 2010, OHR completed the Employee Viewpoint Survey where OPM reported that Interior had an adjusted response rate of 58.8%; compared to 56.5% in 2008. Results of the survey will be provided in June.

Ongoing: **DOI Learn On-line Training**. DOI LEARN project office continues to conduct on-line training in Denver and Albuquerque to learning administrators from NBC, DOIU, OSM, USGS, NPS, BIA and OIG. We have trained over 983 administrators.

Office of Civil Rights

New: Equal Opportunity Directive (EOD). On April 21, 2010, the Director issued Equal Opportunity Directive 2010-003, "Procedures for Final Agency Decisions-Partial Dismissals of Complaints". This EOD standardizes our procedures for partially dismissing discrimination complaints. Additionally, this EOD is designed to reduce the number of complaints remanded by the EEOC to DOI for investigation, following improper partial dismissals.

Update: Planning for League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Conference. On April 27, 2010, OCR Staff Members joined the BLM EEO Staff and attended the Federal Training Institute Planning Committee Meeting and initiated the planning of the DOI's participation in the LULAC National Conference that is being held during July 12-17, 2010, in Albuquerque, NM. .

Update: iComplaints Technical Workshop and User Forum. On April 28, 2010**,** OCR is providing a 3.5- hour, tuition-free workshop for experienced iComplaints Users. This Workshop is designed to improve the skills of DOI iComplaints Users, with a resulting improvement in the

accuracy of information maintained in our complaints tracking system. The goal is to improve in the accuracy of DOI's Form 462 Report to the EEOC, and the DOI NO FEAR Act Reports. The Workshop will be conducted in the MIB Room 7429.

Update: 2010 Technical Assistance Conference, White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. During April 26-28, 2010, the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities is conducting the 2010 Technical Assistance Conference at Alabama A&M University, in Huntsville, AL. The Office of Civil Rights in partnership with the Department of Justice participated in planning the 2010 Technical Assistance Conference.

Completed: Minority Serving Institutions Community of Partners Council. On April 20, 2010, the Office of Civil Rights hosted the Federal Interagency Minority Serving Institutions Community of Partners Council (MSI-COPC) meeting at the DOI Main Interior Building. The newly appointed Executive Director for the Asian American and Pacific Islander White House Initiative Office, Kiran Ahuja, Robert Stanton, Senior Policy Advisor to the Secretary, Sharon Eller, Director of the Office of Civil Rights, and Julie Rodriguez, of the Office of Youth Initiatives addressed the group.

Completed: Meeting of Association of External Civil Rights Specialists/Officers. On April 20, 2010, guest speaker Jack Andre, Chief, Public Civil Rights Division addressed "Accessibility Issues Impacting Public Lands and Recreation Programs" at the monthly meeting of the Association of External Civil Rights Specialists/Officers, located at the USDA, South Building Cafeteria, in Washington, D.C.

Office of Strategic Employee Development

New: Upcoming Government-wide Forum. On May, 6, 2010, presenter Steven E. Weil, the author of *Ask Papa Jack: Wisdom from the World's Oldest CEO* will speak in Denver, CO., on a compilation of anecdotes and stories that exemplifies his work and business style supported by The Denver Learning Center.

New: Upcoming Courses and Actions. On April 26-30, 2010, the first session of the Executive Assistant Certificate Program is being held at the Department of the Interior's Main Interior Building.

Update: Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program Class #16. The graduation ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, June 17 at 10:30 a.m. in Yates Auditorium. Reception immediately follows in the South Interior Auditorium.

Update: Government Acquisition Management Intern Program (GAMIP). Robert Foye, Program Manager, met with the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) at Fort Lee, VA to discuss Section 852 funding. In addition, he conducted site visits to all sponsoring agencies and met with supervisors and interns to discuss program goals.

National Indian Program Training Center (NIPTC)

New: "I Care If You Graduate!" Series Presentation. On April 22, 2010**,** Mr. James Robinson, President, Choctaw Ikhana addressed Native American high school students via ELKNet. Fourth in the series, Mr. Robinson spoke on the importance of graduating from high school and acquiring higher education to prepare for careers. He provided inspiration to the Indian youth, by passing along the experiences he had growing up on a reservation in Mississippi.

Office of Health and Safety

Completed: OHS completed the Serious Accident Injury Team (SAIT) factual report on the BIA fatality of January 20, 2010, and hand delivered it to BIA's Designated Agency Safety and Health Officials (DASHO) , Director Jack Rever, Management Support Services.

Office of Strategic Employee Development

Completed: DOIU Senior Executive Series Forum. On Friday, April 16, Jeffrey Zients, Chief Performance Officer, addressed SES participants from across the federal landscape on the major initiatives undertaken by his office to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the government. Held at the Department of Justice Great Hall, the session attracted over 350 members of the SES.

National Indian Programs Training Center (NIPTC)

Completed: NIPTC Supports BIA Probate Training. During the week of April 12, 2010, the NIPTC supported the Bureau of Indian Affairs probate training. The training was provided to approximately 200 employees in areas such as Probate Tracking (ProTrac), LockBox, historical accounting, and case prep and closing.

LAW ENFORCEMENT, SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

New: National Joint Terrorism Task Force Executive Board Meeting - April 27, 2010. I am a member of the Executive Board that meets every quarter. The meetings provide a good overview of the global terrorism threat, domestic threat picture, and regular updates on international and national terrorist or other law enforcement related events.

Update: Tribal Summit of Safe Indian Communities: This meeting was very successful. I attended last week with other Department representatives including law enforcement personnel from NPS and BLM; the Forest Service was also represented. AS Echohawk attended during the morning session and gave very impressive opening remarks about the dire state of affairs in Indian Country; he expressed his appreciation for the assistance everyone was willing to provide. We had good dialogue about "Operation Alliance" and the assistance to be provided by our partner law enforcement programs in the Department and the Forest Service. Details are being finalized; we anticipate deploying officers on May 10.

Update: Draft Bill to Restrict Interior and Agriculture Actions Which Impede Border Security. We have drafted an Administration Position on the bill and it is being finalized for surnaming this week. We will coordinate it with DHS as well.

Update: Coordination on UT HB 146. The Solicitor's office is discussing the bill with DOJ.

No Change: International Park/Border Crossing. Lori, Karen, and I met with State Department officials, CBP, and others this week regarding the Big Bend International Park and border crossing. We outlined action items to be completed in preparation for the May 19th deadline for announcement of the International Park.

Final: Wildland Fire Leadership Council MOU. The press release announcing the MOU and recent WFLC meeting was distributed on April 22, 1010.

Final: Interagency Interoperability Oversight Group (IIOG). The meeting allowed Interior and Forest Service to discuss a variety of radio communications issues such as dispatching, radio interoperability, and southwest border radio regionalization.

Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES)

New: **Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program (DCE/SP) Annual Training**: The OLES National Drug Enforcement Coordinator attended this seminar in St. Petersburg, FL April 21st and 22nd. The DCE/SP program is run by the Drug Enforcement Administration. The DCE/SP program provides funding to state and local agencies involved in combating the growth and production of marijuana. OLES represented DOI law enforcement programs engaged in the investigation and eradication of marijuana on public lands. The group went over lessons learned from last year; tactical operations in rural environments; and public lands. Over 60 agencies and approximately 150 law enforcement officers, contractors and civilians participated in the conference.

New: Internal Affairs Program Compliance Assessments: The OLES Branch of Professional Responsibility will be conducting the following assessments in the coming weeks: April 28, 2010, United States Park Police, Internal Affairs Office; June 2 2010, National Park Service, Internal Affairs Unit; June 21-25, 2010, Shasta and Folsom Dams and July 19-23, 2010, Bureau of Reclamation Internal Affairs Unit.

New: Threat Assessment on US Dams: We met last week with the FBI and DHS to discuss the final edits to the Threat Assessment on Dams. The product should be available in the near future.

New: Operation Warfighter: OLES will be bringing on our second wounded warrior to help with our intelligence program. Projected start date is set for May 3.

New: Improved Intelligence for "Operation Alliance": OLES has initiated the steps necessary to leverage existing intelligence resources to provide situational awareness for our bureau law enforcement personnel who will be assisting Tribal Police Chiefs. The intelligence

support will come from the Regional Intelligence Sharing System (RISS) analysts and from state-run Fusion Centers.

Update: Incident Management, Analysis, and Reporting System (IMARS). The IMARS Program Manager and DOI executives associated with IMARS (including the DOI CIO) were requested by the Federal Chief Information Officer, Vivek Kundra to attend an Office of Management and Budget TechStat Accountability Project Review. The session will take place on April 29, 2010. The intent of the review is to gain a shared understanding of the objectives of the project and understand the risks associated with continued investment. Once preparation meeting has been held, another is planned for April 23, 2010.

Update: "Operation Alliance" Cross-Department Law Enforcement Assistance to BIA: BIA has requested bureau law enforcement assistance for six months to address high crime rates at three tribal agencies. BIA has dedicated staff to work in coordination with OLES and tribal police chiefs to oversee the law enforcement deployment from DOI bureaus and USDA Forest Service. Planned deployment of bureau officers is May 10 pending final operational plans and direction/guidance from the FWP Assistant Secretary. Financial reimbursement agreements are near completion. Interior, DOJ and tribal partners met on April 22 in Denver to finalize short term deployment and long term solutions to assist BIA and tribes.

Other assistance to BIA's Office of Justice Services include the following: (1) Collaborating with DOJ to ensure Tribes can conduct automated criminal investigative inquiries, (2) Ensuring BIA training programs are effective and integrated with other Interior bureaus, (3) Assisting with hiring/staffing issues, (4) Developing a comprehensive Indian Country Victim Assistance Program, and (5) Coordinating with DOJ and DHS to ensure Tribes have access to information sharing tools.

No Change: Secure Border Initiative (SBInet) Future Project Status. Deputy Division Chief Stephen Martin will conduct a briefing on the current state of SBInet deployments for Acting DAS Thorsen on April 29.

No Change: Secure Border Initiative (SBInet) Ajo 1 Project Status. Six out of ten towers are erected and heavy construction completed on towers in critical pronghorn areas as planned ahead of the April 15th closure. NPS has completed required corrective road work on Tower #170 access. SBI is still waiting on a decision from FWS on continuing work at Growler Mountain Tower #189 or relocating this tower to another site.

- Boeing continues tower construction within a revised schedule afforded by the 30 day extension provided by FWS into the Pronghorn Fawning Season. That extension permits heavy construction to continue until April 15th, 2010.
- The SBInet Program Manager and Boeing continue to evaluate both technical and logistical options for continuing or replacing tower 189 in the AJO 01 deployment. Regardless of the decision on tower 189, that work will not be completed prior to April 15th. Boeing continues to develop the recovery plan for the unapproved excavations on the Growler Mountain location.

No Change: FBI to Complete an Intelligence Assessment on Rural Public Lands. This assessment, conducted upon the request of OLES, is undergoing a final review and approval, with an anticipated release in the near future.

No Change: Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) to Produce a Video of the Mission and Responsibilities of the Department of the Interior. We have been coordinating with ODNI on this production and is currently in the preliminary stages of developing the script. The final product will be accessible to all intelligence community analysts through the classified computer system known as the Joint Worldwide Intelligence Community System.

No Change: Border Patrol/Interior Law Enforcement Radio Interoperability. The DHS/DOI Interoperability Work Group has agreed on the resolution for the current Tucson Sector radio interoperability issue. Within two weeks, the Acting Chief of the Border Patrol will send an operational memorandum to the Tucson Sector Chief mandating an immediate action which will provide all DOI law enforcement personnel with secure and effective communications with Border Patrol agents in the field. The interdepartmental work group will continue to stand up on a regular basis to identify and resolve relevant interoperability issues between the departments. OLES will maintain seats on this workgroup.

No Change: 2010 National Police Week. OLES is coordinating upcoming activities surrounding National Police Week. Event dates have been confirmed (see below). The Secretary has confirmed his participation in the Candlelight Vigil. OLES will try and have the event broadcast on the new DOI webcast system that will allow the event to be viewed on any Interior computer. 2010 Police Week Activities include the following:

- Thursday, May 13 Farthing Award Ceremony
- Thursday, May 13 Candlelight Vigil
- Friday, May 14 DOI Law Enforcement Officer Memorial ceremony
- Saturday, May 15 Police Officer Memorial Day, US Capitol

No Change: Security Assessment of BOR Dams. The OLES Security Division is scheduled to conduct a security assessment of Folsom and Shasta Dams from June 21-25, 2010.

No Change: Security Assessment of the Washington Mall (Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial and Jefferson Memorial. The OLES Security Division is scheduled to conduct a security assessment of the USPP security program at the Washington Mall from May 25-26, 2010.

<u>Office of Emergency Management (OEM)</u>

New: Deepwater Horizon - Gulf of Mexico Drill Rig Explodes and Sinks. On April 20, the MODU Deepwater Horizon with 126 workers on board exploded, caught fire, and subsequently sank. Eleven crewmembers remain unaccounted for and 17 were injured, at least 3 critically; oil continues to leak from the well head and the piping. SEC Salazar briefed the President and DEPSEC David Hayes -- supported by OEPC and MMS -- has led DOI activities with the National Response Team. The IOC activated to coordinate DOI reporting to DHS and provide situational awareness for DOI leadership and staff. MMS and OEPC are on-scene assisting with

planning and response efforts. Also, FWS is supporting the operation in regard to impact on wildlife and both FWS and NPS are prepared to respond should the oil reach their lands. USGS is coordinating with interagency counterparts regarding use of imagery to support response operations.

Update: Emergency Response Activities. Office of Emergency Management is monitoring multiple activities:

- A deadly outbreak of tornadoes struck Mississippi on April 23, one of which impacted the Panther Swamp NWR near Yazoo City. FWS reported all employees were accounted for with no injuries, however several had homes damaged. Damage assessment was ongoing; personnel were providing assistance to local communities. NPS reported about 20 miles of the Natchez Trace Parkway were closed due to fallen trees and a radio tower fell, curtailing communications with the southern end of the parkway.
- The IOC developed an Incident Action Plan and enhanced operations over the weekend in preparedness for World Bank meetings in the vicinity of Main Interior Building and Earth Day activities National Mall. The IOC and OLES monitored both events. USPP and NPS were responsible for crowd control and monitoring of the Earth Day event.
- BIA, along with BOR, continued to monitor flow rates at the Tsaile Dam in AZ.
- The President signed a Major Disaster Declaration for North Dakota on April 23 following severe storms that struck the area on April 1-3. The Standing Rock Reservation was included in the declaration.
- USGS continued to assist with the monitoring of the eruption of the Icelandic volcano Eyifjallajokulln which had caused the restriction of most air traffic over Europe. Conditions improved this week and the majority of air traffic has resumed.

Update: Homeland Security Council – Domestic Resilience Group (DRG). OEM's Lisa Branum attended the biweekly DRG meeting on April 21. During the past week, OEM submitted comments to the DRG regarding a new Presidential Policy Directive on national preparedness to replace Homeland Security Presidential Directive-8. We recommended the directive recognize the applicability of the policy to tribes as well as to State and local governments. Also, at last week's meeting, the group approved a new charter for the DRG, renaming the body from the Domestic *Readiness* Group to the Domestic *Resilience* Group and redefining its purpose and membership at the Departmental level.

Update: Pandemic Preparedness. Flu activity in the United States again declined slightly from the previous week and is low nationally. This is the first week since the week ending December 13, 2008 that no states reported widespread or regional flu activity. MS, AL, SC, and HI continue to report localized flu activity.

Update: Interagency Emergency Health Policy. LCDR Elaine Wolff, U.S. Public Health Service officer detailed to OEM, represents the department on several homeland security working groups dealing with emergency health issues. She attended a new Homeland Security Council sub-IPC which met for the first time last week to enhance the capacity and capabilities of the U.S. and our international partners to anticipate, prevent, recognize, and respond to Public Health Emergencies of International Concern (PHEICs). We will continue to monitor this sub-IPC although DOI did not appear to have direct equities in priority issues identified by the group.

LCDR Wolff will attend a meeting of another working group this week which is charged to address emerging pandemic threats.

Update: Exercise Eagle Horizon 2010. On April 26, the Secretary signed a memorandum to departmental leadership instructing levels of participation from bureaus and offices during Exercise Eagle Horizon which will take place on May 17-18. OEM will conduct the DOI Final Planning Conference with bureau and office exercise planners on April 28 and is in the process of scheduling dates for pre-exercise training for COOP team members and briefings for Assistant Secretaries. PMB DASs were briefed on April 23 and PMB office directors were briefed on April 26.

Update: Employee Accountability Plan for the Office of the Secretary. This plan provides guidance for the reporting of employee information during emergency incidents. OHR has designated two individuals (Nick Chomycia and Joy Buhler) to lead the Employee Accountability Unit (EAU) which would coordinate their activities from the IOC or COOP site; four DAS's each identified an additional team member, bringing the EAU to its full complement of six individuals. The team is meeting to refine its procedures, which will be tested during the upcoming COOP exercise.

No Change: Long-Term Disaster Recovery Working Group. The National Disaster Recovery Framework will soon be released for Department/Agency review and approval through the Executive Secretariat process. Once received, OEM will work with OEPC, BIA and USGS to coordinate DOI comments and develop a decision memo for Secretarial concurrence or non-concurrence. The White House timeline for producing a final report to the President is now mid-May.

No Change: Occupant Emergency Planning. Last week, OEM performed final review of the draft update of the Occupant Emergency Plans for the Main Interior Complex. OEM and NBC met with GSA to review options to enable handicapped individuals to safely use elevators for evacuation during building emergencies; this will reduce the reliance of handicapped individuals to wait for partners or the fire department to assist them with evacuation. The revised plan is being re-written in accordance with a new outline for occupant emergency plans promulgated by the Department of Homeland Security and will be released in May. Upon release of the plan, OEM will recruit "wing wardens" and other personnel needed to implement the plan and initiate an information campaign for MIB and SIB employees.

Final: IOC Hosts FEMA Interagency Committee. On Wednesday, April 21, the IOC hosted the Interagency Committee meeting for FEMA's Office of National Capital Region Coordination in the IOC Conference Room. DHS, FEMA, and several other agencies attended. The role of the Committee is to share ideas and methods regarding notification and response to incidents that impact Federal agencies and personnel within our region.

Office of Wildland Fire Coordination (OWFC)

New: DOI Conference on the Environment – LANDFIRE Program OWFC is attending and presenting at this conference in Portland, OR. Presentation is on the LANDFIRE Program to provide for operations and maintenance activities.

New: Biomass –Woody BUG (Woody Biomass Utilization Group - http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov) will be holding its monthly conference call on Wednesday, May 12 to discuss group tasks and activities ranging from feasibility studies, biomass roadmap, disaster debris plan, etc. OWFC representative is the current chair of this interagency effort. Chair will be rotated at the June quarterly meeting.

Update: Report to Congress for the Study on the Joint Use of Federal Forest Fire Fighting Assets. The Forest Service and the Office of Wildland Fire Coordination are participating as members of the C-130 Firefighting Capability Integrated Working Group (IWG) to assess the viability of the Air National Guard, the Air Force Reserve, Interior and the Forest Service to operate jointly a fleet of new C-130Js procured for the primary purposes of firefighting duties. An IWG Principals meeting has been scheduled for Friday, April 30, 2010, to discuss the final draft report. An IWG Executive meeting will be scheduled after that date, depending on the outcome of the Principals level IWG meeting. The final report will be delivered to the appropriate committees no later than May 19th, 2010.

Update: Cohesive Strategy for Wildland Fire Management: During the development of the Strategy, the Oversight Committee will hold a series of structured regional/field forums. These forums will engage a wide range of government managers at the state, local, and tribal level, land resource specialists, conservation groups, nongovernmental organizations, and landowners to ensure that strategies reflect regional economic, social, and environmental priorities. The first 2 of 13 regional/field forum were held in:

- **Anchorage Forum April 20th -** Hosted by Chugachmiut
  Participants: Boroughs, City Fire Services, Native Corporations, State of Alaska, Consultant, and Federal (USFS, FWS, BLM, BIA, NPS, and Alaskan Fire Service)
- **Ruidoso, New Mexico Forum on 4/21 at Mescalaro-Apache Nation**
  Participants including: Tribes: Spokane, Yakima, Mescalaro-Apache, Fond du Lac, Hoopa, Colville, Tanana Chiefs Conference, State: NM State Forester Local: City of Ruidoso, City of Santé Fe, and City of Los Alamos Fire Departments Federal: BIA, BLM, USFWS, NPS, USFS

This week's Forums will be held on April 28 in Barnegat, New Jersey and April 29 in San Antonio, Texas.

Update: LANDFIRE Program future – Meetings are being held this week to report out and discuss the General Management Evaluation of the LANDFIRE project. The first meeting is on April 27 in Boise, ID with the managers in the area to discuss the future program options from products, funding, and innovations. The second meeting will be held, May 19, 2010 in Washington, DC at the USDA Forest Service to meet with executives and discuss future program options.

No Change: Fire Policy Council – "Wildfire of National Significance" Exercise is scheduled for May 11, 2010. The "Exercise" will provide the opportunity for senior executives to discuss and agree on how they will:

- Address significant media interests regarding policy and national issues.
- Anticipate and manage congressional inquiries and concerns.

- Prepare for responding to serious accident and fatalities.
- Manage and prioritize multiple disaster scenarios and competition for scarce national resources.

No Change: Wildland Firefighter Safety – Annual Report to Congress. Interior and the Forest Service are preparing a joint report to Congress on wildland firefighter safety practices, including training programs and activities for wildfire suppression and prescribed fire during the preceding calendar year. The report section covering the estimate of the amount of FY 2009 Federal funds expended on wildland training was completed. Designated interagency leads continue to compile and format the remaining four sections of the report and will meet to establish a timeframe for completion of the final report.

No Change: EPA's Wildland Fire Policy/Smoke Management Paper. OWFC prepared a draft response to OMB (Director of OIRA) for AS Rhea Suh, as the Fire Policy Council Chair, in very close coordination with the Forest Service and submitted through the BLM Assistant Director (Fire and Aviation Management). Follow-up actions will include policy level discussions between the Fire Policy Council and EPA to help guide revisions of EPA's policy paper as well as broader wildland fire, climate and smoke management issues; OWFC will prepare a draft invitation letter to EPA/CEQ to invite the appropriate executives to meet with the Fire Policy Council for these policy level discussions.

BUDGET, FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND ACQUISITION

Deputy Assistant Secretary – Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition

New: Combined Federal Campaign Awards Ceremony. On April 22, bureaus and individuals were recognized for their efforts in enabling the 2009 Interior National Capital Area Combined Federal Campaign to raise $623,421, slightly more than the amount raised for the 2008 campaign. BLM, BOR, FWS, Indian Affairs (ASIA, BIA, BIE), MMS, OIG, OS, and OSM all received awards for exceeding their goals for 2009.
Among other awards, the Chairman's Award for Outstanding Generosity for bureaus or offices with average gifts in excess of $750 was awarded to BLM ($796), SOL ($823), USGS ($824), and Indian Affairs ($1,087). Awards also recognized individuals whose personal efforts made a difference in raising money for the many charities supported by the CFC and making the campaign fun for employees through events such as the memorable "Interior's Got Talent!"

Office of Acquisition and Property Management

New. Financial and Business Management System (FBMS) Deployment 6 Project Preparation Phase Activities. On April 20, 2010, the FBMS Program Management Office's (PMO) team leads reviewed the content for the Deployment 6 Preliminary Detailed Scope Definition (DSD) document. The document defines the scope of the deployment of FBMS to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Office of the Secretary. On June 7, an Integrated Baseline Review (IBR) will be held to determine if all the D6 planning requirements have been met, and the project is ready to move to the next phase of the deployment, the Business Blueprint Phase. A walkthrough is scheduled during the week of June 14, during which FWS and Office

of the Secretary and other bureaus will have an opportunity to observe the system as it currently exists and receive information that will prepare them for Business Blueprint Workshop sessions.

New: Meeting with OMB on DOI Real Property Activities. On April 23, 2010, staff from the Office of Acquisition and Property Management (PAM) and the Office of Budget briefed Craig Crutchfield, Jennifer Hoef, Ann Kendrel and Garry Stofko of the OMB Interior Branch on the DOI Asset Management program. PAM provided an overview of findings from asset management briefings held with each the bureaus over the last year; along with summaries and detailed analyses from the Federal Real Property Profile. OMB indicated they are currently most concerned with the condition of high priority assets; how DOI is moving forward with disposal of non-priority, excess assets; and data consistency across and within bureaus. Follow-up actions include scheduling a meeting with OMB to demonstrate the use of eCPIC for managing major construction projects; and scheduling individual meetings between OMB, PAM and the bureaus to discuss specific real property concerns.

Update: Meeting with OMB on Acquisition and Financial Assistance Functions. On April 26, the Director, Office of Acquisition and Property Management met with Craig Crutchfield and James Hurban of the OMB Interior Branch to provide an overview of the PAM office and DOI acquisition and financial assistance functions. PAM subject-matter experts participated in the meeting, providing briefings on the following topics:

- PAM responsibilities;
- DOI acquisition and financial assistance activities;
- Acquisition Improvement Plan;
- Acquisition Human Capital Plan;
- Suspension and Debarment program; and
- The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Office of Budget

Update: Funding Challenges. The Office of Budget is reviewing and coordinating several reprogrammings including: a revised USGS reprogramming reflecting OMB's comments, a reprogramming to provide funds for an OSM stream protection EIS, and a draft rule that is being finalized by OSM. The Office of Insular Affairs Brown Tree Snake and the OCS Mid-Atlantic Region Office reprogrammings were approved by OMB and are in final review.

Update: FY 2010 Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan. The Office of Budget assisted the DAS-Policy and International Affairs with a data call to the bureaus to provide budget numbers for FY 2010 Enacted, FY 2011 President's Budget, and FY 2012 Estimate. The data was incorporated into the FY 2010 Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan that is now in the surnaming process.

Update: FY 2012 Budget Formulation Guidance. The Office of Budget is completing detailed bureau and technical guidance for budget formulation. Bureau budget packages are due to the Office of Budget on May 21, 2010.

New: FY 2011 President's Budget Lessons Learned. The Office of Budget Staff hosted a luncheon meeting with OMB staff on April 20, 2010 to discuss lessons learned from the FY 2011 budget formulation cycle.

Update: Budget Execution Reviews. The Office of Budget is meeting with bureau budget officers to develop a Departmental budget execution review strategy and process. An internal POB workgroup has been formed to discuss the budget execution review process and the use of execution data in the budget decision-making process.

Office of Financial Management

New: Governmentwide CFO Council: The Office of Financial Management (PFM) attended the Government Wide Chief Financial Officer (CFO) council. OMB presented further details on their vision of a smaller financial footprint in financial management systems. Clearly there will be less funding for large Enterprise Resource Planning system implementations across the Federal government.

New: Offsetting Receipts. The Office of Financial Management is working with the Bureau of Reclamation financial reporting branch to resolve an issue with the reporting of "offsetting receipts". This issue was identified during the audit last year, and relates to who should be reporting certain offsetting receipts.

New: Year End Readiness/CBS: The Office of Financial Management is meeting with bureaus to discuss concerns regarding Year End Readiness and Audit and closing audit findings. The Office of Financial Management participated in the weekly BLM Collections and Billings system (CBS) issues meeting and continues to work with BLM to assist with integration of CBS with FBMS.

No Change: Reporting Model Subgroup on Internal Control. The Office of Financial Management is participating in OMB's Reporting Model Subgroup on Internal Control. The Federal CFO Council Reporting Model Task Force has recommended switching the audit focus at agencies from financial reports to internal controls.

Office of Planning and Performance Management

Update: FY 2010/2011 High Priority Performance Goals. This week, HPPG data on renewable energy, water conservation, youth, and Indian community law enforcement will be uploaded to the OMB Federal Performance Portal for public use. Work continues to complete the climate change HPPG.

Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization

New Item: **Small Business Executive Breakfast:** On Thursday April 22, the OSDBU Director spoke at the Small Business Executive Breakfast, presented by National Business Promotions Inc at the Fairview Park Marriott Hotel in Falls Church, VA. The breakfast was attended by approximately 40 small business executives from the Northern Virginia region.

New Item: Arkansas Procurement Opportunities Conference: On Tuesday April 27 the OSDBU will be represented at the Arkansas Procurement Opportunities Conference to be held at the Little Rock Statehouse Convention Center in Little Rock, AR. The conference connects small businesses to government and private sector sales opportunities.

New Item: National HBCU Technical Assistance Conference: The OSDBU will attend the National Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Technical Assistance Conference at Alabama A & M University in Normal, AL scheduled for April 26-28. The conference is connected with the White House Initiative on HBCUs. Approximately 300 people are expected to attend.

Update: DOI/LaGuardia Community College, New York Boot Camp. The Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization and the LaGuardia Community College Procurement Technical Assistance Center hosted a joint Small Business Boot Camp at the LaGuardia Community College, Queens, NY, on April 29, 2010. The event focused on small businesses within the state of New York. Topics discussed were Recovery Act projects, Information Technology, Green Procurement, and Renewable Energy as it relates to the Sate of New York small businesses.

Update: Small Business Boot Camp for HUB Zone and 8(a) Small Businesses. As of April 26, 2010 there are 525 small businesses registered for the Department's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization Small Business Boot Camp scheduled for May 7, 2010, in the Main Interior Auditorium. This Boot Camp will focus on HUB Zone and 8(a) Small Businesses that are interested in doing business with the Department.

Office of the Secretary and Departmental Offices FBMS Implementation

Update: Preparation to define the scope of the OS deployment is underway and the OS Implementation Management Office (IMO) has supplied an estimated FBMS user headcount to the Project Management Office (PMO). Work is also underway to indentify all conversion and interface systems and data to the PMO. A kick-off meeting with the Denver team is planned for May 3 to discuss roles and responsibilities, identify resource gaps, and schedule. Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition Pam Haze will be in attendance. Michael Schievelbein from the NBC has joined the team as the Technical Lead.

OIG - Reports Awaiting Management Response

April 23, 2010

Reports	Report Title	Bureau/ Office	Status	Response Due Date	Contact	Comments		PFM Action/Remarks
ER-IN-BIA-0014-2009	Office of Inspector General's Independent Report on "ONDCP [Office of National Drug Control Policy] Performance Summary Report - BIA".	BIA	**Completed**	**12/10/2009**	Patricia Vendzules 703-390-6458	3/26/2010 - REQUEST SENIOR MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE. 04/01/2010 - Assistance provided. Gray Payne stated that this response would be provided by April 21, 2010.		4/01/2010 - Status provided by Kathleen Wheeler **Response delivered to OIG on 4/9/10**
WR-VS-MOI-0009-2009	Verification Review of Nine Recommendations from our February 2004 Audit Report "Improvements Needed to Ensure Safety and Program Performance - School Construction Program, Bureau of Indian Affairs (Report No. W-FL-BIA-0047-2002).	BIA	**Late**	**11/2/2009**	Patricia Vendzules 703-390-6458	3/26/2010 - REQUEST SENIOR MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE. 04/01/2010 - Assistance provided. Gray Payne stated that this report is currently in the Solicitors Office. Response expected: April 21, 2010.		4/01/2010 - Status provided by Kathleen Wheeler **4/23/2010** - OIG has not received it. Patty Vendzules trying to obtain update.
CR-IS-MOA-0004-2009	Inspection Report: BLM and MMS Beneficial Use Deductions.	BLM/MMS	**Completed**	**4/7/2010**	Charles Norfleet	04/8/2010 - Charles Norfleet stated that Kimberly Elmore granted a 2 week extension to MMS.		**Response delivered to OIG on 4/21/10**
R-GR-FWS-0006-2009	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Grants Awarded to the American Samoa Government, Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources, From October 1, 2006, Through September 30, 2008.	FWS	**Late**	**4/8/2010**	Patrick McHugh 703-358-1770	Original Response Due Date: 3/8/2010		02/24/10- Sharon Blake sent email to POC to obtain status. 04/05/10 - Status obtained from OIG. Charles Washington **04/23/10** - OIG has not received it. Pat McHugh following up with the Grants staff who were tied up at a conference last week.
R-GR-FWS-0007-2009	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Grants Awarded to the State of Nevada, Department Wildlife, From July 1, 2006, Through June 30, 2008.	FWS	**Late**	**4/15/2010**	Patrick McHugh 703-358-1770	**02/26/2010**- Patrick McHugh will provide information ASAP. Original Response Due Date: 3/1/2010 New Response Due Date: 4/15/2010		02/24/10- Sharon Blake sent email to POC to obtain status. 04/16/10 - Request for status sent by Charles Washington. **04/23/10** - OIG has not received it. Pat McHugh following up with the Grants staff who were tied up at a conference last week.
R-GR-FWS-0010-2009	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Grants Awarded to the District of Columbia, Department of the Environment, From October 1, 2006, Through September 20, 2008.	FWS	**Early Alert**	**5/27/2010**	Patrick McHugh 703-358-1770			**04/16/10** - Request for status sent by Charles Washington.

OIG - Reports Awaiting Management Response

April 23, 2010

Reports	Report Title	Bureau/ Office	Status	Response Due Date	Contact	Comments		PFM Action/Remarks
R-GR-FWS-0011-2009	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Grants Awarded to the State of Utah, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife Resources, From July 1, 2006, Through June 30, 2008.	FWS	**Early Alert**	**4/29/2010**	Patrick McHugh 703-358-1770			**04/16/10** - Request for status sent by Charles Washington.
C-IN-MOA-0004-2009	Evaluation Report - Geothermal Royalties	MMS	**Completed**	**4/8/2010**	Charles Norfleet	04/8/2010 - Charles Norfleet stated that Kimberly Elmore granted a 2 week extension to MMS.		**Response delivered to OIG on 4/22/10**
C-IN-MOA-0010-2008	Final Audit Report, "Department of the Interior Accountability and Preservation of Museum Collections".	OS/PAM	**Completed**	**1/15/2010**	Debra Sonderman	04/19/2010 - Management response was signed and submitted on April 16, 2010.		04/16/2010 - Status provided by Alex Lampros. 04/19/2010 - Status updated by Charles Washington **Response delivered to OIG on 4/21/10**

	Early Alert - Due within 10 business days or less of the response due date.
	Due - The actual response due date.
	Late - After the response due date.
	Extension - Reports that have been granted a response due date extension.
	Completed - Response sent to OIG.

From: Grimes, Janis on behalf of Echohawk, Larry
To: Luckey, Lauren
Subject: Tentative: FW: Information Update - There are multiple changes: [CR#1352] - Grand Canyon Withdrawal Mtg [Bridge Line:(b) (5) pc (b) (5)

Larry Echo Hawk may be out of the office at this time.
I have forwarded to Deputy A/S Del Laverdure.

Janis Grimes
208-3878

From:	Farquhar, Ned
To:	Graves, Carmiece; Mussenden, Paul; Cardinale, Richard
Subject:	FW: Information Update - There are multiple changes: [CR#6616] - AZ-1Litigation deadline Discussion w/Ned Farquhar, Paul Mussunden, Richard Cardinale, Janet Lin, Mike Pool, Bill Falsey, Jim Kenna, Connie Rogers, Aaron Moody, Paul Smyth, Karen Hawbecker, K
Date:	Thursday, April 29, 2010 3:14:24 PM

Carmiece – please add to the secretary's weekly report. Thanks. NF

From: Hawbecker, Karen
Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2010 3:12 PM
To: Farquhar, Ned; Moody, Aaron; Rogers, Constance; Lin, Janet H; Kenna, Jim; Gaudio, John; Nitta, Kendra; Brown, Laura; Pool, Mike; Mussenden, Paul; Cardinale, Richard; Falsey, William D; Smyth, Paul
Cc: Washington, Claudia; Rees, Gareth C; Jackson, Lynn A; Lassiter, Tracie L; Luckey, Lauren
Subject: RE: Information Update - There are multiple changes: [CR#6616] - AZ-1Litigation deadline Discussion w/Ned Farquhar, Paul Mussunden, Richard Cardinale, Janet Lin, Mike Pool, Bill Falsey, Jim Kenna, Connie Rogers, Aaron Moody, Paul Smyth, Karen Hawbecker, K

Ned, Here is a short note for the Secretary's Office. Let me know if this will serve the purpose. --Karen

On November 16, 2009, Center for Biological Diversity, Grand Canyon Trust, Sierra Club, and Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians of the Kaibab Indian Reservation filed a complaint alleging that BLM had failed to conduct additional environmental analysis before Dennison Mines resumed its uranium mine development within the area near the Grand Canyon that is currently segregated by a withdrawal notice. On April 8, 2010, Plaintiffs filed a Motion for Preliminary Injunction, asking the court to suspend Dennison's mining operation because they allege that the mine plan has expired and supplemental environmental analysis is required. The Department is recommending that the Justice Department file a response to the PI motion refuting plaintiffs' claims.

From: Farquhar, Ned
Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2010 2:39 PM
To: Luckey, Lauren; Moody, Aaron; Rogers, Constance; Lin, Janet H; Kenna, Jim; Gaudio, John; Hawbecker, Karen; Nitta, Kendra; Brown, Laura; Pool, Mike; 'paul smyth@sol.doi.gov'; Mussenden, Paul; Cardinale, Richard; Falsey, William D; Luckey, Lauren
Cc: Washington, Claudia; Rees, Gareth C; Jackson, Lynn A; Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject: RE: Information Update - There are multiple changes: [CR#6616] - AZ-1Litigation deadline Discussion w/Ned Farquhar, Paul Mussunden, Richard Cardinale, Janet Lin, Mike Pool, Bill Falsey, Jim Kenna, Connie Rogers, Aaron Moody, Paul Smyth, Karen Hawbecker, K

Janet or Karen - Please prepare a two- or three-sentence note that I can send up to the Secretary's Office informing them that this is where we are going, ASAP. Thanks, NF

-----Original Appointment-----
From: Lauren Luckey/WO/BLM/DOI [mailto:Lauren_Luckey@blm.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2010 8:54 AM
To: Moody, Aaron; Rogers, Constance; Lin, Janet H; Kenna, Jim; Gaudio, John; Hawbecker, Karen; Nitta, Kendra; Brown, Laura; Pool, Mike; Farquhar, Ned; 'paul smyth@sol.doi.gov'; Mussenden, Paul; Cardinale, Richard; Falsey, William D; Luckey, Lauren

Cc: Washington, Claudia; Rees, Gareth C; Jackson, Lynn A; Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject: Information Update - There are multiple changes: [CR#6616] - AZ-1Litigation deadline Discussion w/Ned Farquhar, Paul Mussunden, Richard Cardinale, Janet Lin, Mike Pool, Bill Falsey, Jim Kenna, Connie Rogers, Aaron Moody, Paul Smyth, Karen Hawbecker, Ke...
When: Tuesday, April 27, 2010 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (GMT-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
Where: 6616

Bridge Line: (b) (5) pc#(b) (5)

<< File: ATT00001.htm >> << File: c085357.ics >>

From: Farquhar, Ned
To: Nedd, Michael D
Subject: FW: Timeline request from Secretary
Date: Friday, March 18, 2011 12:44:49 PM

This is the one we had before that showed three weeks for OMB review, twice

-----Original Message-----
From: mnedd@blm.gov [mailto:mnedd@blm.gov]
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2011 10:37 AM
To: Farquhar, Ned
Cc: Janet_Lin@blm.gov; Pool, Mike; Cardinale, Richard; Falsey, William D
Subject: RE: Timeline request from Secretary

Ned,

Here is the BLM's schedule for development of the rule:

Receive benefit-cost and economic impact analysis January 31, 2011
Draft rule for review and surname March 31, 2011
OMB - draft review April 30, 2011
Publish draft rule in Federal Register May 22, 2011
OMB - final review September 30, 2011
Publish final rule in Federal Register October 23, 2011
Rule goes into effect December 23, 2011

These target dates depend upon the timeliness of the OMB review, which could add up to 6 months to the review process if OMB determines that it is a "significant rule" (i.e., rule having an annual effect on the economy of $100 million or more) under Executive Order No. 12866. An expedited review from OMB is critical to meet this timetable.

I'm checking to see where we are at with the memo...

Take care and have a wonderful day! :)

A thought to consider "Opportunities to be kind are never hard to find"

"Farquhar, Ned" <Ned_Farquhar@ios.doi.gov> 01/28/2011 10:26 AM

To "Nedd, Mike" <mnedd@blm.gov>

cc "Janet_Lin@blm.gov" <Janet_Lin@blm.gov>, "Cardinale, Richard" <Richard_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov>, "Pool, Mike" <mpool@blm.gov>, "Falsey, William D" <WDFalsey@blm.gov>

Subject RE: Timeline request from Secretary

Haven't seen the update - can I get it right away if it exists? Thanks.
NF

-----Original Message-----
From: mnedd@blm.gov [mailto:mnedd@blm.gov]
Sent: Friday, January 14, 2011 7:49 AM
To: Farquhar, Ned
Subject: Re: Timeline request from Secretary

Ned,

I believe the staff is updating the one from last fall to reflect progress to date, I'll check first thing when I get into the office. I was out on travel all week.
------Original Message------
From: Ned Farquhar
To: Mike Nedd
Subject: FW: Timeline request from Secretary
Sent: Jan 13, 2011 4:36 PM

Can you send the current onshore royalty rate timeline? Thanks. NF

From:Hayes, David
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2011 3:18 PM
To: Lane, Kenneth; Abbey, Robert V; Farquhar, Ned; Screnar, Brian
Cc: Davis, Laura
Subject: RE: Timeline request from Secretary

We discussed these in our recent meetings with the A/S and bureau directors.

·Meghan and Bob can give you the timeline on the Grand Canyon EIS.

·I just asked Ned for an intermediate timeline on the onshore royalty rate economic analysis.

·And Bob can give you the timeline for the mineral withdrawal rule.

From:Lane, Kenneth
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2011 11:42 AM
To: Abbey, Robert V; Farquhar, Ned; Hayes, David; Screnar, Brian
Subject: Timeline request from Secretary

Secretary asked me for a timeline regarding

(1)the wind and solar energy zone mineral withdrawal rule

(2) Grand Canyon area lands withdrawal EIS

(3) Whether the onshore royalty rate reform cost-benefit and economic analysis is still on track for January completion

Thanks for whatever info you can provide (and, rather than doing memos, I'd just note the timelines in the weekly action report I prepare for him)

Ken Lane

Senior Advisor

Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of the Secretary

U.S. Department of the Interior

1849 C Street, N.W.

Room 6142

Washington, D.C. 20240

202-208-7351 phone

202-273-3501 fax

---------- Take care and have a wonderful day!

MDN :)
202-208-4201 Office

A thought to consider "Opportunities to be kind are never hard to find"

Sent via Blackberry **** This e-mail (including attachments) is intended for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. It may

contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise protected by applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient or the employee or agent responsible for delivery of this e-mail to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying, or use of this e-mail or its contents is strictly prohibited. If you received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately and destroy all copies.

From: Farquhar, Ned
To: Nedd, Michael D
Subject: FW: Timeline request from Secretary
Date: Thursday, January 13, 2011 4:36:59 PM

Can you send the current onshore royalty rate timeline? Thanks. NF

From: Hayes, David
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2011 3:18 PM
To: Lane, Kenneth; Abbey, Robert V; Farquhar, Ned; Screnar, Brian
Cc: Davis, Laura
Subject: RE: Timeline request from Secretary

We discussed these in our recent meetings with the A/S and bureau directors.

- Meghan and Bob can give you the timeline on the Grand Canyon EIS.
- I just asked Ned for an intermediate timeline on the onshore royalty rate economic analysis.
- And Bob can give you the timeline for the mineral withdrawal rule.

From: Lane, Kenneth
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2011 11:42 AM
To: Abbey, Robert V; Farquhar, Ned; Hayes, David; Screnar, Brian
Subject: Timeline request from Secretary

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(3) Whether the onshore royalty rate reform cost-benefit and economic analysis is still on track for January completion

Thanks for whatever info you can provide (and, rather than doing memos, I'd just note the timelines in the weekly action report I prepare for him)

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

From: Farquhar, Ned
To: Graves, Carmiece
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2010 9:53:06 AM
Attachments: Secretary"s Mid-Week 3 29 10 Draft nf.doc

Weekly Report to the Secretary
Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management
For Week of March 29, 2010

I. Personal Message to the Secretary:

II. Highlights of Travel, Meetings, Speeches, and other Public Events:
(b) (5)

III. Potential or Expected Legislative, Legal, and Policy Issues:

(ASLM) *Pending* Decision/Info Memoranda:

- **MMS Indian oil lease valuation:** (b) (5)

(ASLM) *Submitted* Decision/Info Memoranda:

- **Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 215:** (b)
- **Atlantic Wind Status Update:** (b) (5)
- **Proposed Energy Legislation:** (b) (5)
- **Geothermal Lease Revenue Sharing:** (b) (5)
- **MMS/DOE MOU:** (b) (5)

(ASLM) Special Projects:

- **Energy Outreach Project:** (b) (5)
- **OIG Reports on Geothermal Royalties and Beneficial Use Deductions:** (b) (5)
- **Atlantic Wind:** (b) (5)
- **8(g) & Geothermal Royalties:** (b) (5)
- **Oil & Gas Fair Return Study:**
- **Statutory Reforms:**

(ASLM/BLM) Wild Horses and Burros (WH&B): (b) (5)

(b) (5)

(BLM) Grand Canyon Uranium Mining Withdrawal: (b) (5)

(BLM) Western Oregon Forest Management: (b) (5)

(BLM) Western Oregon Timber Sales/Task Force Hill Meeting: (b) (5)

(BLM) Chairman Moran Requests Tour of DOI Lands: (b) (5)

(BLM) Onshore Royalty Rate Reform: (b) (5)

(BLM) Onshore Leasing Reform: (b) (5)

(BLM) Oil Shale RD&D: (b) (5)

(BLM) OIG/GAO Reports:

- **OIG - DOI Roads Programs: The Dangers of Decentralization:** (b) (5)
- **OIG - Draft Audit Report: DOI's Management of Land Boundaries:** (b) (5)

(BLM) Congressional Hearings:

- **Buffel Grass:** (b) (5)

(BLM) Congressional Briefing:

- **California Delegation Courtesy Visits:** (b) (5)

(BLM) ARRA Update: (b) (5)

(MMS) 8(g) and Geothermal Royalties Communications Plan: (b) (5)

(MMS) Recent OIG Reports: (b) (5)

(MMS) OCS Policy Committee Meeting: (b) (5)

(MMS) Atlantic Renewables Meeting: (b) (5)

(MMS) Atlantic/Gulf of Mexico Geological and Geophysical (G&G) Activities: (b) (5)

(MMS) First Offshore Wind Request for Interest: (b) (5)

(MMS) Iraqi Oil Minister Shahristani Meeting Request: (b) (5)

(MMS) Gulf of Mexico Western Planning Area Lease Sale 215: (b) (5)

(OSM) Stream Protection Rulemaking: OSM(b) (5)

(OSM) Meeting United Mine Workers of America (UMWA): (b) (5)

IV. Anticipated Press in the Coming Week:
(BLM) Utah Lease Sale: (b) (5)

(BLM) Renewable Energy in California: (b) (5)

(MMS): (b) (5)

Submitted by: Wilma A. Lewis, Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management
Direct Dial: 202-208-2422; Cell: (b) (6)

From: Farquhar, Ned
To: Rees, Gareth C.
Subject: major projs
Date: Monday, April 05, 2010 3:30:37 PM
Attachments: ASLM Major Projects Draft 3-30-10.xls

Here are some edits – pls ask for people to send back by 4 pm Thursday; then send to Rich, Paul, Sylvia and me for any reconciliation and review prior to Friday morning. Thanks. NF

From: Rees, Gareth C.
Sent: Monday, April 05, 2010 3:12 PM
To: Farquhar, Ned
Subject:

Gareth C. Rees
Office of the Assistant Secretary
Land and Minerals Management
1849 C Street, NW
MS 6628
Washington DC 20240
Direct: 202-208-3905
Cell: 202-262-5681
Fax: 202-208-3619

ASLM Major Projects (4/8/10)

Bureau	Description	Status/Comments
BLM	Air quality	Discussions pending with EPA
BLM	Eagle Mountain	
BLM	Grand Canyon Withdrawal	Public scoping completed 10/30 EIS team refining alternatives and preparing draft EIS chapters
BLM	NPRA Comprehensive Plan	
BLM	NPRA August lease sale	ASLM briefing first half of April
BLM	Oilshale 2nd round of RD&D leases	Report of technical review team project for late April/early May
BLM	Potash	Bob Abbey and Ned Farquhar to follow up on David Hayes discussion
BLM	RS 2477	
BLM	Ruby Pipeline	Decision to be signed by BLM before 4/15
BLM	UNEV Pipeline	ASLM briefing week of 4/5
BLM	Utah Lease Withdrawal	Pending court action
BLM/ASLM	Western Oregon Plan Revision	Proposed draft circulated to key policy officials and comments incorporated Final draft is being circulated 3/26 for second review Comments will be due 3/30
BLM	Wild Horse and Burro	
BLM	Wyoming leases	IBLA found against BLM withdrawal In discussion
BLM	IG Report: Roads	Response is being finalized within BLM
BLM	IG Report: : Land Boundaries	Draft being prepared in BLM
MMS/ASLM	Indian Oil Valuation	ASLM checking with BIA/ASIA/SOL
MMS/ASLM	Atlantic Renewable Office	SO
MMS/ASLM	Atlantic States Consortium	Next meeting proposed for ___
MMS/ASLM	Atlantic Wind MOU	Comments due back from states
MMS/ASLM	Resolution of Disbursement of 8(g)	In progress in consultation with SOL
MMS/ASLM	Geothermal Lease Revenue Payments	Letter sent out to counties
MMS	Sale 215 (Western Gulf) Federal Register Notice	Announced by Secretary 4/2
MMS	Atlantic G & G/seismic	MMS working to establish dates and locations for scoping meetings
MMS	Cape Wind	ACHP comments received 4/2/10 Under advisement
MMS	Chukchi exploration	30-day public review of EPA permits underway
MMS/BLM	IG Report: Beneficial Use Deductions	Draft reports being prepared ASLM briefed On schedule Responses due to OIG 4/7
MMS	IG Report: Geothermal Royalties	Draft reports being prepared ASLM briefed On schedule Responses due to OIG 4/8
MMS	OCS 5-Year Plan	
OSM	Stream Protection Rulemaking	Proposed procurement action for preparation of EIS under review in ASLM
OSM	Permit Defects	Options briefing for ASLM to be scheduled
OSM	Oversight Improvement	Review and analysis of comments in progress Draft recommendations to Director to be prepared
ASLM/BLM	Wilderness Policy (e g Secretarial Order, Handbook, Rollout Plan)	Pending
ASLM	Energy Outreach Project	Energy Reform Team (ERT) developing FACA and non-FACA options
ASLM/BLM/MMS	Oil and Gas Fair Return Report	MMS and BLM prepared to start procurement process after Secretarial fair return announcement
ASLM/BLM	Onshore Royalty Rate Revision	BLM will begin procurement process to hire contractor after Secretarial fair return announcement
ASLM/BLM	Onshore Leasing Reform/Categorical Exclusions	SOL finished review of draft IM 4/2; BLM revising; ASLM and energy team briefings start week of 4/12
ASLM	Energy Reforms by Statute	OCL has proposals and will respond
ASLM	Interior Appropriations Energy Report	Surnaming draft to circulate 4/6 for a week
ASLM	CD-5 (Colville River bridge)	Strickland has met with Corps to discuss next steps

From: Farquhar, Ned
To: Lassiter, Tracie L; Lewis, Wilma; Baca, Sylvia
Cc: Cardinale, Richard
Subject: Re: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS Briefing
Date: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 12:35:22 PM

Sylvia is on this

From: Lassiter, Tracie L
To: Lewis, Wilma; Farquhar, Ned
Cc: Cardinale, Richard
Sent: Tue Feb 01 12:33:08 2011
Subject: FW: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS Briefing

FYI- Secretary's scheduling office is trying to schedule a briefing on this issue Thursday or Friday.

Rich: Any recent activity on this issue or do we need to get an update from BLM prior?

Thanks, TL

Regards,

Tracie L. Lassiter
U.S. Department of the Interior
Office of the Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
1849 C. Street, NW, Room 6615
Washington, DC 20240
(o) 202-208-6734
(f) 202- 208-3619
Tracie_Lassiter@ios.doi.gov

From: Nigborowicz, Timothy M
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 11:51 AM
To: Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject: Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS Briefing

Hello, Tracie. When you have a chance, could you please let me know what hours Wilma Lewis is available Thursday and Friday of this week for a briefing with the Secretary? Thank you.

Tim Nigborowicz
Office of Scheduling and Advance
202-208-7551

From: Ned Farquhar
To: Roger Clark; Baca, Sylvia; Rees, Gareth C.
Subject: Re: Havasupai Meetings at DOI?
Date: Thursday, April 22, 2010 2:50:29 PM

Roger Clark <rclark@grandcanyontrust.org> wrote:

>Hi Ned:
>
>Hope you are doing well and that you are still using this email address.
>
>I am helping to schedule a trip to DC by Havasupai Tribal leaders on May
>11-13. We are planning visits on Capitol Hill May 11 regarding the Grand
>Canyon Watersheds Protection Act (HR 644). The delegation would like to
>meet with representatives of the Department of Interior regarding the
>proposed mineral withdrawal and other issues. Could you assist or direct
>us to someone who could help schedule meetings at US DOI n May 12 or 13?
>
>The Havasupai delegation includes:
>Bernadine Jones, Havasupai Tribal Chairwoman
>Carletta Tilousi, Council member
>Dianna Sue Uqualla, Council member
>Coleen Kaska, Tribal Member
>
>Thanks,
>Roger
>
>
>
>Roger Clark
>Air & Energy Director
>928-774-7488, ext. 214
>www.grandcanyontrust.org
>
>
>
>
>This message contains confidential information and is intended only for the intended recipient(s). If you are not the named recipient you should not read, distribute or copy this e-mail. Please notify the sender immediately via e-mail if you have received this e-mail by mistake; then, delete this e-mail from your system.

From:	Farquhar, Ned
To:	Tubbs, John; Pustay, Katherine; DOI_Politicals
Subject:	RE: Hot Topics tomorrow
Date:	Tuesday, May 11, 2010 5:51:14 PM

I hate to say it, but Onshore Leasing Reform needs to stay on…

From: Tubbs, John
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2010 5:49 PM
To: Pustay, Katherine; DOI_Politicals
Subject: RE: Hot Topics tomorrow

Kat:

Please add – EPA administrative approach to restoring the Clean Water Act – DOI Team id next week.

See attached email for context.

John E. Tubbs
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Water and Science
(202) 208-3186

From: Pustay, Katherine
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2010 10:55 AM
To: DOI_Politicals
Subject: Hot Topics tomorrow

Good morning,

We will convene for **Hot Topics at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow, Wednesday, May 12, in 5160**. Please let Laura Davis and I know if you have any additions or changes to the agenda:

Deepwater Horizon Incident Update (Leak and Response Status/Hearings Next Week)
Request for Extension of Comment Period for Constrictor Snakes Proposed Rule
Big Bend / Rio Bravo International Park
America's Great Outdoors Listening Session: June 1 in MT
AS-IA Testimony on BIE School Safety before SCIA
Potential *Cobell* Hearing—late May
Grand Canyon Uranium Lands Withdrawal—May 13 Brief to the Court
Atlantic Wind MOU Rollout / Permitting Streamlining Proposals / Wind Energy Office Announcement
Solar Rents Guidance / DOI-DOE MOU Signing
California Water
Alaska Subsistence Announcement
Interior Appropriations Energy Report

Thanks,
Kat

Kat Pustay
Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary
Department of the Interior
kat_pustay@ios.doi.gov
Office: 202.208.3744

From:	Farquhar, Ned
To:	Tubbs, John; Pustay, Katherine; DOI_Politicals
Subject:	RE: Hot Topics tomorrow
Date:	Tuesday, May 11, 2010 5:51:14 PM

I hate to say it, but Onshore Leasing Reform needs to stay on…

From: Tubbs, John
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2010 5:49 PM
To: Pustay, Katherine; DOI_Politicals
Subject: RE: Hot Topics tomorrow

Kat:

Please add – EPA administrative approach to restoring the Clean Water Act – DOI Team id next week.

See attached email for context.

John E. Tubbs
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Water and Science
(202) 208-3186

From: Pustay, Katherine
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2010 10:55 AM
To: DOI_Politicals
Subject: Hot Topics tomorrow

Good morning,

We will convene for **Hot Topics at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow, Wednesday, May 12, in 5160**. Please let Laura Davis and I know if you have any additions or changes to the agenda:

Deepwater Horizon Incident Update (Leak and Response Status/Hearings Next Week)
Request for Extension of Comment Period for Constrictor Snakes Proposed Rule
Big Bend / Rio Bravo International Park
America's Great Outdoors Listening Session: June 1 in MT
AS-IA Testimony on BIE School Safety before SCIA
Potential *Cobell* Hearing—late May
Grand Canyon Uranium Lands Withdrawal—May 13 Brief to the Court
Atlantic Wind MOU Rollout / Permitting Streamlining Proposals / Wind Energy Office Announcement
Solar Rents Guidance / DOI-DOE MOU Signing
California Water
Alaska Subsistence Announcement
Interior Appropriations Energy Report

Thanks,
Kat

Kat Pustay
Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary
Department of the Interior
kat_pustay@ios.doi.gov
Office: 202.208.3744

From: Farquhar, Ned
To: Aird, Brenda; Cardinale, Richard
Cc: Whitlock, Jenna; Baca, Sylvia; Davis, Vermell; Lewis, Wilma
Subject: RE: Overdue Correspondence
Date: Thursday, April 22, 2010 2:53:02 PM

I am still holding Schweitzer as it relates to departmental strategy on flathead - have called john tubbs several times (including again today) for his assistance and still no return call

-----Original Message-----
From: Brenda_Aird@blm.gov [mailto:Brenda_Aird@blm.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 22, 2010 2:49 PM
To: Cardinale, Richard
Cc: Whitlock, Jenna; Farquhar, Ned; Baca, Sylvia; Davis, Vermell; Lewis, Wilma
Subject: Re: Overdue Correspondence

i got Gray late yesterday evening and gave to you this morning. otherwise, i have no others. gave schweitzer & pacelle (humane society) to paul 4/09 & 4/05 respectively. if danner, etc, also includes Boren, that went to ned 4/06. don't think i've seen boxer let me know if i've missed anything.

Brenda Aird
202 2084114

"Cardinale, Richard" <Richard_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov> 04/22/2010 02:25 PM

To "Lewis, Wilma" <Wilma_Lewis@ios.doi.gov>, "Farquhar, Ned" <Ned_Farquhar@ios.doi.gov>, "Baca, Sylvia" <Sylvia_Baca@ios.doi.gov>, "Aird, Brenda" <Brenda_Aird@blm.gov>, "Whitlock, Jenna" <Jenna_Whitlock@blm.gov>, "Davis, Vermell" <Vermell_Davis@ios.doi.gov>

cc

Subject Overdue Correspondence

As of yesterday, our bureaus have a total of 33 pieces of overdue correspondence, the second highest in the Department. Of the total, 9 are currently in the SOL's office and I am working with Marigrace to expedite their review. We have a total of 5 that are currently on our hallway. We need to complete our review, preferably before we all leave tonight, and

get these moved through the process. Anything you can do to expedite your review, will be most appreciated. If minor changes need to be made as a result of your respective reviews that prevent you from surnaming the letters in their current form, I will work to ensure that appropriate changes are made. The correspondence on our hallway is as follows:

1. Gray – Withdrawal of lands near Grand Canyon
2. Boxer – Wild Horse and Burro questions
3. Schweitzer – Mineral Leases within Flathead National Forest
4. Pacelle – Requesting immediate moratorium on horse gathers
5. Danner; Gray; Mathers – Potential National Monument designations

I know these are only 5 letters out of a total of 33, but that's nearly a fifth of the total number. Anything you can do to assist will be greatly appreciated.

Rich

From: Farquhar, Ned
To: Lane, Kenneth; Lewis, Wilma; Abbey, Robert V; Bromwich, Michael R
Cc: Davis, Laura
Subject: RE: Pending action items
Date: Friday, September 17, 2010 5:23:21 PM

Thanks Ken.

ASLM has not yet received the oil shale package but will move quickly when it does. There is no signoff required here and we will have our briefing on Friday, Sept 24.

The onshore royalty reform info memo should come from BLM.

I think BOEMRE has been keeping the Secretary up to date on the fair return contract via the weekly report – do we need a separate info memo?

Thanks,

Ned

From: Lane, Kenneth
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2010 12:08 PM
To: Lewis, Wilma; Farquhar, Ned; Abbey, Robert V; Bromwich, Michael
Cc: Davis, Laura
Subject: Pending action items

I'm just checking in on some cats and dogs action items that seem to be imminently pending. I just need an action timeline:

- Information memo to Secretary re UT 77 lease sales—BLM
- Grand Canyon mining lands withdrawal—BLM
- Decisions/action timeline on Arctic OCS matters (Shell exploration plans, environmental assessments, etc)—BOEMRE (Secretary requested a timeline at a recent BOEMRE update meeting—I think that was the meeting, could have been a different one, they're all blending together)
- Contract award for international long-term oil & gas fair return study—BOEMRE
- Review by AS/LM and rollout of 2nd Round of Oil Shale RD&D leases—AS/LM
- Information memo to Secretary re onshore royalty rate reform—AS/LM?

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

From:	Farquhar, Ned
To:	Lane, Kenneth; Abbey, Robert V; Bromwich, Michael R; Haze, Pam K; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Belin, Letty; Davis, Laura; Black, Steve
Cc:	Falsey, William D; Schwartz, Melissa; Baca, Sylvia; Lewis, Wilma
Subject:	RE: Pending action items
Date:	Friday, November 05, 2010 10:14:58 AM

Ken – Adding Wilma and Sylvia to your distrib list – Sylvia covers Grand Canyon and the oversight issue in our office.

Interior Approps energy report - (b) (5)

Onshore royalty rate - Unless you are interested in the nitty-gritty of the onshore royalty rate reform cost-benefit analysis, I think the onshore royalty rate reform item could be de-listed. It's in the reg-grinding process now.

OCS - I think BOEMRE is keeping you up to date on the NTL.

From: Lane, Kenneth
Sent: Friday, November 05, 2010 9:54 AM
To: Abbey, Robert V; Bromwich, Michael R; Haze, Pam K; Farquhar, Ned; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Belin, Letty; Davis, Laura
Cc: Falsey, William D; Schwartz, Melissa
Subject: Pending action items

Hello all, just trying to get an update on the status of these pending action items

-
-
-

Protecting America's Treasured Landscapes & Wildlife **Action Date**

1. ***Grand Canyon Area Lands Withdrawal (Uranium Mining)***
   - Draft EIS being finalized for release November

Action Date

-

Developing Renewable Energy & Oversight of Energy Production **Action Date**

1. ***OCS Development***
   - NTL re CEO certification requirement & containment enforceability mechanism being developed for issuance-- (T) Week of November 2
     to be followed by interim final rule incorporating such-- (T) By end of November

2. ***Interior Appropriations Report***
   - OMB promises to clear report Fri, October 29

3. ***Onshore Royalty Rate Reform***
   - Cost-benefit and economic impact analysis completion

4. ***OSM Reissued and Revised Oversight Directive***
   - OSM to release for public review and comment a revised oversight directive that clarifies procedures for addressing permit defects, among other things. (b) (5) November

Empowering Native Americans, Alaska Natives & Island Communities **Action Date**

1. ***Indian Water Rights***
   - DOI Indian water rights team preparing draft letter of support for White Mtn Apache Tribe water settlement legislation. (b) (5)

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

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To:	Lane, Kenneth; Abbey, Robert V; Bromwich, Michael R; Haze, Pam K; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Belin, Letty; Davis, Laura; Black, Steve
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Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

From:	Farquhar, Ned
To:	Lin, Janet H; Lane, Kenneth
Cc:	Abbey, Robert V; Baca, Sylvia
Subject:	RE: Re:
Date:	Wednesday, December 01, 2010 3:41:37 PM

Looping Sylvia, who manages Grand Canyon uranium. Thanks, NF

-----Original Message-----
From: Janet_Lin@blm.gov [mailto:Janet_Lin@blm.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, December 01, 2010 3:32 PM
To: Lane, Kenneth
Cc: Farquhar, Ned; Abbey, Robert V
Subject: RE: Re:

Bob, Ken, Ned:

Meghan and I spoke earlier this afternoon, and she has provided feedback from Policy Analysis. We have some other pieces being worked on by BLM Arizona and SOL and plan to bring those together and talk on Monday.

Let me know if you need more information.

Thanks.

- Janet

_____
Janet H. Lin
Chief of Staff, Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-3801
(202) 208-5242 (f)

"Lane, Kenneth" <Kenneth_Lane@ios.doi.gov>
12/01/2010 02:41 PM

To
"Abbey, Robert V" <Robert_Abbey@blm.gov>, "Farquhar, Ned" <Ned_Farquhar@ios.doi.gov>
cc
"Lin, Janet H" <Janet_Lin@blm.gov>
Subject
RE: Re:

Thanks.

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

From: Robert_Abbey@blm.gov [mailto:Robert_Abbey@blm.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, December 01, 2010 2:38 PM
To: Lane, Kenneth; Farquhar, Ned
Cc: Lin, Janet H
Subject: Re:

Ken; we are working with PMB per David Hayes on language that we can include in the draft EIS to address comments we received during internal DOI review. Janet Lin in our office is working closely with David's office and PMB as well as our BLM AZ offices to reach closure on existing issues so we can prepare the final draft. If you have further questions, feel free to give her a call in the MIB. Hopefully, we will have resolution soon so we can send the draft to the printers.

Bob

From: "Lane, Kenneth" [Kenneth_Lane@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: 12/01/2010 01:30 PM EST
To: Robert Abbey; "Farquhar, Ned" <Ned_Farquhar@ios.doi.gov>

Any update on draft EIS for Grand Canyon Area Lands Withdrawal? (I wasn't at ASLM meeting this week)

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
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Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
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From:	Farquhar, Ned
To:	Nedd, Michael D
Cc:	Lin, Janet H; Cardinale, Richard; Pool, Michael J; Falsey, William D
Subject:	RE: Timeline request from Secretary
Date:	Friday, January 28, 2011 10:26:46 AM

Haven't seen the update - can I get it right away if it exists? Thanks. NF

-----Original Message-----
From: mnedd@blm.gov [mailto:mnedd@blm.gov]
Sent: Friday, January 14, 2011 7:49 AM
To: Farquhar, Ned
Subject: Re: Timeline request from Secretary

Ned,

I believe the staff is updating the one from last fall to reflect progress to date, I'll check first thing when I get into the office. I was out on travel all week.
------Original Message------
From: Ned Farquhar
To: Mike Nedd
Subject: FW: Timeline request from Secretary
Sent: Jan 13, 2011 4:36 PM

Can you send the current onshore royalty rate timeline? Thanks. NF

From:Hayes, David
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2011 3:18 PM
To: Lane, Kenneth; Abbey, Robert V; Farquhar, Ned; Screnar, Brian
Cc: Davis, Laura
Subject: RE: Timeline request from Secretary

We discussed these in our recent meetings with the A/S and bureau directors.

·Meghan and Bob can give you the timeline on the Grand Canyon EIS.

·I just asked Ned for an intermediate timeline on the onshore royalty rate economic analysis.

·And Bob can give you the timeline for the mineral withdrawal rule.

From:Lane, Kenneth
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2011 11:42 AM
To: Abbey, Robert V; Farquhar, Ned; Hayes, David; Screnar, Brian
Subject: Timeline request from Secretary

Secretary asked me for a timeline regarding

(1)the wind and solar energy zone mineral withdrawal rule

(2) Grand Canyon area lands withdrawal EIS

(3) Whether the onshore royalty rate reform cost-benefit and economic analysis is still on track for January completion

Thanks for whatever info you can provide (and, rather than doing memos, I'd just note the timelines in the weekly action report I prepare for him)

Ken Lane

Senior Advisor

Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff

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---------- Take care and have a wonderful day!

MDN :)
202-208-4201 Office

A thought to consider "Opportunities to be kind are never hard to find"

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From: Farquhar, Ned
To: Nedd, Michael D
Cc: Lin, Janet H; Pool, Michael J; Cardinale, Richard; Falsey, William D
Subject: RE: Timeline request from Secretary
Date: Friday, January 28, 2011 10:48:51 AM

Excellent - thanks to you and your staff! N

-----Original Message-----
From: mnedd@blm.gov [mailto:mnedd@blm.gov]
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2011 10:37 AM
To: Farquhar, Ned
Cc: Janet_Lin@blm.gov; Pool, Mike; Cardinale, Richard; Falsey, William D
Subject: RE: Timeline request from Secretary

Ned,

Here is the BLM's schedule for development of the rule:

Receive benefit-cost and economic impact analysis	January 31, 2011
Draft rule for review and surname	March 31, 2011
OMB - draft review	April 30, 2011
Publish draft rule in Federal Register	May 22, 2011
OMB - final review	September 30, 2011
Publish final rule in Federal Register	October 23, 2011
Rule goes into effect	December 23, 2011

These target dates depend upon the timeliness of the OMB review, which could add up to 6 months to the review process if OMB determines that it is a "significant rule" (i.e., rule having an annual effect on the economy of $100 million or more) under Executive Order No. 12866. An expedited review from OMB is critical to meet this timetable.

I'm checking to see where we are at with the memo...

Take care and have a wonderful day! :)

A thought to consider "Opportunities to be kind are never hard to find"

"Farquhar, Ned" <Ned_Farquhar@ios.doi.gov>
01/28/2011 10:26 AM

To "Nedd, Mike" <mnedd@blm.gov>
cc "Janet_Lin@blm.gov" <Janet_Lin@blm.gov>, "Cardinale, Richard" <Richard_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov>, "Pool, Mike" <mpool@blm.gov>, "Falsey, William D" <WDFalsey@blm.gov>
Subject RE: Timeline request from Secretary

Haven't seen the update - can I get it right away if it exists? Thanks.
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Thanks for whatever info you can provide (and, rather than doing memos, I'd just note the timelines in the weekly action report I prepare for him)

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Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff

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From:	Farquhar, Ned
To:	Lin, Janet H; Nedd, Michael D
Cc:	Cardinale, Richard; Pool, Michael J; Falsey, William D
Subject:	RE: Timeline request from Secretary
Date:	Friday, January 28, 2011 10:38:10 AM

It was the old one from june - I opened it

-----Original Message-----
From: jhlin@blm.gov [mailto:jhlin@blm.gov]
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2011 10:37 AM
To: Farquhar, Ned; Nedd, Mike
Cc: Cardinale, Richard; Pool, Mike; Falsey, William D
Subject: Re: Timeline request from Secretary

Ned - we sent it Jan 21. I'll find the e-mail and resend.

----- Original Message -----
From: "Farquhar, Ned" [Ned_Farquhar@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: 01/28/2011 10:26 AM EST
To: Mike Nedd
Cc: Janet Lin; "Cardinale, Richard" <Richard_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov>; Mike Pool; William Falsey
Subject: RE: Timeline request from Secretary

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From:	Hahn, Martha G.
To:	Lyder, Jane
Subject:	Fw: Draft revised economics effects analysis (Chapter 4) for Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS
Date:	Friday, August 05, 2011 6:04:19 PM
Attachments:	DEIS_S4.16_Revised_BBC.docx Effects_evaluation_summary.xlsx Figure_4.16-1.xlsx

---

Here is Chpt 4 stuff. We have Bruce Peacock looking as well.
Martha Hahn
Chief, Science and Resource Management
Grand Canyon National Park
928-638-7759 (office)
928-606-7809 (mobile)

----- Original Message -----
From: Jan Balsom
Sent: 08/05/2011 02:16 PM MST
To: Bruce Peacock
Cc: Martha Hahn
Subject: Fw: Draft revised economics effects analysis (Chapter 4) for Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS
Bruce - please see below; once again, we really need your expertise. Of course, review and comment as soon as you can.

Thanks,
Jan
(See attached file: DEIS_S4.16_Revised_BBC.docx)(See attached file: Effects_evaluation_summary.xlsx)(See attached file: Figure_4.16-1.xlsx)

****

Janet R. Balsom, Deputy Chief
Science and Resource Management
Grand Canyon National Park
P.O. Box 129
Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023
(928) 638-7758 (office)
(928) 638-7755 (fax)
jan_balsom@nps.gov
----- Forwarded by Jan Balsom/GRCA/NPS on 08/05/2011 02:15 PM -----

Martha Hahn/GRCA/NPS 08/05/2011 02:03 PM	To "Jan Balsom" <Jan_Balsom@nps.gov> cc Subject Fw: Draft revised economics effects analysis (Chapter 4) for Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS	

Would you go in and grab this and send it to Bruce?
Martha Hahn
Chief, Science and Resource Management
Grand Canyon National Park
928-638-7759 (office)
928-606-7809 (mobile)

From: Doug Jeavons [DJeavons@bbcresearch.com]
Sent: 08/05/2011 01:19 PM CST
To: Chris Horyza; Chris Miller; Darla Pindell; Keith Long; Paul McNutt; Scott Florence; Martha Hahn
Cc: "'ccoyle@swca.com'" <ccoyle@swca.com>; 'Cara Bellavia' <cbellavia@swca.com>; Mollie Fitzpatrick <MFitzpatrick@bbcresearch.com>
Subject: Draft revised economics effects analysis (Chapter 4) for Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS

Hi everyone:

The draft, revised economic effects analysis is now ready for your review and comments. (b) (5)

We look forward to your review and comments. (b) (5)

Best regards, and have a great weekend --
Doug

Douglas L. Jeavons
Managing Director
BBC Research & Consulting
3773 Cherry Creek North Drive, Suite 850
Denver, CO 80209
303-321-2547 x223

303-399-0448 (fax)
jeavons@bbcresearch.com

Alternative A: Direct Employment per Industry Estimates of Jobs by Mining Phase

(b) (5)

Summary of Economic Effects Evaluations

Topic	Alternative A
Regional Economic Conditions	
North Study Area Overall	(b) (5)
Primarily Affected Communities	
Tourism Economy	
South Study Area Overall	
Primarily Affected Communities	
Tourism Economy	
Fiscal Conditions	
North Study Area	
Federal Government	
State Governments	
Primarily Affected Communities	
South Study Area	
Federal Government	
State Governments	
Primarily Affected Communities	
Recreation Economics	
Nonconsumptive Recreation Benefits	
Hunting	
Existence Value	
Energy Resources	
U.S. Uranium Production	
U.S. Energy Resources Overall	
Road Condition and Maintenance	

Alternative B	Alternative C

(b) (5)

Alternative D

(b) (5)

1.1 ECONOMIC EFFECTS

(b) (5)

1.1.1 Impact Assessment Methodology and Assumptions

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Economic Impact Modeling

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Figure 4.16-1. Projected Direct Mining Employment Under Alternative A

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Other Economic Effects Analysis

(b) (5)

Table 4 16-1 Magnitude and Degrees of Effects on Economic Conditions

(b) (5)

Duration Definition of Effects on Economic Conditions

(b) (5)

1.1.2 Incomplete or Unavailable Information

Specific Geographic Distribution of Economic Effects

(b) (5)

Future Uranium Price Trends and Price Variability

(b) (5)

1.1.3 Impacts of Alternative A: No Action (No Withdrawal)

(b) (5)

Regional Economic Effects Under Alternative A

NORTH STUDY AREA

(b) (5)

Projected Average Annual Economic Effects

(b) (5)

Table 4.16-3. Overall Average Annual Effects from Uranium Mining in North Study Area (Alternative A)
(b) (5)

Total Job Distribution by Sector
(b) (5)

Table 4.16-4. Distribution of North Study Area Total Employment Effect by Sector (Alternative A)
(b) (5)

Assessment of Economic Effects of Mining in the North Study Area Under Alternative A
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Effects of Alternative Future Prices and Price Variability

(b) (5)

Effects on Regional Tourism Economy

(b) (5)

SOUTH STUDY AREA

(b) (5)

Projected Average Annual Economic Effects

(b) (5)

Table 4.16-5. Overall Average Annual Effects from Uranium Mining in South Study Area (Alternative A)

(b) (5)

Total Job Distribution by Sector

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Distribution of South Study Area Total Employment Effect by Sector (Alternative A)

Assessment of Economic Effects of Mining in the South Study Area Under Alternative A

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Effects of Alternative Future Prices and Price Variability

(b) (5)

Effects on Regional Tourism Economy

(b) (5)

Effects on Taxes and Revenues Under Alternative A

(b) (5)

NORTH STUDY AREA

Federal Revenues

(b) (5)

State Revenues

(b) (5)

Local Government Revenues

(b) (5)

Summary and Assessment of Taxes and Revenues Under Alternative A from North Study Area Activity

(b) (5)

Table 4.16-7. Projected Annual Government Revenues From Alternative A Uranium Production in the North Study Area (in millions of 2010 dollars)

(b) (5)

SOUTH STUDY AREA

Federal Revenues

(b) (5)

State Revenues

(b) (5)

Local Government Revenues

(b) (5)

Summary and Assessment of Taxes and Revenues Under Alternative A from South Study Area Activity

(b) (5)

Table 4.16-8. Projected Annual Government Revenues From Alternative A Uranium Mining in the South Study Area (in millions of 2010 dollars)

(b) (5)

RECREATION ECONOMICS

Nonconsumptive Recreation

(b) (5)

Hunting

(b) (5)

Economic Aspects of Environmental Quality at Grand Canyon National Park

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

ENERGY RESOURCES

(b) (5)

ROAD CONDITION AND MAINTENANCE

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Cumulative Impacts

(b) (5)

1.1.4 Impacts of Alternative B: Proposed Action (~1 Million Acres, 20-Year Withdrawal)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Regional Economic Effects Under Alternative B

(b) (5)

Projected Average Annual Economic Effects

(b) (5)

Table 4 16-9 Overall Average Annual Effects from Uranium Mining in North Study Area (Alternative B)
(b) (5)

Total Job Distribution by Sector
(b) (5)

Table 4.16-10. Distribution of North Study Area Total Employment Effect by Sector (Alternative B)
(b) (5)

Assessment of Economic Effects of Mining in the North Study Area Under Alternative B
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Effects of Alternative Future Prices and Price Variability

(b) (5)

Effects on Regional Tourism Economy

(b) (5)

SOUTH STUDY AREA

(b) (5)

Projected Average Annual Economic Effects

(b) (5)

Table 4.16-11. Overall Average Annual Effects from Uranium Mining in South Study Area (Alternative B)
(b) (5)

Total Job Distribution by Sector
(b) (5)

Table 4.16-12. Distribution of South Study Area Total Employment Effect by Sector (Alternative B)
(b) (5)

Assessment of Economic Effects of Mining in the South Study Area Under Alternative B
(b) (5)

Effects of Alternative Future Prices and Price Variability
(b) (5)

Effects on Regional Tourism Economy
(b) (5)

Effects on Taxes and Revenues Under Alternative B

(b) (5)

NORTH STUDY AREA

Federal Revenues

(b) (5)

State Revenues

(b) (5)

Local Government Revenues

(b) (5)

Summary and Assessment of Taxes and Revenues Under Alternative B from North Study Area Activity

(b) (5)

Table 4.16-13. Projected Annual Government Revenues From Alternative B Uranium Production in the North Study Area (in millions of 2010 dollars)

(b) (5)

SOUTH STUDY AREA

Federal Revenues

(b) (5)

State Revenues

(b) (5)

Local Government Revenues

(b) (5)

Summary and Assessment of Taxes and Revenues Under Alternative B from North Study Area Activity

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table 4.16-14. Projected Annual Government Revenues From Alternative B Uranium Mining in the South Study Area (in millions of 2010 dollars)

(b) (5)

RECREATION ECONOMICS

Nonconsumptive Recreation

(b) (5)

Hunting

(b) (5)

Economic Aspects of Environmental Quality at Grand Canyon National Park

(b) (5)

ENERGY RESOURCES

(b) (5)

ROAD CONDITION AND MAINTENANCE

(b) (5)

m

Cumulative Impacts

(b) (5)

1.1.5 Impacts of Alternative C: Partial Withdrawal (~700,000 Acres)

(b) (5)

Regional Economic Effects Under Alternative C

NORTH STUDY AREA

(b) (5)

Projected Average Annual Economic Effects

(b) (5)

Table 4.16-15. Overall Average Annual Effects from Uranium Mining in North Study Area (Alternative C)
(b) (5)

Table 4.16-16. Distribution of North Study Area Total Employment Effect by Sector (Alternative C)
(b) (5)

Assessment of Economic Effects of Mining in the North Study Area Under Alternative C
(b) (5)

Effects of Alternative Future Prices and Price Variability

(b) (5)

Effects on Regional Tourism Economy

(b) (5)

SOUTH STUDY AREA

(b) (5)

Projected Average Annual Economic Effects

(b) (5)

Table 4.16-17. Overall Average Annual Effects from Uranium Mining in South Study Area (Alternative C)
(b) (5)

Total Job Distribution by Sector
(b) (5)

Table 4.16-18. Distribution of South Study Area Total Employment Effect by Sector (Alternative C)
(b) (5)

Assessment of Economic Effects of Mining in the South Study Area Under Alternative C
(b) (5)

Effects of Alternative Future Prices and Price Variability
(b) (5)

Effects on Regional Tourism Economy
(b) (5)

Effects on Taxes and Revenues Under Alternative C

(b) (5)

NORTH STUDY AREA

Federal Revenues

(b) (5)

State Revenues

(b) (5)

Local Government Revenues

(b) (5)

Summary and Assessment of Taxes and Revenues Under Alternative B from North Study Area Activity

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table 4.16-19. Projected Annual Government Revenues From Alternative C Uranium Production in the North Study Area (in millions of 2010 dollars)
(b) (5)

SOUTH STUDY AREA

Federal Revenues
(b) (5)

State Revenues
(b) (5)

Local Government Revenues
(b) (5)

Summary and Assessment of Taxes and Revenues Under Alternative C from North Study Area Activity

(b) (5)

Table 4.16-20. Projected Annual Government Revenues From Alternative C Uranium Mining in the South Study Area (in millions of 2010 dollars)

(b) (5)

RECREATION ECONOMICS

Nonconsumptive Recreation

(b) (5)

Hunting

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Economic Aspects of Environmental Quality at Grand Canyon National Park

(b) (5)

ENERGY RESOURCES

(b) (5)

ROAD CONDITION AND MAINTENANCE

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Cumulative Impacts

(b) (5)

1.1.6 Impacts of Alternative D: Partial Withdrawal (~300,000 Acres)

(b) (5)

Regional Economic Effects Under Alternative D

NORTH STUDY AREA

(b) (5)

Projected Average Annual Economic Effects

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table 4.16-21. Overall Average Annual Effects from Uranium Mining in North Study Area (Alternative D)
(b) (5)

Total Job Distribution by Sector
(b) (5)

Table 4 16-22 Distribution of North Study Area Total Employment Effect by Sector (Alternative D)
(b) (5)

Assessment of Economic Effects of Mining in the North Study Area Under Alternative D
(b) (5)

Effects of Alternative Future Prices and Price Variability

(b) (5)

Effects on Regional Tourism Economy

(b) (5)

SOUTH STUDY AREA

(b) (5)

Projected Average Annual Economic Effects

(b) (5)

Table 4.16-23. Overall Average Annual Effects from Uranium Mining in South Study Area (Alternative D)
(b) (5)

Total Job Distribution by Sector
(b) (5)

Table 4 16-24 Distribution of South Study Area Total Employment Effect by Sector (Alternative D)
(b) (5)

Assessment of Economic Effects of Mining in the South Study Area Under Alternative D
(b) (5)

Effects of Alternative Future Prices and Price Variability
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Effects on Regional Tourism Economy

(b) (5)

Effects on Taxes and Revenues Under Alternative D

(b) (5)

NORTH STUDY AREA

Federal Revenues

(b) (5)

State Revenues

(b) (5)

Local Government Revenues

(b) (5)

Summary and Assessment of Taxes and Revenues Under Alternative D from North Study Area Activity

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table 4.16-25. Projected Annual Government Revenues From Alternative D Uranium Production in the North Study Area (in millions of 2010 dollars)

(b) (5)

SOUTH STUDY AREA

Federal Revenues

(b) (5)

State Revenues

(b) (5)

Local Government Revenues

(b) (5)

Summary and Assessment of Taxes and Revenues Under Alternative D from North Study Area Activity

(b) (5)

Table 4.16-26. Projected Annual Government Revenues From Alternative D Uranium Mining in the South Study Area (in millions of 2010 dollars)

(b) (5)

RECREATION ECONOMICS

(b) (5)

Nonconsumptive Recreation

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Hunting

(b) (5)

Economic Aspects of Environmental Quality at Grand Canyon National Park

(b) (5)

ENERGY RESOURCES

(b) (5)

ROAD CONDITION AND MAINTENANCE

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Cumulative Impacts

(b) (5)

From: Hahn, Martha G.
To: Lyder, Jane
Subject: Fw: N AZ Proposed Withdrawal Briefings Schedule
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2011 3:58:13 PM
Attachments: NorthernArizona-Grand Canyon.doc (Schedule, 8-11-11).docx

---

Have you seen this?
Martha Hahn
Chief, Science and Resource Management
Grand Canyon National Park
928-638-7759 (office)
928-606-7809 (mobile)

----- Original Message -----
From: Scott R Florence
Sent: 08/11/2011 01:17 PM MDT
To: Mike R Williams/R3/USDAFS@FSNOTES; Martha Hahn; John P Hoffmann/WRD/USGS/DOI@USGS; Brenda Smith/R2/FWS/DOI@FWS
Subject: Fw: N AZ Proposed Withdrawal Briefings Schedule
fyi - will be discussed on the exec call tomorrow

Scott Florence, District Manager
BLM, Arizona Strip District
(435) 688-3301
----- Forwarded by Scott R Florence/ASFO/AZ/BLM/DOI on 08/11/2011 01:15 PM -----

Janet H Lin/WO/BLM/DOI
08/11/2011 01:05 PM

To
Raymond Suazo/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM
cc
Chris Horyza/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, James G Kenna/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, Scott R Florence/ASFO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM
Subject
Re: N AZ Proposed Withdrawal Briefings Schedule(Document link: Scott R Florence)

Great. If August 30 causes you any consternation, let us know. Here is the memo - please let me know of your changes. Thanks.

(See attached file: NorthernArizona-Grand Canyon.doc (Schedule, 8-11-11).docx)

- Janet

Janet H. Lin
Chief of Staff, Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-3801
(202) 208-5242 (f)

Raymond Suazo/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI
08/11/2011 02:58 PM

To
Janet H Lin/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM

cc
James G Kenna/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, Chris Horyza/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM, Scott R Florence/ASFO/AZ/BLM/DOI@BLM

Subject
N AZ Proposed Withdrawal Briefings Schedule

Janet,

August 30th is the best date for the VTC to provide summary of comments received and planned steps to complete the FEIS. As you indicated availability is limited on the 29th for DC participation. The 25th is not possible as that is the end date for the comment period and Chris expects to receive comments late into the day. He would need time to summarize the comments in preparation for the brief.

I looked at Jim's calendar and August 8th seems like the most logical date for the VTC to conduct Agency and Department briefings for approval to release FEIS. Hopefully this helps with the scheduling. We are blocking these dates out and will wait for your confirmation. Also, as soon as we receive the draft memo to agency heads we will quickly review and return to you.

Ray

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

TO: David J. Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
Laura Davis, Chief of Staff
Matt Lee-Ashley, Deputy Chief of Staff
Christopher Mansour, Director, Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
Marcilynn Burke, Acting Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management
Anne Castle, Assistant Secretary, Water and Science
Rachel Jacobson, Acting Assistant Secretary, Fish and Wildlife, and Parks
Larry Eco Hawk, Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs
Jonathan Jarvis, Director, National Park Service
Marcia McNutt, Director, U.S. Geological Survey
Daniel M. Ashe, Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Hilary Tompkins, Solicitor

FROM: Robert V. Abbey, Director, Bureau of Land Management

CC: Doug Crandall, Acting Undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment, U.S. Department of Agriculture
Tom Tidwell, Chief, U.S. Forest Service

SUBJECT: Schedule for Completion of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal

Completion of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Northern Arizona/Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal is a Secretarial priority. In order to maintain the schedule, specific windows of review will be provided during which Executive Oversight Team members may brief their respective Directors and Assistant Secretaries and provide for review. In addition, the Executive Oversight Team will be arranging two Department-wide video briefings.

Review of the preliminary Final EIS must occur over a seven day period from August 18 - 25, 2011. This review will occur concurrently for all agencies at all levels, including the agencies, the Departments, the Solicitor's Office, and the Cooperating Agencies. Interagency representatives on the Executive Oversight Team and the Management Team, as well as members of the Solicitor's office, have been engaged in the drafting process.

The August 18 – 25 review period will be the last and final opportunity for making any changes to the Final EIS before it is released to the public. **We are requesting that each agency or Departmental office contact Chris Horyza (Chris_Horyza@blm.gov) with the name and e-mail of a single coordinating Point of Contact by August 16.** Chris

will grant those individuals access to the Data Share Site that will link to the preliminary Final EIS.

The Executive Oversight Team will conduct a video briefing (#1) on August 30, summarizing the public comments received during the review, and the planned steps to complete the FEIS. The briefing will include any major issues, what we can be done to address them, and description of approaches rejected as unrealistic due to time constraints. An additional video briefing (#2) will be held on prior to the release Final EIS, during which ROD development also will be discussed, on September 8.

To stay on schedule, approval for release of the Final EIS can be no later than September 16th.

SCHEDULE

August 12:	Executive Oversight Team – BLM Arizona State Director Jim Kenna outlines responsibility of each member to brief their respective Directors and Assistant Secretaries on the preliminary Final EIS
August 18 – 25:	Interagency and Departmental Review period for the preliminary Final EIS Executive Oversight Team conduct optional briefings on preliminary Final EIS for their respective Directors and Assistant Secretaries
August 30?:	Video Briefing #1: Executive Oversight Team Provides a Video Briefing to interested parties on preliminary Final EIS and responses to public comments
September 8:	Video Briefing #2: Executive Oversight Team Provides a Video Briefing to interested parties before release of Final EIS and on Record of Decision development
September 8-15:	Executive Oversight Team members conduct optional briefings on release of Final EIS for their respective Directors and Assistant Secretaries
September 16:	Approval for release of Final EIS, Notice of Availability (NOA) for Final EIS sent to the Federal Register
????	Publication of the NOA for the Final EIS

INTERAGENCY EXECUTIVE OVERSIGHT TEAM

- BLM: Jim Kenna/Ray Suazo
- NPS: John Wessels
- FWS: Benjamin Tuggle
- USGS: Michael Shulters
- FS: Corbin Newman

INTERAGENCY MANAGEMENT TEAM

- BLM: Scott Florence
- FS: Mike R. Williams
- NPS: Martha Hahn
- USGS: John Hoffman

From:	Hahn, Martha G.
To:	Lyder, Jane; Frost, Herbert
Subject:	New econ for Uranium
Date:	Wednesday, August 03, 2011 8:10:27 PM
Attachments:	Revised_Economics_for_Chpt_3_BBC.docx Preliminary_economic_impact_tables_072211.pdf

---

Jane & Bert,

I just started reviewing the new stuff for the economic section of the EIS (prepared by the 3rd-party contractor) (b) (5)

Attached is the new version of chapter 3 and the impact tables for the alternatives (b) (5)

I will need to get comments back to them early next week.

Martha

(See attached file: Revised_Economics_for_Chpt_3_BBC.docx)(See attached file: Preliminary_economic_impact_tables_072211.pdf)

****

Martha Hahn
Chief, Science and Resource Management
PO Box 129
Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023
Phone: 928-638-7759
Fax: 928-638-7797

1.1 ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

(b) (5)

REGIONAL ECONOMIC BACKGROUND

North Study Area

(b) (5)

South Study Area

(b) (5)

1.1.1 Existing Conditions

Economic Activity

ECONOMIC OUTPUT AND GROSS REGIONAL PRODUCT

(b) (5)

North Study Area

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-1. North Study Area Output and Value-Added (GRP) by Sector, 2009

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

South Study Area

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-2. South Study Area Output and Value-Added (GRP) by Sector, 2009
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT AND EMPLOYMENT BY SECTOR

(b) (5)

North Study Area

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-3. Utah Counties Employment History

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-4. Utah Employment by Industry

(b) (5)	(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-5. Utah Counties Major Employers

(b) (5)

South Study Area

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-6. Arizona Counties Employment History

			(b) (5)	

	(b) (5)			

Table 3.16-7. Arizona Counties Employment by Industry

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-8. Arizona Counties Major Employers

(b) (5)	

TOTAL EARNINGS AND EARNINGS BY SECTOR

(b)
(5)

North Study Area

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-9. Utah Earnings History

					(b) (5)	

Table 3.16-10. Utah Earnings by Industry

						(b) (5)

(b) (5)

South Study Area

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-11. Arizona Earnings History

			(b) (5)	

Table 3.16-12. Arizona Earnings by Industry

(b) (5)

TOURISM-RELATED ECONOMY

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Figure 3.16-1. National Parks and Monuments in the Study Area

(b) (5)

North Study Area

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-13. North Study Area Tourism Impacts, 2008
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

South Study Area

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-14. South Study Area Tourism Impacts, 2008
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

MINING-RELATED ECONOMY

(b) (5)

North Study Area

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-15. Utah Mining Sector Employment History (number of jobs)
(b) (5)

Table 3.16-16. North Study Area Mining Detail, 2009
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

South Study Area

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-18. South Study Area Mining Detail, 2009
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

PERSONAL INCOME

(b) (5)

North Study Area

(b) (5)

(b) (5) **Table 3 16-19** Utah Median Household Income

(b) (5)

South Study Area

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-20. Arizona Median Household Income
(b) (5)

LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

North Study Area

(b) (5)

Figure 3.16-2. Utah Unemployment Rates, 2000 – 2010

(b) (5)

South Study Area

(b) (5)

Figure 3.16-3. Arizona Unemployment Rates, 2000 – 2010

(b) (5)

Taxes and Revenues

(b) (5)

North Study Area (Utah)

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-21. State of Utah Income Tax and Sales Tax Revenues 2005-2010

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-22. Sales-related Tax Revenues for Utah Communities in the Study Area: 2005-2010.
(b) (5)

South Study Area (Arizona)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-23. State of Arizona Income Tax and Sales-related Tax Revenues, and Mining Severance Tax Collections, 2005-2010.

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-24. Sales-related Tax Revenues for Arizona Communities in the Study Area: 2005-2010.
(b) (5)

Recreation Economics

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

RECREATION BENEFITS IN AND NEAR THE PROPOSED WITHDRAWAL AREAS

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-25. Inventory of Recreation Sites in and Near the North Withdrawal Area

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-25 Inventory of Recreation Sites in and Near the North Withdrawal Area (continued)

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-26. Inventory of Recreation Sites in and Near the South Withdrawal Area

(b) (5)

HUNTING

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-27. Big Game Hunting Use, Success Rate, and Economic Values in GMUs Overlapping the Proposed Withdrawal Areas (Averages 2004–2008)

(b) (5)

EXISTENCE VALUE

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

AIR QUALITY RELATIONSHIP TO RECREATION

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-28. Summary of Values to Visitor to Prevent a Decrease in

(b) (5)

Energy Resources

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

ECONOMICALLY RECOVERABLE RESERVES

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Figure 3.16-4. Known Recoverable Resources 2009 **Figure 3.16-5**. Uranium Production 2010

(b) (5)

DEMAND AND POTENTIAL FUTURE PRODUCTION

(b) (5)

Road Condition and Maintenance

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

1.1.2 Economic Condition Indicators

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-30. Economic Condition Indicators

(b) (5)

Table 3.16-30. Economic Condition Indicators (Continued)

(b) (5)

Economic Activity

(b) (5)

Taxes and Revenues

(b) (5)

Recreation Economics

(b) (5)

Energy Resources

(b) (5)

Road Condition and Maintenance

(b) (5)

Exhibit ?-?.

Alternative A: Projected Average Annual Economic Impact of Uranium Mining -- North Study Area

(b) (5)

Exhibit ?-?.
Alternative A: Projected Total Job Impacts by Sector from Uranium Mining -- North Study Area

(b) (5)

Exhibit ?-?.

Alternative A: Projected Average Annual Economic Impact of Uranium Mining -- South Study Area

(b) (5)

Exhibit ?-?.
Alternative A: Projected Total Job Impacts by Sector from Uranium Mining -- South Study Area

(b) (5)

Exhibit ?-?.

Alternative B: Projected Average Annual Economic Impact of Uranium Mining -- North Study Area

(b) (5)

Exhibit ?-?.

Alternative B: Projected Total Job Impacts by Sector from Uranium Mining -- North Study Area

(b) (5)

Exhibit ?-?.

Alternative B: Projected Average Annual Economic Impact of Uranium Mining -- South Study Area

(b) (5)

Exhibit ?-?.

Alternative B: Projected Total Job Impacts by Sector from Uranium Mining -- South Study Area

(b) (5)

Exhibit ?-?.

Alternative C: Projected Average Annual Economic Impact of Uranium Mining -- North Study Area

(b) (5)

Exhibit ?-?.
Alternative C: Projected Total Job Impacts by Sector from Uranium Mining -- North Study Area

(b) (5)

Exhibit ?-?.

Alternative C: Projected Average Annual Economic Impact of Uranium Mining -- South Study Area

(b) (5)

Exhibit ?-?.

Alternative C: Projected Total Job Impacts by Sector from Uranium Mining -- South Study Area

(b) (5)

Exhibit ?-?.

Alternative D: Projected Average Annual Economic Impact of Uranium Mining -- North Study Area

(b) (5)

Exhibit ?-?.

Alternative D: Projected Total Job Impacts by Sector from Uranium Mining -- North Study Area

(b) (5)

Exhibit ?-?.

Alternative D: Projected Average Annual Economic Impact of Uranium Mining -- South Study Area

(b) (5)

Exhibit ?-?.
Alternative D: Projected Total Job Impacts by Sector from Uranium Mining -- South Study Area

(b) (5)

From:	Hahn, Martha G.
To:	Frost, Herbert
Cc:	Balsom, Janet R.; Lyder, Jane; Wilson, Palma E.
Subject:	Re: Draft AZ Mineral Withdrawal Comm
Date:	Friday, February 11, 2011 3:09:33 PM
Attachments:	nps.NOA-N-AZ-Mineral-Withdrawal-DEIS-briefing-paper-09-11-10.docx nps.02-07-11 NOA AZ Mineral Withdrawal Comm Plan SOL.docx

---

Bert,

Attached are NPS comments on the subject documents.

Martha

(See attached file: nps.NOA-N-AZ-Mineral-Withdrawal-DEIS-briefing-paper-09-11-10.docx)(See attached file: nps.02-07-11 NOA AZ Mineral Withdrawal Comm Plan SOL.docx)

****

Martha Hahn
Chief, Science and Resource Management
PO Box 129
Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023
Phone: 928-638-7759
Fax: 928-638-7797

Federal Register Notice Briefing Paper
Notice of Availability (NOA) to Publish a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for a Proposed Withdrawal in the Vicinity of the Grand Canyon, Arizona

1. State Office

   Arizona State Office (ASO)

2. What is the title of this notice?

   Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal

3. What are the key issues raised by the underlying decision documents for this notice?

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Revised 09_11_10

(b) (5)

4. Who are the primary users affected by or parties interested in the underlying decisions or actions? What are their concerns?

(b) (5)

5. Is tribal consultation appropriate under E.O. 13175?

(b) (5)

6. Will this notice be controversial?

(b) (5)

Revised 09_11_10

(b) (5)

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(b) (5)

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Revised 09_11_10

(b) (5)

7. What will the underlying decision or action change?

(b) (5)

8. Will this notice need Communications Materials, e.g., press release, Communication Plan? If so, enclose these materials with the notice package submitted.

(b) (5)

9. What are the reasons for the timing of the notice and the consequences, if any, of delaying or canceling the release?

(b) (5)

10. How has this been analyzed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

11. Is there any additional pertinent, descriptive information that reviewers need to know or would increase understanding?

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

12. List the names and positions of the people who have prepared, reviewed, and approved the notice and the underlying decisions and documents.

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

COMMUNICATION PLAN

Notice of Availability (NOA) of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a Proposed Withdrawal in Northern Arizona in the Vicinity of the Grand Canyon

1. PURPOSE: (b) (5)

Goals
(b) (5)

2. ISSUE: (b) (5)

(b) (5)

3. KEY AUDIENCES:

(b) (5)

Tribal Governments

(b) (5)

Local Governments

(b) (5)

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Elect(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Advisory Councils
(b) (5)

Interest Groups
(b) (5)

Industry Groups (mining)
(b) (5)

Industry Groups (water)
(b) (5)

State Agencies

(b) (5)

Cooperating Agencies
(b) (5)

Employees
(b)
(5)

4. OUTREACH:

TIMING
(b) (5)

MEDIA / PUBLIC

(b) (5)

CONTACTS

BLM Process
(b) (5)

News Media Inquiries
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

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Status of project, copies of notices, other relevant documents
(b) (5)

Questions and Answers

1. What happens next?
(b) (5)

2. Who are the cooperating agencies on this planning effort? How will they contribute to the EIS?
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

3. How can I get a copy of the Environmental Impact Statement?

(b) (5)

4. Could new mining claims still be filed? Could mining activities still be conducted?

(b) (5)

BLM NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Department of the Interior • Bureau of Land Management • Arizona Strip District Office • 345 East Riverside Drive • St. George, UT 84790

For Immediate Release: (Insert date later), 2011
Contact: Rachel Tueller, Public Affairs Specialist (435) 688-3303

BLM Issues Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Public Review for a Proposed Withdrawal in Northern Arizona near the Grand Canyon

St. George, Utah – (b) (5)

(b) (5)

- BLM -

From:	Hahn, Martha G.
To:	Lyder, Jane
Cc:	Trimble, Barclay C.; Wilson, Palma E.
Subject:	Re: issue
Date:	Thursday, June 23, 2011 7:24:15 PM
Attachments:	ACERT allegations.docx

Attached is a track-change document for your further use.

(See attached file: ACERT allegations.docx)

****

Martha Hahn
Chief, Science and Resource Management
PO Box 129
Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023
Phone: 928-638-7759
Fax: 928-638-7797

"Lyder, Jane" <Jane_Lyder@ios.doi.gov>
06/23/2011 02:46 PM

To
"Hahn, Martha G." <Martha_Hahn@nps.gov>, "Trimble, Barclay C." <Barclay_Trimble@nps.gov>, "Wilson, Palma E." <Palma_Wilson@nps.gov>

cc

Subject
issue

The Deputy Director of BLM sent a memo to the NPS Deputy Director referring to Peggy assertions made by the industry-sponsored group ACERT that (b) (5)

Miss you all,
Jane

Jane Lyder

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks
Department of the Interior
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-4416
[attachment "ACERT allegations.docx" deleted by Martha Hahn/GRCA/NPS]

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

From: Hahn, Martha G.
To: Lyder, Jane
Subject: Re: issue
Date: Thursday, June 23, 2011 7:32:04 PM

I did enjoy the Griles education!
Martha Hahn
Chief, Science and Resource Management
Grand Canyon National Park
928-638-7759 (office)
928-606-7809 (mobile)

----- Original Message -----
From: "Lyder, Jane" [Jane_Lyder@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: 06/23/2011 07:29 PM AST
To: Martha Hahn
Cc: Barclay Trimble; Palma Wilson
Subject: Re: issue

Oops I sent the wrong document. Sorry. That was an old beginning draft/notes. Ignore it and I will resend in the morning. You must have thought I was nuts!!

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 23, 2011, at 7:24 PM, "Martha_Hahn@nps.gov" <Martha_Hahn@nps.gov> wrote:

> Attached is a track-change document for your further use.
>
> (See attached file: ACERT allegations.docx)
>
> **********
> Martha Hahn
> Chief, Science and Resource Management
> PO Box 129
> Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023
> Phone: 928-638-7759
> Fax: 928-638-7797
>
>
>
> "Lyder, Jane"
> <Jane_Lyder@ios.d
> oi.gov> To
> "Hahn, Martha G."
> 06/23/2011 02:46 <Martha_Hahn@nps.gov>, "Trimble,
> PM Barclay C."
> <Barclay_Trimble@nps.gov>, "Wilson,
> Palma E." <Palma_Wilson@nps.gov>
> cc
>
> Subject
> issue
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>
> The Deputy Director of BLM sent a memo to the NPS Deputy Director referring
> to Peggy assertions made by the industry-sponsored group ACERT that (b) (5)

>
> Miss you all,
> Jane
>
> Jane Lyder
> Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks
> Department of the Interior
> Washington, DC 20240
> (202) 208-4416
> [attachment "ACERT allegations.docx" deleted by Martha Hahn/GRCA/NPS]
> <ACERT allegations.docx>

From:	Hahn, Martha G.
To:	Lyder, Jane; Frost, Herbert
Subject:	U Briefings in June
Date:	Thursday, May 19, 2011 1:27:24 PM
Attachments:	Grand Canyon.docx

Jane & Bert,

Hi there! As another one of my fun activities, I wanted to let you know that FWS needs more & better representation in these briefings. Brenda Smith needs to be included on the Management Team, Steve Spangle needs to be on the executive team (rather than Ben Tuggle), and I believe Jean Calhoun (regional office) is their regional person. Looks like the right folks for NPS...

Martha

****
Martha Hahn
Chief, Science and Resource Management
PO Box 129
Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023
Phone: 928-638-7759
Fax: 928-638-7797
----- Forwarded by Martha Hahn/GRCA/NPS on 05/19/2011 10:16 AM -----

Bert Frost/WASO/NPS 05/18/2011 11:25 AM	To "Martha Hahn" <Martha_Hahn@nps.gov>	
	cc	
	Subject Fw: Look okay?	

You seen this? Okay?

Bert

----- Original Message -----
From: Janet H Lin
Sent: 05/18/2011 02:15 PM EDT
To: Jim_Kenna@blm.gov@BLM; Jane Lyder; Bert Frost
Subject: Look okay?

I already sent out a scheduling hold to the COS, but here is the official. I wanted to check with you to make sure you are ok with attendees and description of the content of materials and decisions needed before this goes out to the world. They summarize the call notes as discussed with the

Interagency team.

Please let me know soon. We have NO flexibility on the schedule so the dates are set, I am told.

Thanks.

- Janet

(See attached file: Grand Canyon.docx)

_____

Janet H. Lin
Chief of Staff, Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-3801
(202) 208-5242 (f)

Grand Canyon/Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal

<u>SCHEDULE:</u>

June 6, 2011 - Director-level briefings

Who will schedule: Agencies should schedule separate briefings for each of their Directors

June 6, 2011 – Director's meeting with BLM, NPS, and FS

Who will schedule: Scheduled by Lauren Luckey (BLM) or Claudia Walker (BLM)

Attendees: Director Abbey, Director Jarvis, and Chief Tidwell

June 7, 2011 – Assistant Secretaries Briefing – 1:00-3:00

Who will schedule: Lauren Luckey or Claudia Walker

Attendees:

<u>Regional:</u>

Project Manager/Management Team: BLM: Chris Horyza

Interagency Executive Committee:
BLM: Jim Kenna
NPS: John Wessels, Martha Hahn
FWS: Benjamin Tuggle
USGS: Michael Shulters
FS: Corbin Newman

Management Team:
BLM: Scott Florence
FS: Mike Williams
NPS: Martha Hahn
USGS: John Hoffman

<u>DC</u>
Deputy Secretary/Assistant Secretary Policy, Management, and Budget: Meghan Conklin, Lori Faeth
Assistant Secretary Water and Science: Ann Castle
USGS: Suzanne Weedman, Judy Nowakowski
Assistant Secretary Land and Minerals Management: Wilma Lewis, Sylvia Baca, Rich Cardinale, Jenna Whitlock
BLM: Bob Abbey, Marcilynn Burke, Mike Pool, Mike Nedd, Janet Lin

Assistant Secretary Fish, Wildlife and Parks: Jane Lyder, Ken Lane
NPS: Jon Jarvis, Peggy Odell, Bert Frost, Maureen Foster
FWS: Dan Ashe, Betsy Hildebrandt
ASIA:
BIA:
USDA: Jay Jensen
FS: Tom Tidwell, Tony Ferguson, Tim DeCoster
Solicitor's Office: Karen Hawbecker, Aaron Moody, Ted Boling Jack Haugrud
OCL: Christopher Mansour, Heather Urban,

June 8, 2011 – Briefing for the Deputy Secretary

Who will schedule: Barb Diehl for Meghan Conklin

June 10, 2011 – Departmental selection of a preferred alternative

SCOPE AND PURPOSE:

To receive feedback from the Department by June 10 on the following issues:

- A decision on the approach to be used in the FEIS/ROD given comments received and time requirements
- A preliminary determination on a preferred alternative for use in preparing the FEIS
- A decision on future steps with cooperators

MATERIALS – to be prepared by the Interagency Executive Team:

- Public Comments
    - Public Comment Summary that includes sections that specifically address Tribal and Cooperator input
    - Public Comment Chart summarizing substantive comments that are expected to lead to changes in the FEIS and that display the expected treatment of the comments

- Major Issues and Effects Summary – a short paper relating Public Comments and DEIS content

- Information Summary - a short paper that summarizes knowns and unknowns

From:	Hildebrandt, Betsy
To:	Conklin, Meghan M; Baca, Sylvia; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Lyder, Jane; O"Dell, Peggy
Cc:	Burke, Marcilynn A
Subject:	RE: Info Memo on Grand Canyon
Date:	Thursday, February 03, 2011 1:28:23 PM

Will do

From: Conklin, Meghan M
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:57 PM
To: Baca, Sylvia; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Lyder, Jane; Hildebrandt, Betsy; O'Dell, Peggy
Cc: Burke, Marcilynn A
Subject: RE: Info Memo on Grand Canyon

Thank you.

This looks good to me, thanks. I will share it with David. I am glad that you are sending it to NPS/FWP for their feedback. I am copying a few others since Jane is on the road and she may not have her blackberry close.

I can take care of sending it into scheduling this afternoon. If anyone ends up having edits, please send to me by 3 pm.

Thanks
Meghan

From: Baca, Sylvia
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:46 PM
To: Conklin, Meghan M; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Lyder, Jane
Cc: Burke, Marcilynn A
Subject: Info Memo on Grand Canyon
Importance: High

Hi Meghan

We have finished the Grand Canyon withdrawal Information Memo for the Secretary. I understand that you want us to run it through FWS. I have called Jane and emailed her but have not heard back from her. I am sending to Betsy for review. We need to get this to the Secretary's office ASAP.

Many thanks

Sylvia

Sylvia V. Baca
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
US Department of Interior

From: Hildebrandt, Betsy
To: Lyder, Jane
Subject: RE: Info Memo on Grand Canyon
Date: Thursday, February 03, 2011 1:29:38 PM

Yay for Jane!

From: Lyder, Jane
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 1:11 PM
To: Baca, Sylvia
Cc: Conklin, Meghan M; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Hildebrandt, Betsy; O'Dell, Peggy; Burke, Marcilynn A
Subject: Re: Info Memo on Grand Canyon

I'm going to look at it now while Alan drives. Jane

Sent from my iPad

On Feb 3, 2011, at 11:03 AM, "Baca, Sylvia" <Sylvia_Baca@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

> Thanks Meghan
>
> Sylvia V. Baca
> Deputy Assistant Secretary
> Land & Minerals Management
> US Department of Interior
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Conklin, Meghan M
> **Sent:** Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:57 PM
> **To:** Baca, Sylvia; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Lyder, Jane; Hildebrandt, Betsy; O'Dell, Peggy
> **Cc:** Burke, Marcilynn A
> **Subject:** RE: Info Memo on Grand Canyon
>
> Thank you.
>
> This looks good to me, thanks. I will share it with David. I am glad that you are sending it to NPS/FWP for their feedback. I am copying a few others since Jane is on the road and she may not have her blackberry close.
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>
> Thanks
> Meghan
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Baca, Sylvia
> **Sent:** Thursday, February 03, 2011 12:46 PM
> **To:** Conklin, Meghan M; Hildebrandt, Betsy; Lyder, Jane
> **Cc:** Burke, Marcilynn A
> **Subject:** Info Memo on Grand Canyon
> **Importance:** High
>
> Hi Meghan

We have finished the Grand Canyon withdrawal Information Memo for the Secretary. I understand that you want us to run it through FWS. I have called Jane and emailed her but have not heard back from her. I am sending to Betsy for review. We need to get this to the Secretary's office ASAP.

Many thanks

Sylvia

Sylvia V. Baca
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
US Department of Interior

From:	Hildebrandt, Betsy
To:	Conklin, Meghan M; Davis, Laura
Subject:	RE: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting Wednesday 9 am--please note room change to 6119
Date:	Tuesday, February 15, 2011 1:29:46 PM

Did you and Laura want us to add the incidental take/beaufort sea rule? Or should I just send you the briefing paper?? Let me know. Thanks!

From: Conklin, Meghan M
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 9:44 AM
To: Conklin, Meghan M; Calhoun, Dianne; Archuleta, Deanna; Babauta, Tony; Baca, Sylvia; Barkoff, Kendra; Bean, Michael; Belin, Letty; Black, Steve; Bromwich, Michael; Burke, Marcilynn A; Castle, Anne; Connor, Michael L; Davis, Laura; Diehl, Barbara; Echohawk, Larry; Elton, Kim; Faeth, Lori; Farquhar, Ned; Fearn, Mickey; Finkler, Kira L; French, Michael J; Gould, Rowan; Hayes, David; Haze, Pam K; Henderson, Chris; Ishee, Mary Katherine; Jackson, Andrew; Jacobson, Rachel; Jarvis, Jon; Johnson, Terri; Kelly, Kate P; Klein, Elizabeth A; Koenigsberg, Melissa; Lane, Kenneth; Laverdure, Del; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Levison, Lara; Lewis, Wilma; Lyder, Jane; Mansour, Christopher; Marsters, Lizzie; McNutt, Marcia K; Padilla, Joan; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Rivera, Ray; Screnar, Brian; Shafroth, William; Sobeck, Eileen; Stanton, Robert; Suh, Rhea; Tompkins, Hilary C; Tsosie, Paul; Tubbs, John; Urban, Heather; Lewis, Courtenay; Abbey, Robert V; Schwartz, Melissa; Beaudreau, Tommy; Hildebrandt, Betsy
Subject: Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting Wednesday 9 am--please note room change to 6119

Hello:

The Senior Staff Hot Topics Meeting will take place on Wednesday at 9 am. For this week only, the meeting will be in Room 6119.

Below are the agenda items. Please send me any additions to the agenda no later than 5 pm today.

Thanks!
Meghan

AGENDA:

1. AGO Report
2. Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS
3. Stream Protection Rule
4. Wild Horses
5. ESA Updates
6. Rural Economic Initiative

Meghan Conklin
Associate Deputy Secretary
Department of the Interior
202.208.7229 office
Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov e-mail

From: Janet_Lin@blm.gov
To: Kenna, James G; Horyza, Christopher L
Cc: Rae, Kerry L; Conklin, Meghan M
Subject: Briefing materials for AGO meeting on Thursday
Date: Monday, May 16, 2011 12:46:04 PM

Jim and Chris:

As you know, Anne Castle has her AZ AGO meetings this Thursday. I understand that you are attending, Jim, but we weren't sure if you were planning on attending both the Governor's and stakeholder meetings?

Assistant Secretary Castle would still like a briefing paper from us - she would like to know about the timeline and specifics and the various actions being considered in the EIS. Also, she would appreciate if we could pull the State of AZ comments - might be helpful to pull the Governor's comments and the county comments you have received. As I undertand it, the message on timeline is that we have received over 290,000 comments and are working diligently to analyze those comments and that is it for now. Also, on her pre-call with the AZ Governor's natural resource advisor, she was asked the following:

(b) (5)

I have attached text from a previous briefing below that can provide the basic information for the paper - might need some updating.

Could you work with your USGS counterparts at the Exec or Management levels and provide something to Kerry Rae, Ann's Chief of Staff?

I know you have much going on, so we appreciate your help.

BACKGROUND:

Proposed Withdrawal:

On July 21, 2009, the Secretary initiated a proposed conventional withdrawal of approximately 633,547 acres of land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and approximately 360,002 acres of land managed by the U.S.D.A. Forest Service (FS) from location and entry under the 1872 Mining Law. The proposed conventional withdrawal

initiates a 90-day public comment period and an up to two year segregation during which a decision on the proposed withdrawal may be made. The Department has indicated that it would undertake studies and analyses to inform a decision of whether the land should be withdrawn to protect the area from new mining claims as well as complete the public review process under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The BLM will lead the effort in cooperation with the FS, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), and the National Park Service (NPS), and the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS).

The Grand Canyon is home to an internationally known national park and is also the symbol of the State of Arizona. The area around the Grand Canyon has tremendous natural, cultural and recreational resource values. The BLM's Resource Management Plan for the Arizona Strip completed in 2008 identified three Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) within the segregation area, totaling approximately 36,000 acres. The ACECs were designated to protect the Brady pincushion cactus, southwestern willow flycatcher habitat, Siler pincushion cactus, and riparian, scenic, and cultural resources.

The region also has significant uranium deposits. Exploration activity tends to fluctuate with the price of uranium. Mining claims are developed using dry drilling extraction rather than in situ leaching. Milling would occur off-site.

Status of Interagency Coordination during the Segregation Period:

The agencies must complete studies and analyses and the public review process under NEPA within the two year segregation period that began on July 21, 2009. As such, a very rigorous schedule has been developed that includes the initiation of public scoping under NEPA in August and public meetings at the end of September. The studies and analyses will need to be completed in approximately six months in order to allow for appropriate consideration during the NEPA process.

A Project Manager will lead an interagency interdisciplinary team of specialists from the BLM, FS, USGS, NPS, and FWS. To ensure the interagency interdisciplinary team has the necessary support and guidance during this focused effort, an interagency management structure comprised of a Management Oversight Team and an Executive Oversight Team has been identified.

Among the studies and analyses to be completed in the concurrent six month phase would include a resource analysis, field work as needed, and literature reviews. This work would include legacy mining impact studies, a water chemistry study, spring and seep sampling, wildlife studies, an ethnography study, a noise study, and an uranium resource availability study.

The total costs for the NEPA analysis and studies for FY09, FY10, and FY11 are approximately $4,293,745.20. The FS has indicated a willingness to cover approximately one-third of the NEPA expenses and contribute to studies. The Department of the Interior agencies will cover the remaining costs, with BLM contributing two-thirds of the NEPA expenses. In addition, the NPS has expressed willingness to make a contribution to the NEPA expenses.

Status of Existing Claims and Mining Activity:

The proposed withdrawal and accompanying segregation closes the lands to the location and

entry of new mining claims under the 1872 Mining Law. Approximately 10,600 mining claims are located on BLM-managed lands and approximately 1,050 mining claims are located on FS-managed lands within the proposed withdrawal area. Should the lands be withdrawn, the agencies would be required to conduct valid existing right (VER) determinations on existing claims before any new exploration or mining operations could commence. During the segregation, these VER determinations are discretionary. It is not known how many of the existing claims would eventually be able to proceed with mining activity during the segregation period since the validity of the claims is not known. Since the claimants would be required to demonstrate that they had a valid mining claim, including the discovery of a valuable mineral deposit, at the time of the proposed withdrawal, information gathered from exploration or other means after July 21 would not usually be utilized during a VER determination. If a claimant has a physical exposure of a mineral deposit at the time of the proposed withdrawal, it could use information gathered from exploration or other means after July 21 to show the nature of the deposit, i.e. whether it is of sufficient quality or quantity to be profitable.

The BLM has 33 active notices for exploration (acknowledged), 3 mines on “maintenance” or standby status (plans of operation are approved), 2 pending proposals for exploration, and 1 pending proposal for development of a new mine. BLM also recently acknowledged an administrative reorganization of bonding for some existing notices, which caused a flurry of public interest.

No drilling or associated surface disturbances from uranium exploration on the lands proposed for withdrawal have occurred since the end of 2008. While industry has discontinued on-the-ground exploration activities, some preparations have occurred on the three mines that went into “maintenance” and standby status in the early 1990s due to declining prices and economic considerations.

The Arizona 1 mine is being readied for the mining of ore. BLM approved the Arizona 1 plan of operations on May 9, 1988, and construction of the surface facilities and underground development began that same year, but no ore was produced. The company has indicated that it plans to follow the already approved plan of operations and has provided assurances that no additional disturbance at the site is planned. The Arizona 1 currently is awaiting state approval of an Air Quality Permit; a decision is expected by September 1.

The Pinenut Mine also is being readied for the mining of ore. BLM approved the Pinenut Mine plan of operations on April 26, 1986, and the mine operated in 1988 resulting in 25,807 tons of ore mined. The company has indicated that it plans to follow the already approved plan of operations and has provided assurances that no additional disturbance is planned. Pinenut is awaiting an air quality permit and an aquifer permit from the state.

The Kanab North Mine will be reevaluated for the viability of reopening the mine in the near future. BLM approved the Kanab North plan of operations on October 15, 1984, and the mine operated from 1988 to 1991 resulting in 260,818 tons of ore mined.

With regard to lands managed by the FS, there are approximately 1,050 mining claims on the Tusayan District, a portion of which is covered by the proposed withdrawal. The Tusayan District has four proposals for uranium exploration drilling, encompassing a total of 111 claims. Two proposals are in the early stages of environmental analysis, and two have yet to be started. There are no proposals for mining on FS-managed lands; however, there is one inactive mine (Canyon Mine) which was started, but never went to production due to the

declining prices in the 1990s.

The Kaibab National Forest is currently preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with a settlement agreement entered into in September 2008. The EIS will analyze the impact of uranium exploratory drilling under a plan of operations that involves drilling at 21 sites. This proposal is to perform exploratory drilling and does not propose mining at this time. The FS is undertaking an EIS as a result of settlement of a lawsuit stemming from a previous uranium exploratory drilling proposal. A draft EIS has been issued and public meetings are being held.

History of Mining:

President Teddy Roosevelt withdrew the North Rim Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest from mineral location and entry when he first created the Grand Canyon Preserve in 1906. Tribal lands bordering the park became off limits to uranium development when the Grand Canyon Parashant and Vermilion Cliffs National Monuments were created and the lands were withdrawn from mineral entry.

Uranium ore deposits were discovered and mines were opened in northern Arizona in the 1940s and 1950s. During this same time, the Federal government leased Navajo lands for uranium mining, and eventually four centers of mining and milling operated on Navajo land in New Mexico and Arizona. The Navajo Nation has been left with five mill sites where uranium ore was processed and lands that contain mounds of radioactive uranium tailings, more than 500 abandoned mines, and countless health hazards.

A price spike in uranium in the late 1970s again triggered exploration by companies. In the 1980s, the U.S. Geological Survey began studying the uranium deposits of the area and produced maps. These deposits consist of pipe-shaped breccia bodies generally no more than 300 feet in diameter that can extend 2,000 feet below the surface. Copper production from breccia pipes dates back to the late 1800s.

Exploration activities resulted in six new uranium mines that together produced 1,471,942 tons of uranium during the late 1980s-early1990s. Three of six mines have been reclaimed. The remaining three were put into “maintenance” or standby status in the early 1990s due to declining prices for uranium and economic considerations.

From the period of 1978 – 1992, over 900 exploration holes were completed on the FS-managed Tusayan Ranger District. One underground mine, the Canyon Mine, was proposed and approved on the District in the late 1980s in the same area.

A Categorical Exclusion/Decision Memo under NEPA was completed in December 2007 and the Kaibab National Forest approved the operator’s plan to drill seven of 10 sites using existing roads. Exploration began in March 2008, and one site was completed. A lawsuit was filed against the agency’s use of a Categorical Exclusion, and a Preliminary Injunction was issued. The original agency decision has been withdrawn and a EIS is to be completed on the original proposed sites as well as additional sites proposed.

In 2004, mining-related activities increased on BLM-managed lands tracking another surge in uranium prices. This trend resulted in at least two companies using helicopters to stake claims on the ground. In late 2007, and into 2008, mining-related activities slowed due to a downturn in uranium prices. The price of uranium declined from $135 per pound to below

$42 per pound in June 2007. The price currently is at about $48 per pound.

POSITIONS of INTERESTED PARTIES

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From: Janet_Lin@blm.gov
To: Kenna, James G; Horyza, Christopher L
Cc: Rae, Kerry L; Conklin, Meghan M
Subject: Briefing materials for AGO meeting on Thursday
Date: Monday, May 16, 2011 12:46:01 PM

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Could you work with your USGS counterparts at the Exec or Management levels and provide something to Kerry Rae, Ann's Chief of Staff?

I know you have much going on, so we appreciate your help.

BACKGROUND:

Proposed Withdrawal:

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The Grand Canyon is home to an internationally known national park and is also the symbol of the State of Arizona. The area around the Grand Canyon has tremendous natural, cultural and recreational resource values. The BLM's Resource Management Plan for the Arizona Strip completed in 2008 identified three Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) within the segregation area, totaling approximately 36,000 acres. The ACECs were designated to protect the Brady pincushion cactus, southwestern willow flycatcher habitat, Siler pincushion cactus, and riparian, scenic, and cultural resources.

The region also has significant uranium deposits. Exploration activity tends to fluctuate with the price of uranium. Mining claims are developed using dry drilling extraction rather than in situ leaching. Milling would occur off-site.

Status of Interagency Coordination during the Segregation Period:

The agencies must complete studies and analyses and the public review process under NEPA within the two year segregation period that began on July 21, 2009. As such, a very rigorous schedule has been developed that includes the initiation of public scoping under NEPA in August and public meetings at the end of September. The studies and analyses will need to be completed in approximately six months in order to allow for appropriate consideration during the NEPA process.

A Project Manager will lead an interagency interdisciplinary team of specialists from the BLM, FS, USGS, NPS, and FWS. To ensure the interagency interdisciplinary team has the necessary support and guidance during this focused effort, an interagency management structure comprised of a Management Oversight Team and an Executive Oversight Team has been identified.

Among the studies and analyses to be completed in the concurrent six month phase would include a resource analysis, field work as needed, and literature reviews. This work would include legacy mining impact studies, a water chemistry study, spring and seep sampling, wildlife studies, an ethnography study, a noise study, and an uranium resource availability study.

The total costs for the NEPA analysis and studies for FY09, FY10, and FY11 are approximately $4,293,745.20. The FS has indicated a willingness to cover approximately one-third of the NEPA expenses and contribute to studies. The Department of the Interior agencies will

cover the remaining costs, with BLM contributing two-thirds of the NEPA expenses. In addition, the NPS has expressed willingness to make a contribution to the NEPA expenses.

Status of Existing Claims and Mining Activity:

The proposed withdrawal and accompanying segregation closes the lands to the location and entry of new mining claims under the 1872 Mining Law. Approximately 10,600 mining claims are located on BLM-managed lands and approximately 1,050 mining claims are located on FS-managed lands within the proposed withdrawal area. Should the lands be withdrawn, the agencies would be required to conduct valid existing right (VER) determinations on existing claims before any new exploration or mining operations could commence. During the segregation, these VER determinations are discretionary. It is not known how many of the existing claims would eventually be able to proceed with mining activity during the segregation period since the validity of the claims is not known. Since the claimants would be required to demonstrate that they had a valid mining claim, including the discovery of a valuable mineral deposit, at the time of the proposed withdrawal, information gathered from exploration or other means after July 21 would not usually be utilized during a VER determination. If a claimant has a physical exposure of a mineral deposit at the time of the proposed withdrawal, it could use information gathered from exploration or other means after July 21 to show the nature of the deposit, i.e. whether it is of sufficient quality or quantity to be profitable.

The BLM has 33 active notices for exploration (acknowledged), 3 mines on “maintenance” or standby status (plans of operation are approved), 2 pending proposals for exploration, and 1 pending proposal for development of a new mine. BLM also recently acknowledged an administrative reorganization of bonding for some existing notices, which caused a flurry of public interest.

No drilling or associated surface disturbances from uranium exploration on the lands proposed for withdrawal have occurred since the end of 2008. While industry has discontinued on-the-ground exploration activities, some preparations have occurred on the three mines that went into “maintenance” and standby status in the early 1990s due to declining prices and economic considerations.

The Arizona 1 mine is being readied for the mining of ore. BLM approved the Arizona 1 plan of operations on May 9, 1988, and construction of the surface facilities and underground development began that same year, but no ore was produced. The company has indicated that it plans to follow the already approved plan of operations and has provided assurances that no additional disturbance at the site is planned. The Arizona 1 currently is awaiting state approval of an Air Quality Permit; a decision is expected by September 1.

The Pinenut Mine also is being readied for the mining of ore. BLM approved the Pinenut Mine plan of operations on April 26, 1986, and the mine operated in 1988 resulting in 25,807 tons of ore mined. The company has indicated that it plans to follow the already approved plan of operations and has provided assurances that no additional disturbance is planned. Pinenut is awaiting an air quality permit and an aquifer permit from the state.

The Kanab North Mine will be reevaluated for the viability of reopening the mine in the near future. BLM approved the Kanab North plan of

operations on October 15, 1984, and the mine operated from 1988 to 1991 resulting in 260,818 tons of ore mined.

With regard to lands managed by the FS, there are approximately 1,050 mining claims on the Tusayan District, a portion of which is covered by the proposed withdrawal. The Tusayan District has four proposals for uranium exploration drilling, encompassing a total of 111 claims. Two proposals are in the early stages of environmental analysis, and two have yet to be started. There are no proposals for mining on FS-managed lands; however, there is one inactive mine (Canyon Mine) which was started, but never went to production due to the declining prices in the 1990s.

The Kaibab National Forest is currently preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with a settlement agreement entered into in September 2008. The EIS will analyze the impact of uranium exploratory drilling under a plan of operations that involves drilling at 21 sites. This proposal is to perform exploratory drilling and does not propose mining at this time. The FS is undertaking an EIS as a result of settlement of a lawsuit stemming from a previous uranium exploratory drilling proposal. A draft EIS has been issued and public meetings are being held.

History of Mining:

President Teddy Roosevelt withdrew the North Rim Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest from mineral location and entry when he first created the Grand Canyon Preserve in 1906. Tribal lands bordering the park became off limits to uranium development when the Grand Canyon Parashant and Vermilion Cliffs National Monuments were created and the lands were withdrawn from mineral entry.

Uranium ore deposits were discovered and mines were opened in northern Arizona in the 1940s and 1950s. During this same time, the Federal government leased Navajo lands for uranium mining, and eventually four centers of mining and milling operated on Navajo land in New Mexico and Arizona. The Navajo Nation has been left with five mill sites where uranium ore was processed and lands that contain mounds of radioactive uranium tailings, more than 500 abandoned mines, and countless health hazards.

A price spike in uranium in the late 1970s again triggered exploration by companies. In the 1980s, the U.S. Geological Survey began studying the uranium deposits of the area and produced maps. These deposits consist of pipe-shaped breccia bodies generally no more than 300 feet in diameter that can extend 2,000 feet below the surface. Copper production from breccia pipes dates back to the late 1800s.

Exploration activities resulted in six new uranium mines that together produced 1,471,942 tons of uranium during the late 1980s-early1990s. Three of six mines have been reclaimed. The remaining three were put into “maintenance” or standby status in the early 1990s due to declining prices for uranium and economic considerations.

From the period of 1978 – 1992, over 900 exploration holes were completed on the FS- managed Tusayan Ranger District. One underground mine, the Canyon Mine, was proposed and approved on the District in the late 1980s in the same area.

A Categorical Exclusion/Decision Memo under NEPA was completed in

December 2007 and the Kaibab National Forest approved the operator's plan to drill seven of 10 sites using existing roads. Exploration began in March 2008, and one site was completed. A lawsuit was filed against the agency's use of a Categorical Exclusion, and a Preliminary Injunction was issued. The original agency decision has been withdrawn and a EIS is to be completed on the original proposed sites as well as additional sites proposed.

In 2004, mining-related activities increased on BLM-managed lands tracking another surge in uranium prices. This trend resulted in at least two companies using helicopters to stake claims on the ground. In late 2007, and into 2008, mining-related activities slowed due to a downturn in uranium prices. The price of uranium declined from $135 per pound to below $42 per pound in June 2007. The price currently is at about $48 per pound.

POSITIONS of INTERESTED PARTIES

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To:	Kenna, James G; Horyza, Christopher L
Cc:	Rae, Kerry L; Conklin, Meghan M
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Industry: The National Mining Association and several mining companies are likely to lead opposition to a withdrawal.

Media: Three of Arizona's largest newspapers, The Arizona Republic, Arizona Daily Star, and now defunct Tucson Citizen, support the withdrawal and encourage Congress to overhaul the Mining Law of 1872. Most recently, the Arizona Republic published an editorial on July 22, 2009, lauding Secretary Salazar's segregation decision.

LEGAL STATUS:

The temporary segregation is, and any withdrawal that is made would be, subject to valid existing rights. The temporary segregation has essentially the same protective effect as a withdrawal except that under a segregation, initiating a valid existing rights exam at certain points in the process is discretionary, whereas under a withdrawal, the BLM is required to conduct a validity exam at certain points in the process. About 10,600 mining claims are located on BLM-managed lands and approximately 1,050 mining claims are located on FS-managed lands within the proposed withdrawal area, but the number of those claims that are valid are unknown. Validity examinations are a complex and costly process and are generally not undertaken until the BLM is approached by a claimant with a notice for exploration or a plan of operations in an area that has been withdrawn. The key for demonstrating validity is showing the discovery of a valuable mineral deposit.

Grand Canyon Withdrawal Case (CBD et al. v. Salazar et al., D. Ariz):

· On September 29, 2008, the Center for Biological Diversity, Grand Canyon Trust, and Sierra Club filed suit in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona against the Secretary, DOI, and BLM claiming that defendants violated the Administrative Procedure Act and Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) by refusing to make an emergency withdrawal of the lands encompassed in the current proposed withdrawal from mineral location and entry as directed by a June 25, 2008 letter from the Chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources and by allegedly failing to respond to plaintiffs' "petition" of that same date to make the withdrawal. The letter from the Chairman sought to invoke a rarely-used provision of Section 204(e) of FLPMA (43 U.S.C. 1714(e)) that allows one of two Congressional Committees to notify the Secretary that an emergency exists and direct him to make an emergency withdrawal.
· Plaintiffs also claim that defendants violated the National Environmental Policy Act, the 1872 Mining Law, and FLPMA by authorizing certain uranium exploration activities on the subject lands.
· Mining interests have intervened in the case as defendants.
· With the July 21, 2009 publication of the Federal Register Notice segregating those lands from the operation of the 1872 Mining Law, plaintiffs and federal defendants have begun discussions regarding an

amicable resolution of the case. On July 27, 2009, the Court refused a joint request to stay the case to allow the parties time to resolve it, but did give substantial time for briefing of the issues referenced below to allow time for such discussions. The Judge also expressed his preliminary belief that the July 21, 2009 publication mooted some, but not all, of the case.

· Current deadlines: Defendants' briefs on Subject Matter Jurisdiction/Failure to State a Claim are due October 16, 2009, Plaintiffs' responses are due November 13, 2009; Defendants' reply brief is due December 4, 20090. (Note- this briefing schedule is intended to flush out any remaining issues as to plaintiffs' entitlement to discovery, which is an ongoing dispute in the case).

Contact: Deputy Assistant Secretary Ned Farquhar (202) 253 0174

Attachments: 1) Proposed Withdrawal/Segregation Boundary Federal Register Map;
2) Mining Claims Within the Proposed Withdrawal Boundaries in H.R. 644

- Janet

_____

Janet H. Lin
Chief of Staff, Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
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Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-3801
(202) 208-5242 (f)

From: Janet_Lin@blm.gov
To: Kenna, James G; Horyza, Christopher L
Cc: Rae, Kerry L; Conklin, Meghan M
Subject: Briefing materials for AGO meeting on Thursday
Date: Monday, May 16, 2011 12:46:04 PM

Jim and Chris:

As you know, Anne Castle has her AZ AGO meetings this Thursday. I understand that you are attending, Jim, but we weren't sure if you were planning on attending both the Governor's and stakeholder meetings?

Assistant Secretary Castle would still like a briefing paper from us - she would like to know about the timeline and specifics and the various actions being considered in the EIS. Also, she would appreciate if we could pull the State of AZ comments - might be helpful to pull the Governor's comments and the county comments you have received. As I undertand it, the message on timeline is that we have received over 290,000 comments and are working diligently to analyze those comments and that is it for now. Also, on her pre-call with the AZ Governor's natural resource advisor, she was asked the following:

(b) (5)

I have attached text from a previous briefing below that can provide the basic information for the paper - might need some updating.

Could you work with your USGS counterparts at the Exec or Management levels and provide something to Kerry Rae, Ann's Chief of Staff?

I know you have much going on, so we appreciate your help.

BACKGROUND:

Proposed Withdrawal:

On July 21, 2009, the Secretary initiated a proposed conventional withdrawal of approximately 633,547 acres of land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and approximately 360,002 acres of land managed by the U.S.D.A. Forest Service (FS) from location and entry under the 1872 Mining Law. The proposed conventional withdrawal

initiates a 90-day public comment period and an up to two year segregation during which a decision on the proposed withdrawal may be made. The Department has indicated that it would undertake studies and analyses to inform a decision of whether the land should be withdrawn to protect the area from new mining claims as well as complete the public review process under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The BLM will lead the effort in cooperation with the FS, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), and the National Park Service (NPS), and the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS).

The Grand Canyon is home to an internationally known national park and is also the symbol of the State of Arizona. The area around the Grand Canyon has tremendous natural, cultural and recreational resource values. The BLM's Resource Management Plan for the Arizona Strip completed in 2008 identified three Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) within the segregation area, totaling approximately 36,000 acres. The ACECs were designated to protect the Brady pincushion cactus, southwestern willow flycatcher habitat, Siler pincushion cactus, and riparian, scenic, and cultural resources.

The region also has significant uranium deposits. Exploration activity tends to fluctuate with the price of uranium. Mining claims are developed using dry drilling extraction rather than in situ leaching. Milling would occur off-site.

Status of Interagency Coordination during the Segregation Period:

The agencies must complete studies and analyses and the public review process under NEPA within the two year segregation period that began on July 21, 2009. As such, a very rigorous schedule has been developed that includes the initiation of public scoping under NEPA in August and public meetings at the end of September. The studies and analyses will need to be completed in approximately six months in order to allow for appropriate consideration during the NEPA process.

A Project Manager will lead an interagency interdisciplinary team of specialists from the BLM, FS, USGS, NPS, and FWS. To ensure the interagency interdisciplinary team has the necessary support and guidance during this focused effort, an interagency management structure comprised of a Management Oversight Team and an Executive Oversight Team has been identified.

Among the studies and analyses to be completed in the concurrent six month phase would include a resource analysis, field work as needed, and literature reviews. This work would include legacy mining impact studies, a water chemistry study, spring and seep sampling, wildlife studies, an ethnography study, a noise study, and an uranium resource availability study.

The total costs for the NEPA analysis and studies for FY09, FY10, and FY11 are approximately $4,293,745.20. The FS has indicated a willingness to cover approximately one-third of the NEPA expenses and contribute to studies. The Department of the Interior agencies will cover the remaining costs, with BLM contributing two-thirds of the NEPA expenses. In addition, the NPS has expressed willingness to make a contribution to the NEPA expenses.

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The proposed withdrawal and accompanying segregation closes the lands to the location and

entry of new mining claims under the 1872 Mining Law. Approximately 10,600 mining claims are located on BLM-managed lands and approximately 1,050 mining claims are located on FS-managed lands within the proposed withdrawal area. Should the lands be withdrawn, the agencies would be required to conduct valid existing right (VER) determinations on existing claims before any new exploration or mining operations could commence. During the segregation, these VER determinations are discretionary. It is not known how many of the existing claims would eventually be able to proceed with mining activity during the segregation period since the validity of the claims is not known. Since the claimants would be required to demonstrate that they had a valid mining claim, including the discovery of a valuable mineral deposit, at the time of the proposed withdrawal, information gathered from exploration or other means after July 21 would not usually be utilized during a VER determination. If a claimant has a physical exposure of a mineral deposit at the time of the proposed withdrawal, it could use information gathered from exploration or other means after July 21 to show the nature of the deposit, i.e. whether it is of sufficient quality or quantity to be profitable.

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- Plaintiffs also claim that defendants violated the National Environmental Policy Act, the 1872 Mining Law, and FLPMA by authorizing certain uranium exploration activities on the subject lands.
- Mining interests have intervened in the case as defendants.
- With the July 21, 2009 publication of the Federal Register Notice segregating those lands from the operation of the 1872 Mining Law, plaintiffs and federal defendants have begun discussions regarding an amicable resolution of the case. On July 27, 2009, the Court refused a joint request to stay the case to allow the parties time to resolve it, but did give substantial time for briefing of the issues referenced below to allow time for such discussions. The Judge also expressed his preliminary belief that the July 21, 2009 publication mooted some, but not all, of the case.
- Current deadlines: Defendants' briefs on Subject Matter Jurisdiction/Failure to State a Claim are due October 16, 2009, Plaintiffs' responses are due November 13, 2009; Defendants' reply brief is due December 4, 20090. (Note- this briefing schedule is intended to flush out any remaining issues as to plaintiffs' entitlement to discovery, which is an ongoing dispute in the case).

Contact: Deputy Assistant Secretary Ned Farquhar (202) 253 0174

Attachments: 1) Proposed Withdrawal/Segregation Boundary Federal Register Map;
2) Mining Claims Within the Proposed Withdrawal Boundaries in H.R. 644

- Janet

_____

Janet H. Lin
Chief of Staff, Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-3801
(202) 208-5242 (f)

From:	Jarvis, Jon
To:	Koenigsberg, Melissa
Subject:	hot topics lists
Date:	Monday, November 21, 2011 10:02:39 AM
Attachments:	Hot Topics List 11.21.11.docx

Melissa: here is my revised comprehensive list of NPS topics that gnaw on my legs like those Everglades gators. Please share with Rachel but not beyond your hallway. thanks

Jon

(See attached file: Hot Topics List 11.21.11.docx)
****
Jonathan B. Jarvis, Director
National Park Service
"Working with extraordinary people
to make America's best idea even better!"

Hot Topics List for NPS: November 2011

Four Priorities: As Director I established four priorities and am working on a variety of initiatives to achieve these goals:

- Workforce: To make the NPS one of the best places to work
- Stewardship: To make decisions using the best available sound science, accurate fidelity to the law and in the long term public interest
- Education: To use our national parks and programs to contribute to public education
- Relevancy: To make the national parks and programs relevant to all Americans

A Call to Action: I established a team in WASO to develop a five year action plan, titled A Call to Action (www nps.gov/calltoaction) released on August 25, 2011. It does not require legislation or new funding for the 36 action items. We are hiring a position to work on the actions, events and specific goals to be in place or completed by August 25, 2016, the 100th Birthday of the NPS.

AGO: The 50 State report is now released and of the 101 projects, NPS has the lead for 57, mostly RTCA. Alma Ripps is the coordinator and there are some 50 "leaders" from NPS. Work plans are due in 60 days..

National Park Foundation: The NPF strategic plan is now aligned with the Call to Action. NPF is on track to complete the funding of the Flight 93 Memorial with the assistance of President Clinton and Bush. The Secretary has insisted that the board become more diverse and several candidates are in the process of approval. NPF is still considering the sponsorship of a 24 hr/7 day a week cable channel. Relationship with the NPS is very good. A new Latino Heritage Fund has been established to focus on fund raising for our Hispanic parks and stories

National Park System Advisory board: Board is chaired by former Alaska Governor Tony Knowles. I have tasked them with assisting in implementing the recommendations of the report. We created the following committees

- Education: George Lucas Foundation CEO, Milton Chen is working with a 28 member subcommittee on a wide range of education initiatives in partnership with the Department of Education.
- Science: Former NSF Director, Rita Colwell and with the assistance of Dr. Tom Lovejoy is revisiting the Leopold report, due August 25, 2012.
- Community Engagement: UC Berkeley Professor Carolyn Finney is planning a series of community engagement meetings across the country
- NPS Plan: Conservation leader Gretchen Long has completed the framework for a new NPS Plan.
- Communications: Communications expert Leonore Blitz hosted a series of meetings with major marketing firms in New York for a campaign for NPS and 2016.
- National Historic Landmarks: Nevada SHPO Ron James is focusing on specific sites related to the Hispanic contributions to the country as derived from an assembled group of Hispanic scholars. Four sites will be considered at the December meeting.
- Funding Systems: Harvard economist Linda Bilmes is working on a major economics paper on the economic benefits of parks.
- National Natural Landmarks: Conservancy leader Belinda Faustinos is working on a new list of potential NNLs.

Legislative Initiatives: Conversations with the hill indicate a potential lands bill in this congress (probably 2012) and we are working to include the key new areas and authorities we have been seeking for several years.

New Park Designations: Over 40 studies of new areas are in progress. Significant ones that are in play and have congressional, local and media interest are:

- North Maine Woods (Recon survey requested by KLS)
- Cesar Chavez (Study released)
- Waco Mammoth (In Congress)
- Chesapeake Bay (Being studied)

- Valles Caldera (In Congress)
- Harriet Tubman (In Congress)
- First State (In Congress)
- Coltsville (Study released)
- Blackstone River Valley (In Congress and perhaps on the Appropriations Bill for 1012)

Budget: (b) (5)

Leadership: The NPS has five critical vacancies at the top which we hope to fill within the next three months. These positions will define our "external" relationships: they include the Chief for RTCA, the Chief of the State-side of LWCF, the Chief of Partnerships, the Associate Director for Business Services, and the Chief of Concessions.

Specific NPS Hot Topics: Top Priority (alphabetical):

- Anacostia River: Clean up of CERCLA responsibility with the District in negotiation. Launched River as Urban Waters to coordinate clean-up and access.
- ATMP: Long Standing challenges of completion of air tour management plans due to disagreement with FAA on authority to make impact determinations. We have a resolution for the Grand Canyon and are working on a potential Cat Ex for the smaller parks and a possible agreement similar to the Federal Highways Agreement on the others with a test case at Mt. Rushmore. Meeting with FAA pending
- Big Bend/Del Carmen: Proposal to designate an international park along the Rio Grande with Mexico and re-open the crossing at Boquilles. Project planning under way and ground is broken. Due to election year, legislation is unlikely.
- Big Cypress: Recently signed ROD litigated by environmental community due to concerns over too much OHV use.
- Bison at Yellowstone: Migration out of the park will be the winter issue. Montana Governnor wants to relocate excess bison on the USFWS Bison Range but they are already at capacity. Other viable in state options are the Indian Reservations of Fort Peck and Fort Belknap. Indian Affairs is working with us.
- CAHA Beach Driving: Controversial decision and ROD over limitations on use of OHVs on the beaches at Cape Hatteras. Regulations are in formulation. CEQ monitoring. Final due early December.
- Civil War 150: Hundreds of events over five years. NPS is out front on the issue of slavery as cause.
- Climate Change Strategy: NPS has completed its mitigation, adaptation, science and communication strategy for dealing with climate change in the parks.
- Colorado River AOP/high water: continue to work with Bureau of Reclamation to recognize NPS responsibilities for all the parks along the Colorado River. Good progress because of Ann Castle and Jane Lyder.
- Cumberland Island: Ending of term estate houses, especially the Grange, which has politics and the involvement of Department. Park completing EA on the future of the houses.
- DC Storm water: The District of Columbia has passed legislation to charge federal agencies for the run-off of water from their hardened areas. The bill to the NPS is expected to exceed $10 million per year.
- DEWA Power line: Major Roseland/Susquehanna power line crossing Delaware Water Gap to be expanded. Alternative routes being analyzed in DEIS. We negotiated a potential settlement with the utilities for around $60 million in mitigation. KLS was directly involved. Pressure on the timeline to get the EIS completed. Controversial.
- Eagle Mountain Landfill: Lands removed from Joshua Tree NP for mine, now proposed for largest garbage landfill in the US. Litigation ruled against BLM. BLM/NPS prepared a decision memo for the secretary on pros and cons of dismantling the agreement. Need final decision which direction to proceed.
- Elwha Dam removal: Removal underway. Will take two years. Possible litigation over wild steelhead.
- Endowment: Senate Energy and NR committee has taken an interest and held hearing. Basic proposal is to give the NPS the interest from our non-appropriated fee accounts to form endowment corpus.

- Everglades Restoration: Focus funding on the next extension of the Tamiami trail, EPA, de-compartmentalization, water quality and quantity. Agreement with the State of Florida and the EPA is at the center of the next action related to water quality.
- Grand Canyon Withdrawal: BLM to finalize withdrawal from uranium mining for full 1+ million acres.
- GRBA and SNWA pipeline: BLM proposal to develop pipeline from Great Basin NP has potential to impair park resources on the Snake Valley side. We support the Spring Valley (west) side with stipulated agreement but adamantly oppose the Snake valley development.
- Great Sand Dunes Embezzlement: Employee theft of federal dollars under investigation. Arrested employee, Superintendent removed. Trial not yet scheduled
- Green Parks Plan: The plan for "greening" all park operations is ready for release. Water Bottle ban proposed for Grand Canyon has been controversial.
- GRTE Land Exchange: Agreement signed with State of Wyoming to purchase inholdings in Grand Teton NP for $100 million paid out over ten years. Five million in 2012 budget.
- GRTE Triangle X Ranch: Former DOI employees and long time ranchers seek legal decision on their ability to operate commercial dude ranch without competition.
- Health Parks/Healthy People: NPS Public Health staff is leading the national effort to link public health and the outdoors. Planning International Conference in 2014. HP/HP plan just released.
- Healthy Parks/Healthy People: NPS released its HP/HP plan with great deal of support. Interest strong in the public health community for partnerships.
- Historic Preservation Fund: Need some advocacy in the Department as the Historic Preservation community is feeling unsupported. Need decision by Department on position of HP Officer.
- Kaweah and Sequoia King Canyon: Negotiation of the payments to the NPS for the continued operation of the small hydro authorized by congress settled with latest letter to SEKI.
- Latino Initiative: Actions by NPS to recognize the contributions of Latinos to American history and experience. Involved NPF and NPSAB. Four new NHL nominations due in December.
- Major Concession Contracts: Complete the remaining 24 (of 80+) concessions contracts (none are easy).
- Mall impact events: We successfully moved the solar decathlon to West Potomac Park but still have events every year that are proposed that will leave long term impact. We will deny those but receive a great deal of pressure to approve. KLS is seeking the closure of Madison and Jefferson Drives for the major events.
- Mall restoration: Implement the restoration projects: Reflecting Pool, grass panels, earthquake damage to the Washington Monument. Working with the Trust for the National Mall.
- Marcellus Shale: Gas containing deposits underlie eastern national park units and there are concerns about ground water contamination from fracking.
- MLK Donor Wall: MLK Foundation installed donor wall in violation of the Commemorative Works Act. Will need to be removed. Also the MLK quote may need to be changed on the monument itself
- Navajo Generating Station: Dirtiest plant in the west, with impacts to GRCA and other Class 1 areas. NPS wants BACT to improve, push back from Reclamation and Tribe.
- New York Harbor: Joint projects underway with the City of New York, especially with Floyd Bennett Field. Agreement signed between NPS/DOI and the city.
- NPS/NPCA/NPHA Summit: Scheduled for January 24-25, to flesh out the partners in C2A. Planning meeting November 2.
- Occupy DC: Protesters at McPherson Square and Freedom Plaza in long term occupancy and protest. USPP and the NCR staff monitoring. KLS wants to be engaged in any decision to escalate enforcement. Camping is a violation and there have been issues of other petty offenses.
- One up one down, Presidio ROD: Presidio Trust just signed the ROD for the Presidio Plan, allowing banking of square footage, which the DOI solicitors say is not legal. Independent court challenge is expected.
- Over flights impacts: Site specific noise impacts from adjacent airports at Taos Pueblo NHL and Minute Man NHP. Secretary authorized a restart of the Interagency Task Force at the request of Congresswoman Tsongas
- Point Reyes Duck Cover Permits: Termination of cabin permits in Seashore. Expect pushback from Feinstein.

- Point Reyes Oysters: DEIS released with ongoing challenges to the science. Major issue for Senator Feinstein.
- Predator Control in AK: State of Alaska has established a policy of abundance that allows take of wolves and bears that is inconsistent with our policies in the Preserves. We shut it down by NPS regs.
- Smithsonian Collections: Custodial v. ownership issues of items collected from NPS areas. Negotiations underway.
- Solar PEIS and other Renewables: Over 100 projects on BLM lands may affect NPS parks. Working with BLM for early identification of issues.
- St. Croix River bridge: NPS made decision that impacts to Wild and scenic river from a proposed highway bridge could not be mitigated, legislation is pending that will allow the bridge to go forward with mitigation.
- State side LWCF revisions: Create criteria for competitive allocation of State-side LWCF in consultation with the States, with involvement of NRPA
- Tribal Collecting of Plants: NPS will release regulation to allow the collection of traditional plants in parks. Expect to be litigated by PEER.
- Turkey pt power line: complete land transfer for the Turkey Point power plant along the edge of the Everglades: controversy as it appears NPS is allowing the development of larger nuclear plant. EVER also working in land exchange EIS for Florida Power and Light power-line, controversial with the Environmental organizations.
- Virgin Island Land Exchange: Strong interest in the Government of VI to give Virgin Island National Park lands on St. John to build a high school. We are working to get an exchange for the Columbus Landing site on St. Croix.
- YELL Winter use: Release of DEIS and preferred alternative for winter use/snowmobiles. Due to concerns over the science, will do ROD for only one year and finish final regulation for 2012-2013 season.

Medium Priority

- America's Cup Race in the Bay area: The California Bay area will host the America's cup trials and finals in 2012 and 2013. Bayside seating will be on NPS lands.
- Cambodia Debt for nature: Secretary Clinton announced that a debt for nature deal could be made with Cambodia to provide a green belt between them and Thailand. NPS is assisting Cambodia in park management at Samlout Preserve on the Thai border.
- Cooperative Agreements overhaul: Revise and simplify the cooperative agreement approval process as well as their application to non-profits (not contracts).
- DOT Reauthorization: Monitor pending legislation to prevent the FAA from weakening the NPS ability to manage impacts from over flights.
- GRTE Airport : Perennial issue of expansion of the Jackson Hole airport and impacts to Grand Teton NP
- Hazel Green YOSE: Long standing issue of private landowner on boundary that wants access thru park. Lots of past litigation, all in favor of NPS.
- International Strategy: An artifact of the decline of the NPS international program results in the USFS providing tours of national parks for park professionals from around the world as a part of USAID. This needs to come back to the NPS.
- Military pass: Current policy review to determine a way to offer free passes to the National Parks for all active duty and/or a Purple Heart Pass, a lifetime pass for all wounded warriors who have received a purple heart.
- Pers. Water Craft Rules: Judge ruled against PWCs at Gulf Islands, requiring revision to NPS regs.
- Security at Statue of Liberty: We are moving the security screening from Manhattan and Liberty Island (NJ) to Ellis Island for better control and experience. NYPD was cranky about the decision.

From:	Kelly, Kate P
To:	Lin, Janet H; Leff, Craig S; Krauss, Jeff; Boddington, Celia
Subject:	FW: update on Arizona - close hold - draft materials
Date:	Thursday, June 16, 2011 3:50:32 PM
Attachments:	06-20-11 Salazar_remarks_Grand_Canyon.doc 06-20-11 Grand Canyon fact sheet.docx 06-20-11 Grand Canyon release.docx 06-20-11 GCNP Internal Qs and As.docx 06-20-11 GCNP rollout schedule.docx

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So – this is announcement is kind of a monster!

As you'll see, (b) (5)

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Would it be possible to ask you all to consolidate BLM's comments on the documents and then send edits in one package?

Let me know if you have questions/how I can be helpful.

From: Kelly, Kate P
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2011 3:47 PM
To: Hayes, David; Screnar, Brian; McNutt, Marcia K; Jarvis, Jon; Lyder, Jane; Tompkins, Hilary C; Boling, Ted; Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor; Abbey, Robert V; Conklin, Meghan M; Padilla, Joan; Kelly, Kate P; Davis, Laura; Urban, Heather; Mansour, Christopher; Lin, Janet H; Hamidi, Nahal; Sarabia, Jenny E; Foster, Maureen; Adams, Gail A; Carrillo, Francisco; Finegan, Jordan; Leff, Craig S; Celia_Boddington@blm.gov; Krauss, Jeff; Boling, Ted; Moody, Aaron
Cc: Montoya, Jordan; Lee-Ashley, Matt
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Attached please find DRAFT materials for Monday's announcement. **Please review and send me edits on these documents by 10am tomorrow.**

Please note that the press office is planning to send out a very general **media advisory at 4pm EDT on Friday** that will no doubt trigger calls to you or your agencies. Please continue to keep the details of the announcement close hold and follow the attached rollout schedule.

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1) Press release (which will include the Secretary's remarks)
2) Secretary's remarks
3) Fact Sheet
4) Internal Q & A's
5) Rollout plan

Abbey, Jarvis, and McNutt will also deliver brief remarks at the event, but their comments will be circulated as an fyi later.

Please connect with Jordan or me if you have any questions – and thank you in advance for

your close review of these materials.

Thanks,

Kate

From: "Lee-Ashley, Matt" [Matt_Lee-Ashley@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: 06/15/2011 08:25 PM AST
To: "McNutt, Marcia K" <mcnutt@usgs.gov>; "Jarvis, Jon" <Jon_Jarvis@nps.gov>; "Hayes, David" <David_Hayes@ios.doi.gov>; "Lyder, Jane" <Jane_Lyder@ios.doi.gov>; "Tompkins, Hilary C" <Hilary.Tompkins@sol.doi.gov>; "Boling, Ted" <Ted.Boling@sol.doi.gov>; "Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor" <Rachel.Jacobson@sol.doi.gov>; Robert Abbey; "Conklin, Meghan M" <Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Padilla, Joan" <Joan_Padilla@ios.doi.gov>; "Kelly, Kate P" <Kate_Kelly@ios.doi.gov>; "Davis, Laura" <Laura_Davis@ios.doi.gov>; "Urban, Heather" <Heather_Urban@ios.doi.gov>; Janet Lin; "Montoya, Jordan" <Jordan_Montoya@ios.doi.gov>; Jenny Sarabia; "Foster, Maureen" <Maureen_Foster@nps.gov>; Gail Adams; "Carrillo, Francisco" <Francisco_Carrillo@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Re: Arizona update - close hold

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A quick update on this: we are a go for the event in Arizona on Monday. We made a lot of progress today in developing a good gameplan.

Here is a quick rundown. Look for more information, including a detailed roll-out plan, communications materials, etc, tomorrow.

1. We are carefully controlling all outreach and communications on this, so unless you have clear direction to reach out to someone outside the group, please hold off on doing so.

2. Kate and Jordan, in coordination with OCL, OIA, and chiefs of staff from the bureaus, are developing a detailed schedule for notifying everyone from our own employees in the region to cooperating agencies, Members, and Governors. Please look for that document when it comes and follow it.

3. We will be doing a press conference at the South Rim on Monday morning. The Secretary, Bob, Jon, and Marcia will be speaking. The scheduling and advance office is working on logistics, details, transportation, etc. Marcia, Bob, and Jon, please have your staff work with Joan's team to help synch your travel schedules.

Look for more updates tomorrow, including draft comms materials (probably from Kate and Jordan.) There will be a lot of moving pieces on this, so thank you in advance for your help and patience.

-Matt

From: Lee-Ashley, Matt
To: McNutt, Marcia K; Jarvis, Jon; Hayes, David; Lyder, Jane; Tompkins, Hilary C; Boling, Ted; Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor; Abbey, Robert V; Conklin, Meghan M
Cc: Padilla, Joan; Kelly, Kate P; Davis, Laura
Sent: Tue Jun 14 17:39:23 2011
Subject: Arizona update - close hold

As a follow up to today's conversation, we are beginning planning for a trip for the Secretary,

Director Abbey, Director Jarvis, and Director McNutt to Arizona next Monday, June 20. Scheduling and Advance has started to look at travel options.

We are convening a small group of staff tomorrow morning to work up through the details, event plan, notification schedule, and communications materials. We will get back to this group with a game plan by the end of the day tomorrow.

Bob, Jon, and Marcia: For your planning purposes, please begin to hold next Monday for travel.

This potential trip is a close hold for now and is not to be shared or discussed outside of this group or the small group that will be helping to plan it.

Thanks,
Matt

Matt Lee-Ashley
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
202-208-6415

DRAFT

INTERNAL - Not for Public Distribution

1. **When will you make a final decision as to the withdrawal of the lands involved?**

(b) (5)

2. **Why did you decide to start this process when Secretary Kempthorne had already decided it wasn't necessary?**

(b) (5)

3. **What do you say in response to BLM and Forest Service professionals we have heard on the ground who don't think there is justification for a withdrawal?**

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

4. **What is your response to critics who point to job loss if these lands are withdrawn and mining is stopped?**

(b) (5)

5. **We have heard politicians say that Arizonans stand to lose $30 billion in economic activity if lands are withdrawn? What's your response to that?**

(b) (5)

DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT

Proposed Mineral Withdrawal Announcement

Roll-out Schedule – Monday, June 20, 2011

ALL TIMES ARE EASTERN

Date	Item/Action	Lead Responsibility	Audience	Delivery Method
Thur., June 16	Outreach to Forest Service	Bob Abbey	USFS – Tom Tidwell	call
	Outreach to USDA	David Hayes	Harris Sherman	call
Fri., June 17	4pm – Send Media Advisory	OCO	Local, National Press	email
	4pm – Forward media advisory to stakeholders; extend invite to Monday conf. calls	OCL/IGA	Tribal, Cooperating Agencies, Congress	email
Mon., June 20	11am – Bureaus outreach to their employees	NPS, BLM, USGS	Employees working on project	Call
	11:30 am–calls to Congressional (*2 hrs prior)	KLS, David Hayes, OCL	KLS: McCain Hayes: Grijalva, Bishop, Kyl OCL: remainging	Call
	12pm– conference call with tribal (1.5 hrs prior)	Jon Jarvis/ Bob Abbey?	Hualapai Tribe; Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians	Call
	12 pm – conference call with cooperating agencies (1.5 hrs prior)	Jon Jarvis/ Bob Abbey?	USFS; NPS; FWS; USGS; AZ Game and Fish Department; AZ Geological Survey; AZ Department of Mines and Mineral Resources; AZ State Land Department; Hualapai Tribe; Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians; Coconino County, AZ; Mohave County, AZ; Kane County, UT; San Juan County, UT; and Washington County, UT.	Call
	12:30 pm – embargoed press release sent to Hill, Governor, Tribal Leaders, stakeholders	OCL/IGA	Hill, Governor, Tribal Leaders, stakeholders	email
	1:15pm – Press Event with Salazar, Abbey, Jarvis, McNutt	OCO	National, Local media	Call
	1:15pm – Press release sent to reporters	OCO	National, Local media	email

FACT SHEET
PROPOSED MINERAL WITHDRAWAL NEAR GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK

What was announced today?

(b) (5)

What are the next steps?

(b) (5)

Why is an extension of the withdrawal necessary?

(b) (5)

What is the preferred alternative?

(b) (5)

Has there been public input?

(b) (5)

Who are the cooperating agencies?

(b) (5)

June 20, 2011

(b) (5)

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What lands are affected by today's announcement?

(b) (5)

What is an emergency withdrawal?

(b) (5)

How many mining claims are there?

(b) (5)

awal.

Where can I go to find out more information?

(b) (5)

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
U.S. Department of the Interior

www.doi.gov
News Release

June 20, 2011
Contact: Kate Kelly (202) 208-6416
Celia Boddington (202) 208-6913

Secretary Salazar's Remarks from Mather Point at the Rim of the Grand Canyon

MATHER POINT, GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK – (b) (5)

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DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT
Remarks as Prepared for Delivery
Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar
South Rim of the Grand Canyon, Arizona
June 20, 2011

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

DRAFT

From:	Kelly, Kate P
To:	Boddington, Celia
Subject:	FW: Uranium Info
Date:	Friday, June 17, 2011 3:35:30 PM

I think we're good, Celia. See below.

From: Lyder, Jane
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2011 3:33 PM
To: Kelly, Kate P
Subject: Fw: Uranium Info

Jane Lyder
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks
Department of the Interior

From: jane lyder (b) (6)
To: Lyder, Jane
Sent: Fri Jun 17 15:30:55 2011
Subject: Uranium Info

Facts:
(b) (5)

From DEIS page 3-37:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

From:	Kelly, Kate P
To:	Kelly, Kate P; Hayes, David; Screnar, Brian; McNutt, Marcia K.; Jarvis, Jon; Lyder, Jane; Tompkins, Hilary C; Boling, Ted; Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor; Abbey, Robert V; Conklin, Meghan M; Padilla, Joan; Davis, Laura; Urban, Heather; Mansour, Christopher; Lin, Janet H; Hamidi, Nahal; Sarabia, Jenny E; Foster, Maureen; Adams, Gail A; Carrillo, Francisco; Finegan, Jordan; Leff, Craig S; Boddington, Celia; Krauss, Jeff; Boling, Ted; Moody, Aaron
Cc:	Montoya, Jordan; Lee-Ashley, Matt
Subject:	RE: update on Arizona - close hold - draft materials
Date:	Friday, June 17, 2011 7:55:10 AM
Attachments:	06-20-11 Grand Canyon release.docx 06-20-11 GCNP Internal Qs and As.docx 06-20-11 Grand Canyon fact sheet.docx 06-20-11 GCNP rollout schedule.docx 06-20-11 Salazar_remarks_Grand_Canyon.doc

---

2 hour warning that I'm looking for edits to the documents by 10am today. Thanks again.

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Look for more updates tomorrow, including draft comms materials (probably from Kate and Jordan.) There will be a lot of moving pieces on this, so thank you in advance for your help and patience.

-Matt

From: Lee-Ashley, Matt
To: McNutt, Marcia K; Jarvis, Jon; Hayes, David; Lyder, Jane; Tompkins, Hilary C; Boling, Ted; Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor; Abbey, Robert V; Conklin, Meghan M
Cc: Padilla, Joan; Kelly, Kate P; Davis, Laura
Sent: Tue Jun 14 17:39:23 2011
Subject: Arizona update - close hold

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Matt Lee-Ashley
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
202-208-6415

DRAFT

INTERNAL - Not for Public Distribution

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DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT

Proposed Mineral Withdrawal Announcement

Roll-out Schedule – Monday, June 20, 2011

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	Outreach to USDA	David Hayes	Harris Sherman	call
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	4pm – Forward media advisory to stakeholders; extend invite to Monday conf. calls	OCL/IGA	Tribal, Cooperating Agencies, Congress	email
Mon., June 20	11am – Bureaus outreach to their employees	NPS, BLM, USGS	Employees working on project	Call
	11:30 am–calls to Congressional (*2 hrs prior)	David Hayes, OCL	Hayes: Grijalva, Bishop, Kyl OCL: remaining	Call
	12pm– conference call with tribal (1.5 hrs prior)	Jane Lyder	Hualapai Tribe; Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians Navajo, Hopi, Zuni & Havasupai	Call
	12 pm – conference call with cooperating agencies (1.5 hrs prior)	Jon Jarvis/ Bob Abbey?	USFS; NPS; FWS; USGS; AZ Game and Fish Department; AZ Geological Survey; AZ Department of Mines and Mineral Resources; AZ State Land Department; Hualapai Tribe; Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians; Coconino County, AZ; Mohave County, AZ; Kane County, UT; San Juan County, UT; and Washington County, UT.	Call
	12:30 pm – embargoed press release sent to Hill, Governor, Tribal Leaders, stakeholders	OCL/IGA	Hill, Governor, Tribal Leaders, stakeholders	email
	1:15pm – Press Event with Salazar, Abbey, Jarvis, McNutt	OCO	National, Local media	Call
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FACT SHEET
PROPOSED MINERAL WITHDRAWAL NEAR GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK

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June 20, 2011

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
U.S. Department of the Interior

www.doi.gov
News Release

June 20, 2011
Contact: Kate Kelly (202) 208-6416
Celia Boddington (202) 208-6913

Secretary Salazar's Remarks from Mather Point at the Rim of the Grand Canyon

MATHER POINT, GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK – (b) (5)

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DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT
Remarks as Prepared for Delivery
Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar
South Rim of the Grand Canyon, Arizona
June 20, 2011

(b) (5)

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DRAFT

From:	Kelly, Kate P
To:	Hayes, David; Screnar, Brian; McNutt, Marcia K.; Jarvis, Jon; Lyder, Jane; Tompkins, Hilary C; Boling, Ted; Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor; Abbey, Robert V; Conklin, Meghan M; Padilla, Joan; Kelly, Kate P; Davis, Laura; Urban, Heather; Mansour, Christopher; Lin, Janet H; Hamidi, Nahal; Sarabia, Jenny E; Foster, Maureen; Adams, Gail A; Carrillo, Francisco; Finegan, Jordan; Leff, Craig S; Boddington, Celia; Krauss, Jeff; Boling, Ted; Moody, Aaron
Cc:	Montoya, Jordan; Lee-Ashley, Matt
Subject:	update on Arizona - close hold - draft materials
Date:	Thursday, June 16, 2011 3:46:57 PM
Attachments:	06-20-11 Salazar_remarks_Grand_Canyon.doc 06-20-11 Grand Canyon fact sheet.docx 06-20-11 Grand Canyon release.docx 06-20-11 GCNP Internal Qs and As.docx 06-20-11 GCNP rollout schedule.docx

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Hello team. It's time for your help!

Attached please find DRAFT materials for Monday's announcement. **Please review and send me edits on these documents by 10am tomorrow.**

Please note that the press office is planning to send out a very general **media advisory at 4pm EDT on Friday** that will no doubt trigger calls to you or your agencies. Please continue to keep the details of the announcement close hold and follow the attached rollout schedule.

A rundown of the documents for your review:

1) Press release (which will include the Secretary's remarks)
2) Secretary's remarks
3) Fact Sheet
4) Internal Q & A's
5) Rollout plan

Abbey, Jarvis, and McNutt will also deliver brief remarks at the event, but their comments will be circulated as an fyi later.

Please connect with Jordan or me if you have any questions – and thank you in advance for your close review of these materials.

Thanks,

Kate

From: "Lee-Ashley, Matt" [Matt_Lee-Ashley@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: 06/15/2011 08:25 PM AST
To: "McNutt, Marcia K" <mcnutt@usgs.gov>; "Jarvis, Jon" <Jon_Jarvis@nps.gov>; "Hayes, David" <David_Hayes@ios.doi.gov>; "Lyder, Jane" <Jane_Lyder@ios.doi.gov>; "Tompkins, Hilary C" <Hilary.Tompkins@sol.doi.gov>; "Boling, Ted" <Ted.Boling@sol.doi.gov>; "Jacobson, Rachel - Deputy Solicitor" <Rachel.Jacobson@sol.doi.gov>; Robert Abbey; "Conklin, Meghan M" <Meghan_Conklin@ios.doi.gov>
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(b) (5)

DRAFT

From:	Kemkar, Neal
To:	Neal Kemkar (CEQ) (nkemkar@ceq.eop.gov)
Subject:	FW: bureau reports 6.10.11
Date:	Friday, June 10, 2011 4:51:42 PM
Attachments:	Weekly Report 6.10.11.docx Reports awaiting management response as of June 10 2011.xlsx

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From: Sisk, Jennifer R
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2011 4:51:38 PM
To: DOI_Politicals
Subject: bureau reports 6.10.11
Auto forwarded by a Rule

Have a wonderful weekend!

Jennie

Jennifer Sisk
Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff |U.S. Department of the Interior
202-208-5403|Jennifer_Sisk@ios.doi.gov

OIG - Reports Awaiting Management Response

June 10, 2011

Reports	Report Title	Bureau/ Office	Status	Response Due Date	Contact	Comments	PFM Action/Remarks
Draft HI-EV-NPS-0001-2010	National Park Service: Climate Friendly Parks Initiative	NPS	Late	5/31/2011	Vera Washington (202)354-1960		Response in surname process
Final K-CX-BOEM-0001-2011	Final Costs Incurred by Accenture,LLP under Contract No. M99PC14572, with BOEMRE	BOEMRE	Extension	6/15/2011	Andrea Nygren		OIG granted extension till June 15th
Final K-CX-BOR-0003-2010	Martin Brothers Construc ion, Inc. Request for Equitable Adjustment under Contract No. R10PC20747, Modification No. 2, with he Bureau of Reclamation	BOR	BOR	6/22/2011			
Draft R-GR-FWS-0003-2011	Arizona Department of Game and Fish	FWS	Due	6/13/2011			
Draft R-GR-FWS-0005-2011	South Carolina Dept of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries and Division of Marine Resources	FWS	Due	6/16/2011			

Early Alert - Coming up
Due - Due within 10 business days or less of the response due date
Late - After the response due date
Extension - Reports that have been granted a response due date extension
Completed - Response sent to OIG

SOL Weekly Bureau Report for the Week Beginning June 13, 2011

Deepwater Horizon Matters:

Ensco Litigation

(b) (5)

BOP Examination

(b) (5)

Multi-District Litigation (MDL)

(b) (5)

Other Matters:

Gran Canyon Trust litigation (D. Ariz.)

(b) (5)

Polar Bear ESA 4(d) Rule Litigation (D.D.C.)

(b) (5)

Alaska subsistence – Peratrovich Litigation (D. Alaska)

(b) (5)

The Estate of James D. Redd litigation (D. Utah)

(b) (5)

Grand Canyon Withdrawal

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Western Oregon Timber

(b) (5)

PI or TRO Expected on the Ivanpah Solar Project in CA in WWP v. Salazar

(b) (5)

Grand Canyon Trust v. U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
THREE WEEK OUT REPORT
June 10, 2011

WEEK AHEAD

Blair Mountain Battlefield (WV) – Lawsuit Concerning Removal from the National Register of Historic Places. Blair Mountain Battlefield was removed from the National Register (NR) in December 2009, by the Keeper of the NR due to notification from the WV State Historic Preservation Officer that more than 50 percent of property owners had objected to the listing. Prior to the property's listing in March 2009, the SHPO had notified NPS that fewer than 50 percent of owners had objected. In response to the delisting of Blair Mountain, a complaint was filed against the DOI/NPS by the Sierra Club, Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition, Friends of Blair Mountain, and West Virginia Labor History Association. The complaint was later amended to include the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the West Virginia Highlands Conservancy as plaintiffs. On April 15, the United Mine Workers of America filed an amicus brief supporting the plaintiffs. On May 23, the Department of Justice (DOJ) filed a brief opposing the plaintiff's "Motion for Summary Judgment;" DOJ's brief also proposed a "Cross Motion for Summary Judgment" requesting that the case be dismissed. Plaintiff's response to that brief is due on June 20; DOJ's rejoinder to plaintiff's response is due July 1.

Point Reyes National Seashore (CA) – Draft Marine Mammal Commission Report. Tim Ragen, Executive Director of the Marine Mammal Commission, is meeting with relevant stakeholders (environmental groups, Drakes Bay Oyster Company, park staff) in Point Reyes to discuss the draft MMC report on harbor seal disturbance. The report is expected to be finalized by the end of June.

Upper Delaware Wild and Scenic River (NY) – Marcellus Shale Lawsuit. On May 31 New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman announced that he is suing several federal agencies, including the NPS, in an attempt to force a full study of the potential environmental impacts of natural gas drilling and hydraulic fracturing in the Delaware River basin. The attorney general's office contends the government is obligated under the National Environmental Policy Act to undertake such a study because several federal agencies are part of the Delaware River Basin Commission.

Parks in California (CA) – Renewable Energy MOU. On June 3, NPS Pacific West Region and BLM's California State Office signed a Memorandum of Understanding that outlines roles, responsibilities, and procedures for collaborating on evaluation of renewable-energy project proposals on BLM-managed lands. The MOU implements recent BLM policies on early screening of project proposals for resource conflicts and early interagency collaboration. BLM California has agreed to hold regular interagency meetings so that the NPS can identify projects with potential to impact resources and values of National Park System units. The NPS is currently working towards a similar MOU with the BLM's Nevada State Office.

ON THE HORIZON

Mojave National Preserve (CA) – Public Scoping for Water Resources Management Plan/EIS. Public scoping is now underway for development of a water resources management plan/EIS for the park to guide management of springs, seeps, water diversions, and artificial water sources to maintain wildlife and groundwater at safe yields. Four public scoping meetings are scheduled in California and Nevada, June 27-30. The comment period for scoping closes July 11, 2011.

New River Gorge National River (WV) – BSA Volunteer Contributions. In July, the park will host 2,000 volunteers, representing the Order of the Arrow (OA), the National Honor Society of the Boy Scouts of America. Each volunteer will spend 32 hours doing volunteer trail building in the national park, working on building up to 44 miles of stacked-loop hike-and-bike trails, and rehabilitating up to 46 miles of illegal ATV trails. The OA estimates that this month-long event will result in 80,000 hours of volunteer time, more than doubling the volunteer hours in the park in FY 2010.

Week Ahead Report
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
June 6, 2011

Final Revision to the 2008 Northern Spotted Owl Recovery Plan
In June, the FWS will release the final revision to the 2008 recovery plan for the threatened northern spotted owl in order to meet a court-ordered deadline of *July1, 2011*. The main recommendations in the final revised plan relate to conserving spotted owl sites and high value habitat both inside and outside reserved areas established by the Northwest Forest Plan, actively managing forests to restore ecosystem dynamics and promote overall forest health, and managing the barred owl, which displaces and competes with the spotted owl. Level of controversy: High.

FWS Announcement of Mexican Spotted Owl Revised Recovery Plan
FWS anticipates making an announcement in the Federal Register around June 20, of the availability of the draft recovery plan and a 60 day comment period for the Mexican Spotted Owl, a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. Status information and experience in implementing the original recovery plan led to the determination that a revision was warranted. Threats to the owls' have transitioned from commercial-based timber harvest at the time of listing, to the risk of stand-replacing wildfire. This owl occurs in the states of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, and Utah, south through the Sierra Madre Occidental and Sierra Madre Oriental in Mexico. Due to the controversial history of the listing of this species and critical habitat we anticipate high media, elected official, industry, and conservation organization interest.

Flood Update: Flood concerns continue in parts of North and South Dakota, eastern Montana, and Utah. Region 6 resources have been assigned in Minot, ND along with FWS Liaisons in the Emergency Operations Centers in Bismarck, ND and Pierre, SD.

- *Souris River – Minot North Dakota*: Lake Darling (Upper Souris NWR) is scheduled to increase releases today (up to 5800 cfs) to make room for one foot of water storage by Tuesday, when the next precipitation is expected. Service, Army Corps of Engineers, and local emergency managers are in still in very close coordination and are exploring the effects of higher releases. Region 6 has supplied two airboats with crews (plus one backup) to assist SAR operations in Minot. Communities downstream of Minot and the J. Clark Salyer NWR will be severely impacted for some time.
- *Missouri River – Pierre, South Dakota*: Releases from the Oahe dam are still at record levels (100,000 cfs today increasing to 150,000 by Tuesday). Many low lying areas of Pierre and Ft. Pierre have flooded and local evacuation orders have been issued, but FWS facilities are not threatened. FWS placed a liaison in the emergency operations center in Pierre to coordinate with local/state/FEMA, but no other resources have been requested. High releases are expected to continue until the end of June or beginning of July.
- *Devils Lake, North Dakota*: The lake continues its slow rise to new record levels. The Wetland Management District reports road and fence damage at the Sullys Hill Refuge and is planning to raise levees at the Lake Alice NWR to prevent damage to the headquarters building.

- *Montana:* Flooding is affecting smaller streams and local areas. No FWS resources have been requested. No FWS facilities are known to be threatened. Major snowmelt is expected to cause flooding concerns statewide for the next few weeks.
- *Utah*: Ouray NWR reports damage to roads, levees and water control structures and have future concerns about utilities.

Manhunt at Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge Ends with Arrest
On Sunday, May 29th a suspect fled from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service officers during a boat inspection on the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge near Marion, IL. It was soon learned that the suspect was wanted by multiple states for multiple charges which included assaulting a police officer. The suspect was also considered Armed and Dangerous and was classified as a Noncompliant Sexual Offender in California. A week-long manhunt ensued and came to an end with his arrest on Saturday, June 4th. Multiple agencies were involved with this effort to include the U.S. Marshals Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, IL DNR, IL State Police, and a number of local and county law enforcement agencies. It was a highly proactive team effort which ultimately led to his capture. The effort and time applied to this manhunt was very significant. These efforts included phone tracking, vehicle tracking, aerial surveillance/reconnaissance, a SWAT team residential raid, and plenty of out-of-the-box thinking. We want to recognize the U.S. Marshals Service (Benton, IL) who immediately answered our call for assistance and allowed us to join them at the hip to track this fugitive down.

FWS Held Public Hearing on Wolf in Augusta, Maine
FWS held an information meeting and public hearing on its recent proposal concerning the federally listed gray wolf on *June 8, 2011*, at the Augusta Civic Center in Augusta, Maine. The agency seeks information on the Western Great Lakes gray wolf population and will discuss the initiation of the status review on the eastern wolf species. The questions at the meeting were related to taxonomy, federal protection, implications of delisting in the Northeast and reintroduction. The Portland Press Herald ran a story on *June 5* suggesting that the meeting will be controversial. http://www.pressherald.com/news/battle-in-augusta-to-focus-on-protection-of-wolves_2011-06-05.html

Gopher tortoise 12-month Finding for the Eastern Portion of its Range
On January 25, 2006, FWS received a petition to list the eastern portion of the gopher tortoise's range in Louisiana, Georgia, Florida and Mississippi as a threatened species and designate critical habitat. The species is already listed as threatened in the western portion of its range. The12-month finding concludes that listing the gopher tortoise as threatened in the eastern portion of its range is warranted, but precluded. FWS will add the gopher tortoise in the eastern portion of its range to the candidate species list, and will develop a proposed rule to list the gopher tortoise in the eastern portion of its range as priorities allow. Even though FWS is currently unable to take action to list the gopher tortoise in the eastern portion of its range, this does not affect the status of the gopher tortoise in the western portion of its range, where it remains listed as threatened.

Oahu Ecosystem Proposed Listing and Critical Habitat Designation

The FWS is proposing to list 23 species endemic to the Island of Oahu as endangered, and to concurrently designate 43,491 acres as critical habitat. The FWS is also proposing to: (1) revise critical habitat designation for 99 Oahu plant species, and (2) to designate critical habitat for 2 plant species for which critical habitat was determined at the time of listing to be not prudent and not determinable. Approximately 93 percent of the area proposed as critical habitat is currently designated as critical habitat for these and other ESA listed species. *Potential Issues:* Identified threats include inadequate State regulatory mechanisms. Interested parties may be concerned that critical habitat designation could impose restrictions on development. The Navy may be concerned with the designation of critical habitat on their lands, which are in the process of being conveyed to public or private entities for development. Target date for submitting to the *Federal Register* is June 20, 2011.

Reinitiating Consultation on Corps' Operations in Apalachicola Chattahoochee Flint (ACF) Basin (Tri-State Water Wars)

The Corps recently requested reinitiating consultation on the operation of dams with large reservoirs in the ACF River Basin due to new information about endangered mussel mortality that was not considered in the most recent Biological Opinion. This consultation and the new information are likely to be controversial given the contentious and litigious nature of the Tri-State Water Wars. The original 2008 Biological Opinion on this action was challenged and upheld in court. The State of Florida appealed this ruling, but the appeal is currently in abeyance due to possible implications from the reinitiated consultation.

Final Rule to Establish a Nonessential Experimental Population of Bull Trout

Bull trout have been absent from the Clackamas River subbasin in Oregon for nearly four decades. The best available data indicates that reintroduction into the Clackamas River is biologically feasible, and will promote the conservation of the species. *Potential Issues:* The action has broad State and Federal support. Portland General Electric, a private utility company that owns and operates the Clackamas River Hydroelectric Project, previously expressed concerns regarding potential impacts to federally threatened salmon and steelhead in the Clackamas River from bull trout predation and competition. The National Marine Fisheries Service previously expressed concerns regarding potential impacts of the reintroduction on threatened salmon and steelhead. The FWS has addressed these concerns. Target date for submitting to the Federal Register is June 20, 2011.

Initiation of 5-year reviews of nine Northeast species

FWS is announcing initiation of 5-year reviews for the purple bean, clubshell, Roanoke logperch, swamp pink, northern riffleshell, flat-spired three-toothed land snail, Puritan tiger beetle, dwarf wedgemussel, and bog turtle. Publication of the Federal Register notice is expected in early-to-mid June. The Endangered Species Act requires FWS to conduct these reviews to ensure that our classification of each species on the Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants as threatened or endangered is accurate. FWS is requesting any information that has become available since the agency's original listing of each of these species. No controversy is expected.

Notice of Availability of Draft Economic Analysis for Critical Habitat for 9 Bexar County Invertebrates

FWS will publish a notice of availability of the draft economic analysis for the proposed revision of critical habitat for nine karst (cave-dwelling) invertebrates in Bexar County, Texas. FWS will also announce a public hearing and the reopening of the comment period. P*otential Issues:* There is litigation history associated with this issue. A developer who owns land in one of the proposed critical habitat units has petitioned the FWS to remove that unit, and is threatening to sue FWS if that unit is included as part of the revised designation in the final rule. However, this is a routine announcement for the availability of the draft economic analysis and notice of public hearing. FWS is not anticipating any issues with this notice. Target date for submitting to the *Federal Register* is July 14, 2011.

The Pacific Northwest Wind Energy & Wildlife Workshop

The FWS Pacific Region is held a wind energy and wildlife workshop sponsored by a consortium that includes the Washington Chapter of the Wildlife Society and the FWS, USGS, BLM and the Forest Service on June 7-8, 2011, in Portland, Oregon. The intent of the workshop was to have a balanced and educational event that portrays all interests in the spectrum such that people come away from the workshop understanding the issues surrounding wind energy development, wildlife issues, and technology. About 250 participants were confirmed; most were consultants/contractors from the private sector.

LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT
June 12 – June 18, 2011

SENIOR OFFICIALS' ACTIVITIES

ASLM Lewis – In the office all week.
DAS Baca – In the office all week
DAS Farquhar – In the office all week.

HOT TOPICS

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Renewable Energy

- ***New*: Nevada Deputy State History Preservation Officer (DSHPO) Reacts to BLM Decision for Proposed Wind Farm:** *In fall 2010, the BLM Ely District, Schell Field Office signed the Decision Record (DR) for the proposed Spring Valley Wind Energy Generation Facility and issued a Limited Notice to Proceed (NTP) in Mar. 2011. In a May 13, 2011, letter to the BLM the DSHPO stated that the SHPO was precluded from commenting on the project prior to the BLM issuing a decision, and has stopped working the Ely District on the Section 106 process for the project. In a letter dated June 3, 2011, the BLM provided a draft MOA and recovery plan to the DSHPO for consideration, per the NV State Protocol Agreement. Although the BLM and SHPO staff discussed and recognized the need for a MOA, the DSHPO asserts the MOA should have been signed prior to the BLM signing the DR and issuing the NTP. The BLM expects the SHPO will either terminate consultation or forward the issue to the Advisory Council.*

Coal Sales

- ***New*: BLM-WY Coal Lease Sale:** *On Aug. 17, BLM-WY will conduct a competitive coal lease sale for the West Caballo tract located in Campbell County, WY. The notice for the sale is scheduled to be published in the Federal Register on June 17. The sale covers 1,024 acres with an estimated 130 million tons of recoverable coal.*

Off-Highway Vehicles

- ***Update*: Southern Nevada Off-Road Enthusiasts (SNORE) Suspension:** *On June 3, the BLM-NV Las Vegas Field Office manager issued a letter to the SNORE suspending the group's special race permit within the Southern NV District. The suspension resulted from serious violations the BLM documented during the SNORE Mint 400 off-highway vehicle race, which was held on public lands in southern NV on Mar. 26. The length of the suspension will be dependent on SNORE's responsiveness in complying with six requirements outlined in the suspension notice.*

Forestry

- ***New*: BLM-OR Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) Monitoring Report:** *In 1994, the Northwest Forest Plan Record of Decision amended 19 national forest and 7 BLM resource plans within the range of the northern spotted owl. An interagency effectiveness*

monitoring framework was implemented to meet the requirements for tracking the status and trends for watershed condition; late and old growth forests; social and economic conditions; tribal relationships; and population and habitat for marbled murrelets and northern spotted owls. During the week of June 13, BLM-OR will release the 15-year NWFP monitoring report, which shows that within the last 15 years the disturbance to old growth trees and wildlife was largely due to wildfire, disease, and insect infestation. It projects that the forests could be fully restored and maintained within 100 years. Is this report controversial?

- ***New:*** **BLM-OR Denies Thinning Protest**: *On June 22, the BLM-OR Swiftwater Field Office will issue decisions denying two protests filed against the Calahan Mudaxle Commercial Thinning Decision. One protest was received from local off-highway vehicle (OHV) enthusiasts who were concerned about road construction efforts disrupting OHV trails. Another protest was received by several environmental groups concerned about adverse effects to local wildlife. The 200-acre project is located in the Upper Umpqua Watershed within the Roseburg District.*

Miscellaneous

- ***New*:** **Meeting with Staff of Rep. Larsen Regarding National Conservation Areas (NCA):** *On June 3, Neil Kornze, BLM Senior Advisor, accompanied by staff from BLM Legislative Affairs, met with staff of Rep. Larsen (D-WA) to answer questions about BLM-managed National Conservation Areas (NCAs). Discussions were centered on previous legislative proposals in the context of a potential future designation for the San Juan Islands_____.*

- ***New:*** **Wild Horse & Burro Program Briefing with Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM)**: *On June 10, BLM Assistant Director Ed Roberson, Acting Wild Horse and Burro (WH&B) Division Chief Dean Bolstad, and Legislative Affairs staff will brief Senator Udall's staff on WH&B Program reforms and the upcoming National Academy Sciences review of the WH&B program.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEMRE)

- ***Update:*** **Joint BOEMRE/RI and MA Renewable Energy Task Force Teleconference:** *On June 3, a joint Task Force teleconference was held to discuss proposed revisions to the draft Call for Information and Nominations (Call) submitted by the Task Force members. Comments on the draft Call were received from the MA and RI State Historic Preservation Offices, NMFS, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Army Corps of Engineers and several commercial fishing organizations. As a result, of the teleconference the Call was finalized. BOEMRE will enter the Call into surnaming shortly after the teleconference.*

- ***Update:*** **"Smart from the Start" (NJ, DE, MD and VA):** *BOEMRE is preparing a regional EA and conducting consultations for lease issuance and site assessment activities for areas on the OCS, offshore NJ, DE, MD and VA. U.S. Coast Guard, U.S.*

Army Corps of Engineers, and the Commonwealth of VA Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy have agreed to be cooperating agencies on the EA. A preliminary draft of the EA was sent to the SOL and the cooperating agencies on May 16, 2011. The initial comments have been addressed, and a revised draft was sent to reviewers on June 1, 2011. Field review and signoff are scheduled for Jun. 14, 2011. Endangered Species Act and 106 consultations were initiated in Mar. and will continue throughout the process.

- ***New:*** **Deepwater Horizon Joint Investigation Team (JIT):** *The BOEMRE portion of the JIT is meeting in the Gulf of Mexico Region this week alongside the Investigations and Review Unit to complete a draft report on the Macondo Blowout, which is due to the Director by June 15.*

- ***Update:*** **Western Planning Area (WPA) Sale 218/Central Planning Area (CPA) Sale 222 Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS):** *The draft SEIS for WGOM Sale 218 (Dec. 2011 sale) has been completed. Public meetings to receive comments were held on May 17, 2011 (Houston) and May 19, 2011 (New Orleans). BOEMRE's NOA was published in the Federal Register on Apr. 20, 2011. The public notice comment period ended on June 6, 2011. The subject matter experts are in the process of updating their sections and addressing comments for revisions to be made to the draft document. The EPA and NOAA are cooperating agencies.*

- ***New:*** **Memoranda of Agreement (MOA) for Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS):** *Gov. Parnell requested that the State of AK be designated a cooperating agency for the 2012-2017 OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program PEIS. In a separate letter, Mayor Itta made a similar request on behalf of the North Slope Borough. BOEMRE determined that designation as a cooperating agency was appropriate for both entities. Director Bromwich signed separate MOAs on June 1, 2011. We are awaiting signatures by the State of AK and North Slope Borough to fully execute the MOAs.*

- ***Update:*** **Statoil Ancillary Activities in Chukchi Sea:** *On June 3, the AK District Court granted BOEMRE's request to modify the court order to allow ancillary activities in the Chukchi Sea pending resolution of the Sale 193 litigation in the AK District Court. The AK Region is reviewing Statoil's ancillary activity notice to conduct on-lease site clearance surveys in the Chukchi Sea this summer. The Region is preparing an EA and expects to complete its review and respond to the ancillary activity notice within 30-days.*

- ***Update:*** **Sale 193 Revised Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS):** *The revised Sale 193 SEIS is available for public comment until July 11, BOEMRE is now making arrangements for hearings on the Revised Draft SEIS, which are scheduled to take place in Kotzebue, Point Hope, Wainwright and Anchorage. Sen. Begich requested that we hold a meeting in Fairbanks. BOEMRE is working to accommodate this request. BOEMRE is attempting to reschedule the Point Lay having and still meet the Court's Oct. 3, 2011, issuance of the ROD.*

- ***Update:*** **Ensco v. Salazar:** *Regarding Ensco's complaint alleging undue delay in acting upon applications for permit to drill, on May 10, 2011, the 5th Circuit Court held that*

BOEMRE has a duty to decide whether to approve permits within 30 days. Accordingly, the Court ordered BOEMRE to "act on the six pending permit applications within thirty days of this Order." On May 21, the court temporarily stayed its May 10, 2011, order until June 20, including the Government report on the status of the six pending permit applications.

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

- ***Update:*** **OSM Anticipates Awarding Contract for Regulatory Impact Analysis and Economic Analysis Regarding Stream Protection Rule:** *On June 17, OSM is scheduled to announce the award of a contract for assistance in evaluating the regulatory impacts of the proposed Stream Protection Rule and other tasks to support the rulemaking effort.*

- ***New:*** **Petition Filed to Designate West Virginia's Blair Mountain Unsuitable for Mining:** *Last year, Blair Mountain was removed from the National Register of Historic Places. Subsequently, eleven surface coal mining permits have been issued for areas within or adjacent to the battlefield boundaries. On June 2, a coalition of historic preservation, environmental, and labor groups filed a petition with the WV Department of Environmental Protection to designate as unsuitable for mining more than 1,500 acres at the site of the largest labor conflict in U.S. history.*

- ***New:*** **BHP Navajo Coal Company Appeal of Notice of Violation Regarding Blasting on the Navajo Mine:** *On Mar. 3, OSM issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) to BHP for failing to conduct all surface coal mining and reclamation operations as described in the approved permit. In this case, BHP failed to report the correct blast hole stemming material in their blasting records. They are required to use crushed rock stemming (reducing the chance of flyrock) within 1000 feet of the permit boundary. Their records show use of drill cuttings. On Apr. 29, BHP filed an appeal of the NOV with the IBLA. Last month, both parties agreed to engage in discussions to attempt to resolve the issues. On May 23, a joint motion to stay proceedings was filed with the Office of Hearings and Appeals, requesting a 60-day stay to give the parties time to reach a resolution.*

WEEK AHEAD – June 12 to June 18, 2011

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Monday, June 13:

- **No Change: BLM Communications WH&B Workshop:** The BLM Washington Office Communications Directorate will hold a workshop in Denver, CO focused on "lessons learned" and communications strategies for the upcoming wild horse and burro gather season. The purpose of the workshop is to ensure that all BLM communications staff are fully engaged and ready to provide support during the upcoming gather season, which begins in July. The training will underscore the principles of transparency and openness, timely, proactive responsiveness, and consistent messaging.

Tuesday, June 14:

- ***New*: Legislative Hearing before House Natural Resources Subcommittee:** *BLM Deputy Director Burke is scheduled to testify before the House Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands on H.R. 1904, the Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act and H.R. 869, regarding the Lower Merced Wild & Scenic River in CA.*

- **No Change: BLM-NV Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale:** BLM-NV will hold a competitive oil and gas lease sale at the BLM-NV State Office to auction 96 parcels totaling 186,932 acres located throughout NV. The protest period ended Apr. 11. No protests were received, and the BLM-NV will conduct the sale in compliance with the recently implemented oil and gas leasing reforms.

Wednesday, June 15:

- **No Change: BLM-NV Public Hearing on Helicopter/Vehicle Use for Gathers:** BLM-NV will conduct a public hearing to discuss the use of motorized vehicles and aircraft in the monitoring and management of wild horses and burros on public lands in NV. The hearing will also consider the use of motorized vehicles to transport gathered wild horses and burros removed from the range during gather operations. The hearing will be held at the BLM-NV Ely District Office.

- **No Change: BLM-OR Congressional Delegation Courtesy Visits:** The BLM-OR State Director will meet with members of the OR and WA Congressional delegations in D.C. to discuss renewable energy projects, western OR forest management, Forestry Pilot Projects, timber sales, and the San Juan Archipelago.

Thursday, June 16:

- **No Change: BLM-Eastern States Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale:** BLM-Eastern States will hold a competitive oil and gas lease sale to offer 227 parcels totaling 138,781 acres in AR, LA, and MS. The protest period ended Apr. 28. One protest was received over concerns about land use planning and the environmental effects of hydraulic fracturing. BLM-Eastern States Office will conduct the sale in compliance with the recently implemented oil and gas leasing reforms.

Thursday, June 16-18

***New*: BLM-CO OHV Workshop:** *The BLM-CO Royal Gorge Field Office will host the 11th annual CO OHV Coalition workshop in Cañon City, CO, which promotes responsible OHV use on public lands.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEMRE)

Tuesday – Thursday, June 14-16:

- **No Change: 8th Annual Energy Ocean International 2011:** *BOEMRE will sponsor the 8th annual Energy Ocean International conference in Portland, ME. Energy Ocean International is a leading industry event dedicated to promoting the development of*

clean, predictable and sustainable energy from the world's oceans. Attendees will learn about the latest technological advances, investment opportunities, regulatory issues, and planned and implemented projects around the world. BOEMRE Alternative Energy Programs Manager Maureen Bornholdt will participate in a Federal Regulatory Panel on Jun. 15.

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

Monday, June 13:

- ***New:*** **OSM Anticipates Awarding AML Grants to Kansas and Iowa:** *OSM plans to award $2,643,394 to fund the FY 2011 Kansas Abandoned Mine Land (AML) program grant. On the same date, OSM plans to award $2,514,845 to fund the FY 2011 Iowa AML program.*

WEEKS AHEAD

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Tuesday, June 21:

- ***New*****: BLM-WY Public Hearing on Helicopter/Motor Vehicle Use for Gathers:** *BLM-NV will conduct a public hearing to discuss the use of motorized vehicles and aircraft in the monitoring and management of wild horses and burros on public lands in NV. The hearing will also consider the use of motorized vehicles to transport gathered wild horses and burros removed from the range during gather operations. The hearing will be held at the BLM-WY Rocks Springs Field Office.*

Thursday, June 23:

- ***New*****: Wilderness Policy Hearing:** *The House Natural Resources Committee is scheduled to hold a hearing on the Wilderness policy and the Secretary's June 1 memo to Dir. Abbey. The Committee has requested that Deputy Secretary David Hayes and BLM Dir. Abbey testify at the hearing.*

Friday, June 24 & 28:

- ***Update*****: Idaho Delegation Courtesy Visits:** *The BLM ID State Director and BLM Legislative Affairs staff plan to meet with members of the Idaho congressional delegation to discuss public land management issues in ID.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEMRE)

Thursday-Friday, Jun. 23-24:

- ***New:*** **Joint BOEMRE/DOE/NOAA Workshop on Metocean Information Needs for Resource Assessment and Design Conditions**. *BOEMRE staff will attend this joint workshop in Crystal City, VA to obtain information on existing needs for acquiring meteorological and oceanographic information to support deployment of offshore renewable energy plants, particularly wind and marine hydrokinetic (MHK) technologies. The breakout session will be focused on the following: Forecasting;*

Energy Projections/Performance Monitoring; Technology Design and Validation; Facility Design; and Operations Planning/Site Safety.

Weekly Report
June 10, 2010

Memorandum

To: Meghan Conklin
Associate Deputy Secretary

From: Anne J. Castle
Assistant Secretary for Water and Science

Subject: Weekly Meeting Issues

Senior Officials' Activities June 13-17:
Anne J. Castle – (b) (6) ; June 14-17, in DC attending various meetings. Speaking at Colorado Capital Conference (sponsored by Sen. Mark Udall and Mesa State College) on June 16. .
John Tubbs – June 13-17, in DC attending various meetings.
Lori Caramanian – June 13-17, in DC attending internal meetings.
Marcia McNutt – June 15, Albuquerque, NM, 50th Anniversary of the USGS Albuquerque Seismic Lab; June 16-17, San Diego, CA, USGS California Water Science Center; 50th Anniversary of the University of California San Diego.
Mike Connor – June 13-17, in DC attending various internal meetings.

Reclamation

Litigation Filed on Pumping Cutback (California)
On June 9, the San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority filed suit asking the federal court for a temporary restraining order to stop recently imposed reductions of water pumped through the Central Valley Project and State Water Project (SWP) pumps. Under Central Valley Project Improvement Act section (b)(2) (i.e., use of the 800 KAF allocated for fish and wildlife purposes), the Fish and Wildlife Service recommended the curtailment of pumping because of significant fall-run Chinook salmon mortality at the pumps (mostly at the SWP pumps). This species is considered a species of concern for National Marine Fisheries Service.

Flooding in Utah
Reclamation's Provo Area Office (PAO) reports that high temperatures the week of May 29, 2011, resulted in minor flooding on the lower Weber River. However, low temperatures retarded run-off on the upper Weber River during the week of June 5. Varying periods of warm and cool temperatures continue to delay and compress the time during which snowmelt runoff will take place. Ongoing communication between the PAO and facility operation entities continues along with coordination with state and local officials.

Flooding in Colorado
Reclamation's Western Colorado Area Office reports that as of June 1, the Colorado River was flowing at 31,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) at the Colorado-Utah state line, and flows are currently exceeding 45,000 cfs. Inundation of Interstate 70 between Fruita and Loma, Colorado, typically takes place in this range of flows, and the highway may be closed periodically for safety reasons and debris removal at bridges. Water released to meet the Black Canyon water right on the Gunnison River will add only 4,000 cfs to this discharge, which is less than 10 percent of the total.

Crystal Reservoir to Spill to Meet the Black Canyon Water Right – Some Flooding Expected (Colorado)
Reclamation began operating the Aspinall Unit (Gunnison River) allowing for a one-day Black Canyon reserved water right peak flow. The peak flow occurred on June 8, 2011. Reservoir releases were increased beginning June 3. The most downstream facility (Crystal Dam) of the Aspinall Unit began to spill on June 4. During this operation, combined flows of the Gunnison, North Fork, and their tributaries, are expected to result in minor flooding of low elevation land, trails, and roads along the Gunnison River, downstream to the confluence with the Colorado River.

Glen Canyon Dam to be highlighted on Television Series on Recreation and Vacation Destinations in Southern Utah and Northern Arizona (Utah)
A production crew from *KUTV Television* out of Salt Lake City (CBS affiliate) will soon be at Glen Canyon Dam in Page, Arizona, as part of a series on recreation and vacation destinations in southern Utah and northern Arizona. The series will air throughout June with the Glen Canyon Dam story targeted for mid-month. The segment will highlight visitor center features and the available guided tours of the dam and powerplant. The visitor center attracts approximately 435,000 people annually and is the primary point of contact for both Glen Canyon Dam and the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.

Judge Denies Motion to Alter Federal Flood Control Operations at Grand Coulee Dam (Washington)
On May 27, Pacific Seafood filed a motion for a temporary restraining order alleging violations of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) on the premise that flood control operations at Grand Coulee Dam are jeopardizing listed salmon, steelhead, and bull trout. The plaintiffs sought to alter flood control operations to minimize spill and associated total dissolved gas (TDG) levels to preserve commercial net-pens of non-listed hatchery steelhead located downstream from Grand Coulee Dam. Federal arguments noted that ESA-listed fish are not present in the high-TDG areas above Chief Joseph Dam and below Grand Coulee Dam, and emphasized that altering flood control operations would unacceptably increase the likelihood of flooding along the Columbia River. Judge Redden denied Pacific Seafood's motion from the bench by finding that there was no reasonable likelihood of an ESA violation and that the plaintiffs had failed to present sufficient evidence that listed species would be irreparably harmed by flood control operations. It is unclear whether the plaintiffs will pursue an appeal. Reclamation continues to exercise every option to create space behind Grand Coulee Dam for flood control needs in the face of higher-than-normal snowpack and later-than-normal runoff, while also minimizing TDG

levels below the dam. These options include pumping water up to Banks Lake, maximizing flow through the power plants, and optimizing flow through bypass tubes.

Law Enforcement, Security, and Defense Training – Glen Canyon Dam (Arizona)
On June 14-16, Reclamation's Upper Colorado Region will host a series of law enforcement, security, and defense-related exercises associated with Glen Canyon Dam and powerplant. Four training events will take place in Page, Arizona. A number of agencies have been invited to participate in the four sessions which will include: Incident Command System training, Glen Canyon Dam Emergency Action Plan familiarization, communications drills, and tactical drills.

Reclamation Employee Receives President's Volunteer Service Award
Reclamation's resource management specialist Jeff Painter received the President's Volunteer Service Award in recognition of his many years of volunteer service coordinating and involving Reclamation staff in the Feeding the Homeless program in Salt Lake City, Utah. Jeff has donated countless hours of his personal time to make this program successful. Over the last 16 years, about 170,000 meals were served by Reclamation volunteers who donated 90 minutes of their time each month. In total, these volunteers have donated nearly 2,000 hours to this effort.

Reclamation's "Dam Runners" to run 188-Mile Wasatch Back Relay Race (Utah)
Starting at 9:30 a.m. on June 17, a team of 12 Reclamation runners will embark on a 188-mile relay race along the backside of the rugged Wasatch Mountains from Logan, Utah (85 miles north of Salt Lake City), to Park City, Utah (15 miles east of Salt Lake City). The "Dam Runners" will cover 188 miles in relay fashion, day and night, with 1,000 teams taking anywhere from 18 to 41 hours to finish. The set up: 12 runners per team, three legs per runner, three to nine miles per leg, 36 legs total . . . plus, the runners gain 15,050 feet of elevation and lose 12,592 feet over the length of the course. As added inspiration for the Reclamation "Dam Runners," the course winds its way past seven Upper Colorado Region Reclamation dams: Hyrum, Pineview, East Canyon, Echo, Wanship, Jordanelle, and Deer Creek. This will be the first time Reclamation has been represented in this popular team relay race.

Congressional Activities

- June 13 – House Subcommittee on Water & Power holds second hearing on H.R. 1837. No Reclamation testimony. 10 am.
- June 14-16 – Mike Ryan, Great Plains Regional Director will be in Washington, DC, conducting annual congressional hill visits.
- June 23 – Senate Subcommittee on Water & Power planning a hearing on between 5 to 7 bills: S. 500 (Strawberry Title Transfer), S. 802 (Lake Thunderbird), S. 997 (East Bench), S. 1033 (Hermiston XVI), S. 1047 (Leadville), and two as-yet-unintroduced bills, S. ___ (UC/San Juan RIPs), and S.___ (Fort Sumner Title Transfer). Testimony is in development. 2 pm.
- June 23 – House Subcommittee on Water & Power planning a hearing on H.R. 461 (Strawberry Title Transfer), HR 2060 (Bowman Dam) and up to two more as-yet-unknown bills. 10 am.

US Geological Survey

USGS Internship for Student with the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program: The USGS is providing a four week summer internship for Deedre Deaton, an undergraduate student enrolled in the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) at the University of Alaska, Anchorage. She will be working along the Manokinak River, in the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta in southwestern Alaska, assisting on an Emperor Geese population ecology study to answer questions about their physiological health and the declines in population size.

Invasive New Zealand Mudsnail in a Washington Creek: USGS identified and confirmed the presence of the invasive New Zealand mudsnail in Thornton Creek, near Puget Sound, WA. The fast-growing New Zealand mudsnails can smother out native snails and other creatures in water bodies and upset the ecological balance. This is the third confirmed report of the New Zealand mudsnails in Washington State; others are in the lower Columbia River and in Capitol Lake in Olympia, WA.

The USGS and NOAA Assist the Alaska Marine Highway System to Prepare for Volcanic Eruptions: The USGS and the National Weather Service have shared information with the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) on volcano hazards and warning protocols for the AMHS fleet operating in North Pacific and Alaskan waters for inclusion in their updated tsunami and volcanic event contingency plan. USGS and NOAA have worked for more than a year to assemble educational information on these hazards and to put in place formal warning messages for broadcast to the maritime community during volcanic eruptions.

NOAA/USGS Annual Hypoxic Zone Prediction: The USGS and NOAA will be issuing a joint release describing the predicted hypoxic zone in the Gulf of Mexico. The forecast is based on Mississippi River nutrient inputs compiled annually by the USGS. The Gulf of Mexico's hypoxic zone will likely be larger than average this year, due to extreme flooding in the Mississippi this spring. The final prediction will not be available until mid June. The press release will be distributed as soon as the prediction is complete.

New Geological Map of Lassen Volcanic National Park: A new USGS geologic map of the Park (northeastern CA) has been published. The map provides the fundamental geologic framework for earth science at the Park such as volcano hazards assessment responsibilities of the USGS. Users of the map include the NPS, U.S. Forest Service, academic institutions, CA state geologists, county and local land managers, and first responders.

Columbia River Contaminant Issues: June 13-17, USGS will meet with the USEPA in Seattle, WA, to discuss contaminant issues related to risk of hazardous waste contamination in the upper Columbia River Basin (from the U.S./Canadian border to the Grand Coulee Dam

Congressional Activities

- **Oversight Hearing on White-nose Syndrome (WNS) in Bats:** The USGS, USFWS, and USFS have been invited to testify on the Federal panel on June 24, at the House Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on Oceans, Wildlife and Insular Affairs hearing. The hearing's purpose is to get a status on the geographic extent of the disease, discuss the recently released WNS National Plan, potential ESA listing for little brown bats as well as the state of the science on **Geomyces destructans** (fungus responsible for causing WNS). USFWS will serve as the principal DOI witness and David Blehert**,** microbilologist at the USGS National Wildlife Health Center, will serve as a technical witness.
- **Oversight Field Hearing on Giant Salvinia:** On June 27, the House Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on Oceans, Wildlife and Insular Affairs will hold a field oversight hearing about the invasive plant giant salvinia (**Salvinia molesta**) at the Louisiana State University Shreveport campus in Shreveport, La. Giant salvinia, a native of South America, established large, quickly expanding populations in the U.S. South. Chairman John Fleming (LA-4) is particularly interested in understanding the problems associated with this exotic plant and methods of control and eradication. USGS biologist Dr. Randy Westbrooks will testify. He has been deeply involved in early detection and rapid response (EDRR) plans for giant salvinia among other exotics. In February 2011, Dr. Westbrooks and **Cindy Kolar, USGS, briefed** Chairman Fleming's staff as well as staff from the Subcommittee, on EDRR and eradication efforts around Caddo Lake and Lake Bisteneau, both within the Chairman's district.
- **Oversight Hearing on Critical Minerals, Including Rare Earths:** The House Science, Space, and Technology Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight has tentatively scheduled a hearing June 14 at 2 pm to solicit the Administration's views on critical minerals including rare-earth elements. Jeff Doebrich, acting Mineral Resources Program coordinator, will be the USGS witness. He will focus on basic facts and information about rare earths and critical minerals, and USGS research and tracking programs and capabilities. Dr. John Holdren, Office of Science and Technology Policy will discuss interagency collaboration. A representative from the Department of Energy will also participate.

Memorandum

To: Chief of Staff

From: Chief of Staff, Indian Affairs

Subject: Indian Affairs Weekly Look Ahead Update

FOCUS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 10, 2011

INDIAN AFFAIRS

HEALTH AND SAFE COMMUNITIES

- HPPG: To ensure the HPPG crime statistics were accurate and the processes for classifying and scoring crimes at these locations were standardized, BIA's Office of Justice Services (OJS) put together a multidisciplinary team composed of BIA, FBI and DOJ Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) personnel to verify all HPPG crime data for 2009, 2010 and 2011. Each of the four teams were provided a single tool (spreadsheet) to ensure the consistency of documented offenses across the HPPG sites; the teams communicated regularly to share information, issues, and best practices. This team will continue to verify all crime data for the HPPG sites throughout the remainder of the HPPG initiative which will end September 30, 2011. The initiative has achieved a combined 11 percent reduction of violent crime for all four targeted locations.

  The expansion of the HPPG initiative to additional reservations will be driven by the availability of funding and potential budget impacts of continuing resolutions. The OJS will develop several options to hold, build and expand the footprint based on funding constraints.

- Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA): Mandated reporting requirements under TLOA are on track to be met: 1) MOA with HHS and DOJ, due to the Congress on July 29, 2011; Indian Affairs is looking for an event where the Attorney General and the Secretaries of HHS and the Interior can sign the agreement; and 2) Long-term Plan for Detention due to the Congress July 29, 2011.

- Long-term Detention Standards: BIA is working on a "long-term plan" for adult and juvenile detention. It is being drafted in conjunction with DOJ. Although consultation and outreach on this were delayed due to the Continuing Resolutions, BIA has recently held consultations and focus groups and the plan is moving forward and will be available for review and comment by the end of June. Indian Affairs is on track to have a document to present to the Congress by the end of July, although Indian Affairs may want to seek additional tribal input after the July draft.

- Suicide Prevention**:** BIE is still revising the draft of the listening sessions; a memorandum is being drafted outlining Indian Affairs efforts and submitting a draft report in the next week.

The Suicide Prevention Summit is scheduled for August 1-3, 2011 in Scottsdale; Indian Affairs is also planning a summit for Alaska later this year, no date/location yet set. Indian Affairs is also working with IHS and through their contractor for logistics on these events.

- Homeland Security:
  - *Northern Tier States Flooding Update:* OHSES and BIA Regional Offices continued coordination with Tribes through and in the Rocky Mt., Great Plains, Northwest, Midwest, and Eastern (Louisiana) Regions, in efforts to assist the BIA Regions and Tribes in Flood Fighting efforts. OHSES maintained liaison with the U.S. Corps of Engineers (Corps) through their National and Regional Tribal Liaisons and with other Federal and State agencies, to facilitate and coordinate efforts. Tribes continue to work with states. FEMA, and BIA Agency and Regional offices. Requests for assistance are being met by the states and FEMA, No Requests for additional assistance have been received by ASIA-OHSES. OHSES is maintaining situational awareness and has made Regional Offices aware of assistance/resources available should they be needed. The national interagency Tribal Assistance Coordination Group (TAC-G) has been alerted of potential Tribal needs, and will continue to be coordinated with by OHSES to provide additional needs of the Tribes as requested by BIA Regional Offices.

  - *Chitimacha, LA, Potential Flooding Update:* OHSES and the BIA Eastern Regional Office management and staff continued coordination with Chitimacha Tribe, the Corps and other agencies and their Tribal Liaisons (IHS , SAMHSA, etc). The flood crest reached the Chitimacha Reservation Saturday, May 28, 2011. OHSES is participating in daily conference calls with the Corps and the Tribe. Corps reports that it is monitoring and working on over 390+ levee 'Seeps' and 'Boils', and several 'Dry Cracking' sites to keep levees intact and avoid inundation.

  - *Rocky Boy's Reservation (Montana):* The Chippewa Cree Tribe experienced a major storm event on Friday, June 3. Approximately two to three inches of rain fell in a 24-hour period. The storm event, coupled with fully water-saturated soils, has led to flooding conditions across the reservation. The National Weather Service (NWS) issued a "Flood Warning" in the region including the Rocky Boy's Reservation as Box Elder Creek; its tributaries and other small creeks on the reservation exceeded their stream banks. NWS is forecasting good weather through Sunday with high temperatures in the mid 70's. The warmer temperatures may lead to snowmelt in the higher elevations and continued flooding conditions. NWS also predicts a new weather system moving into the region Monday night bringing with is a good chance for showers and thunderstorms. On Friday, the storm event caused an approximate a 5-foot increase in the water surface level at Bonneau Dam and Reservoir over the course of a few hours. Bonneau Dam is a BIA facility and is classified as a high-hazard dam. The Rocky Boy's Tribe Water Resources Department is contracted to conduct the operation and maintenance of the dam. The Tribe has activated an Incident Command Team and has been issuing press releases to local radio and TV stations to keep the public informed of flooding conditions, road closures and the overall situation. The Tribe passed a resolution this week seeking assistance from the Governor of Montana for State and Federal assistance.

Water Quality: Several reservation roads located in the mountains have been reported to be washed out. Several main roads across the reservation were temporarily closed or remained closed. Major sloughing has been reported across the reservation including areas near the main road leading to the community of Agency. The Tribe performed an emergency discharge of its sewage lagoons to prevent overtopping and potential structural damage. The Tribe is concerned that some drinking water wells may have been contaminated by floodwaters. The Tribe will perform testing on the wells to see if extra chlorination is required. The BIA-Rocky Mountain Region Safety of Dams Engineer (SODE) continues to be in frequent contact with the Tribe and FEMA personnel.

EDUCATION

- Haskell University President Selection: A selection was made and media advisory was issued last week.

- Regulatory Meeting: A No Child Left Behind Tribal Consultation meeting will be held in Rapid City, SD on July 13, 2011

- *Let's Move!* In Indian Country (LMIC)*:*
- May 25, 2011 Launch Event Highlights in Menominee, Wisconsin:
- Robin Schepper read a letter of support from the First Lady
- The Menominee Tribe presented a proclamation on *LMIC*
- Actor Chaske Spencer addressed the students
- There were 20 activity stations hosted by organizations both within the community and nationwide
- Website, toolkit and logo were all approved and ready by May 25, 2011 and the link to the website is on the BIE website under the Parents/Students tab: www.letsmove.gov/Indiancountry
- The Public Service Announcement by Sam Bradford was released.

  - Week of *LMIC* launch and week after messaging:
    - Blog from the Assistant Secretary Larry Echo Hawk posted on May 27, 2011.
    - Blog about Actor Chaske Spencer posted on June 1, 2011.
    - Message from the Assistant Secretary distributed to all IA employees on May 26, 2011.
    - Message from BIE Director Keith Moore distributed to all BIE employees on June 6, 2011.

  - June 3, 2011 – The White House Event "Three Sisters Planting"
    - BIE Director Moore and staff, Brandi Sweet, Juanita Keesing and Brian Drapeaux, attended the event on behalf of the BIE.
    - 20 students planted corn, beans and squash (the Three Sisters) in the White House garden with the First Lady. The First Lady announced the launch of LMIC.

Elementary and Secondary Education

School Improvement

- BIE staff from the Division of Performance and Accountability, the Center on Innovation and Improvement, had an opportunity to present the Native Star tool and its purpose to the BIE Director and his staff on Thursday. The discussion showed the value of having an Education Program Specialist at each Education Line Office. An Education Program Specialist is a valuable asset for the ADD, West and Navajo as well, so there is someone to spearhead the work with Native Star and the line offices/schools. It was a very informative session.
- BIE staff at all levels are working on an Operations Manual for the Statewide System of Support, which will provide an outline for our schools on what support and technical assistance they can expect from the Division of Performance and Accountability, the Education Line Office and the Associate Deputy Director. The draft will be presented to the Education Line Officers, at the Summer Institute, for comments.

Student Improvement

- Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa School had 100 percent of their seniors graduate.
- On May 25, 2011, the North Dakota First Lady Betsy Dalrymple read to students at Standing Rock Elementary School to promote the importance of summer reading, serving as a Reading Ambassador for the Scholastic Summer Challenge. Scholastic will donate 500 books to students at the Standing Rock Elementary School in Fort Yates and other schools the Governor's wife is visiting in the State. The books will serve as take-home reading materials for these students over summer vacation. The Challenge is a four month global literacy campaign encouraging kids to read four or more books over the summer months while school is out. The Challenge unites students and schools as they participate in *Read for the World Record* and attempt to set a world record for summer reading. Students will log their minutes spent reading at scholastic.com/summer and the results will be published in the 2012 edition of the *Scholastic Book of World Records.*

Professional Development

- Pine Ridge School staff will participate in classroom management training with Oglala-Lakota College this summer.

Safety/Facilities

- Riverside Indian School received its Environmental Performance Management Audit Report as a result of the onsite visit last week. Mr. Don May, from Osage of Virginia, Inc. was impressed by the staff and the cleanliness of the school buildings and grounds. The items requiring correction included the storage organization and the condition of the outbuildings used for storage of the facility maintenance equipment and supplies. There were good items mixed with trash that needed to be sorted; the facility maintenance storage building roof leaks in several places.
- All BIE-funded facilities in the Dakotas and elsewhere have survived potential flooding incidents.

Center for Disease Control (CDC) School Health Profiles

- BIE will implement a biannual survey managed by CDC in all BIE operated schools effective this year.

BIE Health and Wellness Policy

- Consultations on the Health and Wellness Policy were cancelled in the month of May due to low enrollment.
- BIE is developing a two-year pilot proposal to implement the policy in the Navajo area. BIE will work with the contractors to amend the contract language for the pilot period at the pilot sites.
- The Alliance for a Healthier Generation will provide on the ground technical assistance to BIE schools.

Coach Across America

- BIE is providing $17,100 to support the Coach Across America partnership at 6 BIE schools.

PostSecondary Education

Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI)

- The self-governance policy for SIPI was finalized subsequent to changes recommended by the SIPI Board of Regents. The policy will be disseminated to staff and statements will be included in the updated Student Handbook and Catalog.
- The President and Vice Presidents-Academics and College Operations (A) met with the staff of the Board of Regents to discuss the establishment of a Development Office for SIPI using Department of Education funding. SIPI and its Board of Regents are researching how this can be done.
- SIPI was the host site of the BIE job fair on June 3, 2011.

ORGANIZATIONAL IMPROVEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- OIG Backlog Corrective Action Plan: To assist in the overall corrective action plan to reduce the OIG Response backlog, the Office of Human Capital has locked down dates and locations for the Management Symposium (Mandatory Supervisory Training). This training will provide refresher and in-depth courses on Management's roles and responsibilities and ensuring due process and recognition of employees' rights during a review in response to an OIG inquiry.

- Administration Reassessment: In the area of administration reassessment, the joint Indian Affairs – Department panel to select a contractor for a study of the implementation/effects of the 1999 NAPA Study will be reconvening the week of June 9, 2011 to have one final discussion on selection of a contractor. Upon contract award, it will be four months out for the completion of the reassessment study.

OUTREACH

- Planned Events:

Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs:

June 13-16, 2011, keynote speech at the NCAI Mid-Year Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and at the SAIGE Annual Training, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

June 15 – 16, 2011, NIIP Policy Team Meeting at Window Rock with the Navajo Nation.

July 9-14, 2011, speech at the Conference of Western Attorneys General Annual Conference, Kona, Hawaii.

July 21, 2011 address the Navajo Nation Council, Window Rock, Arizona.

July 27, 2011 speech at the Attorney General's Advisory Subcommittee and the Native American Issues Subcommittee, Rapid City, South Dakota.

Bureau of Indian Education:
Week of June 17, 2011, participate in the National Congress of the American Indian and National Indian Education Association's Education summit, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Week of June 20, 2011, BIE Summer Institute, Reno, Nevada

August 1 – 4, 2011, BIA/SAMSHA/IHS/BIE Suicide Conference (location TBD)

September 25-27, 2011, 8th annual South Dakota Indian Education Summit, Cedar Shores Resort in Chamberlain, SD. The theme of the Summit is "Supporting Culture, Building Expectations and Creating Partnerships."

CONFIDENTIAL

June 10, 2011

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
Attn: Courtenay Lewis, Special Assistant

From: Ray Joseph, Principal Deputy Special Trustee

Re: Assistant Secretary Report for June 13 to June 19, 2011

Office of the Special Trustee (OST)
Assistant Secretary Weekly Report

June 13, 2011

Schedule and Activities
Principal Deputy Special Trustee Ray Joseph

- Management meetings in Washington (6/13-17/11)

Review – June 6 to June 10

- **New:** Office of Appraisal Services Review Appraisers attended two American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers courses in Albuquerque, New Mexico, the week of June 6-10. With this coursework, the Review Appraisers meet state appraiser recertification, develop appraisal review capacity for new review appraisers and implement corrective actions for identified weaknesses in past external technical compliance audits. Bundling the courses reduced the cost.

- **New:** The Office of Historical Trust Accounting is closing its Muskogee, Oklahoma; Billings, Montana; and Crow Agency, Montana, field offices effective September 30. Relevant documents will be shipped to Albuquerque to allow continuation of the Special Deposit Account work currently conducted by these field offices.

- **New:** The Office of Trust Records is holding its fourth annual Records Management Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, from June 6-9. More than 100 of the 240 registered attendees are tribal government employees.

- **New:** DOI's Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution advised OST about making an additional information resource available to OST employees as changes occur throughout the organization in support of OST's effort to realign functions to better serve its mission and promote the Secretary's *oneInterior* initiative. OST will be rolling out an ombudsman position over the next two weeks in order to provide such support.

Week Ahead – June 13 to June 17

- **New:** The Deputy Special Trustee for Trust Services will be in Washington, D.C., the week of June 13 for depositions in the Osage Tranche 2.0 tribal litigation.

- **No Change:** OST continues to work directly with the Cobell Implementation Team, the Garden City Group and SOL on communication challenges as they arise.

On the Horizon

- **New:** The Fiduciary Trust Officer at the Flathead Agency will conduct financial skills training for participants attending the June 23 Native Home Buyer Education Class sponsored by the Salish Kootenai Housing Authority.

- **New:** The Fiduciary Trust Officer at the Tulsa Urban Office in Tulsa, Oklahoma, will attend an Alternative Dispute Resolution hearing on June 27. The hearing will be held in the Eastern District Federal Court on litigation issues between the Seminole Tribe and the Department of the Interior. Also attending will be SOL and DOJ attorneys and the BIA Superintendent for the Wewoka Agency.

- **Update:** OST's Field Operations schedules outreach events, training seminars and meetings at powwows, schools and other venues. To date, more than a dozen activities have been planned for June.

- **Update:** Plaintiffs' counsel, Brian Leinbach, is handling 16 tribal litigation cases in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims in the DDC. The government's brief, provided to the judge on May 13, included settlement offers to the plaintiffs. A joint status conference call is scheduled for June 20.

Week Ahead Report to the Secretary
Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas
June 10, 2011

Senator Inouye to Meet with Secretary Salazar on Compact Impact – Next week on Tuesday, June 14, Senator Inouye and the Lt. Governor of Hawaii will be coming to meet with Secretary Salazar and AS-IN to discuss the impact of Compact of Free Association migrants on the State of Hawaii.

U N I T E D S T A T E S
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

June 10, 2011

Memorandum

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
c/o Courtenay Lewis, Special Assistant

From: Rhea Suh, Assistant Secretary-Policy, Management and Budget

Subject: June 10, 2011, Policy and Other Issues

This provides major policy and other issues that fall under the purview of the Assistant Secretary – PMB.

POLICY

Youth: Cooperative Agreement between Active.com/The Active Network and Office of Youth in the Great Outdoors. Active.com, a community service of The Active Network, Inc. (a technology and media company that provides software to automate business operations), contacted the Office of Youth in the Great Outdoors to donate their services to create software for the YouthGo.Gov webportal. A cooperative agreement has been drafted to formalize the proposed 3 year relationship and outline how Active.com will create unique software to filter and sort youth events for users of the YouthGo.Gov webportal, as a donation to the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Youth: ***Let's Move! in Indian Country*****.** On Friday June 3rd, the First Lady took part in a "Three Sisters Planting" at the White House garden with Native youth, to highlight the launch of the initiative and its healthy eating component. LMIC also had a presence at Corporation for National and Community Service conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, to discuss future VISTA programs to help Native American communities.

Arctic. The Department will play a leadership role in the planning and implementation of an international experts group, with Department of State due to convene an interagency meeting at

the end of June to outline the next steps. On June 13, the Department will participate in the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee which will be outlining a government-wide 5-year plan for Arctic research.

MANAGEMENT

Recruiting Diverse Talent Using Non-competitive Hiring Authorities. The Human Resources Office has held seminars across the country over the past two weeks to emphasize enhancing our talent recruitment efforts. Hiring managers and HR professionals, along with partners from state offices, the Veterans Administration, military installations, and the Armed Forces have discussed departmental employment programs, training on special hiring authorities, building a 21st Century DOI, and opportunities for developing internal and external networks. Feedback from participants has been very positive with other locations asking for the same sessions, and additional seminars are scheduled in the next few weeks.

BUDGET

Federal News Radio. On Friday, June 3, the Deputy Assistant Secretary Pam Haze had an opportunity to highlight efforts to improve financial reporting on Federal News Radio. Haze discussed the May 25 award to the Department of the Interior from the Association of Government Accountants for excellence in financial reporting.

2012 Budget and 302(b) Allocations. On June 2, the House passed the Homeland Security appropriations bill, which included the formal 302(b) allocations setting the top-line spending level for each of the FY 2012 appropriations bills.

- The allocation for the Interior Subcommittee is $27.5 billion, which is $2.1 billion or 7 percent below the FY 2011 enacted level and $3.8 billion or 12 percent below the 2012 President's Budget Request.
- The Energy and Water Subcommittee allocation is $30.6 billion, $1.0 billion or 3 percent below the FY 2011 enacted level and $5.9 billion or 16 percent below the 2012 President's budget.

The House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee anticipates marking-up its bill on July 6, with Committee action to follow on July 11. The House Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee held a Subcommittee mark-up of its bill on June 2. That bill is currently scheduled for Full Committee mark-up on June 15.

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy & Water Development funds Reclamation's Water & Related Resources account at $822.3 million, a $17.1 million increase from the President's request of $805.2 million. The House does not, however, provide any funding in separate accounts as proposed in the President's FY 2012 Budget for the Indian Water Rights Settlement ($51.5 million) or the San Joaquin River Restoration Fund ($9.0 million) account. It is unclear if any of these activities (particularly Indian Water Rights) may be included in the Water & Related Resources account.

The California Bay-Delta Restoration account is funded at $35.9 million, a reduction of $3.7 million from the President's Request of $39.7 million (rounded). The House funded Reclamation's remaining two appropriation accounts – Policy & Administration ($60.0 million) and the Central Valley Project Restoration Fund ($53.1 million) at the President's Budget request level.

Sec 203 of the bill states: "Of the funds deposited in the San Joaquin River Restoration Fund in accordance with sub-paragraphs (A), (B), (C) of section 10009(c)(1) of Public Law 111-11, all unobligated balances remaining from prior fiscal years are hereby permanently rescinded.

Section 504, a general provision in the bill, states that Davis-Bacon shall not apply to funds appropriated in the Energy & Water bill.

Finally, the bill would provide $27.2 million for the Central Utah Project Completion Act.

IG/GAO Reports. The list of current reports and their status is attached.

Attachments:
PMB Office Reports

cc: Deputy Assistant Secretaries—Policy, Management and Budget

POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

New: Army Corps of Engineers Interagency Group. The Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) convened an interagency group to discuss the procedures used to evaluate project impacts and the proposed wetland mitigation for the Savannah Harbor Expansion Project. The ACE presented the procedures used during the evaluations, the steps followed in developing the wetland mitigation plan and the recommended wetland mitigation. Additional information was summarized and will be included in the final Environmental Impact Statement.

New: Central Hazardous Materials Fund (CHF) Internal Control Reviews. Staff from OEPC are conducting two of the scheduled Internal Control Reviews for this year at select CHF funded sites including Tar Creek Superfund in Oklahoma this week, and Valley Forge National Historic Site in Pennsylvania next week. During these site visits, staff will be reviewing the financial documentation and administrative records to ensure the projects are following all proper procedures and policies.

New: Remedial Action Cost Engineering Requirements (RACER) Technical Review Group: This week, OEPC staff will be attending the interagency RACER Technical Review Group meeting in San Antonio, Texas to discuss agencies management plans, one and five year plans, and review current RACER modules and new modules to be created. The Department is supporting the creation of a new RACER module to be used for cost estimating at mining sites.

New: National Disaster Recovery Framework. The National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF) has been sent out from the Domestic Resilience Group for review and concurrence through the Agencies' Assistant Secretaries. The latest draft of the NDRF still lists DOI as the primary Agency for the Natural and Cultural Resources Recovery Support Function (RSF). DOI will need to concur on whether we will be accepting this designation. At this time, funding for the NDRF will need to come out of Agencies prefunded and existing recovery-related base budgets and staffing levels. No additional funding will be made available.

New: Spring Storms and Flooding. The OEPC Regional Officer in Denver continues to monitor Federal response activities for the Joplin, MO tornado and ongoing flooding in the Missouri and Platte River basins. He is participating in daily ESF #11 conference calls with both FEMA Regions VII and VIII, providing reports and other situational awareness to OEPC Headquarters, DOI Watch Office, and the ESF #11 coordinators for Regions VII and VIII. Although ESF #11-NCH has not been activated, he is also in communication with FEMA/VII and VIII Environmental and Historic Preservation staff regarding the possible need for DOI assistance.

New: Formerly Used Defense Sites National Forum. OEPC attended the First Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) National Forum on May 24 – 26, 2011 in Chicago, IL. The Forum was held by the DoD, with participants from the EPA, states, and land managers. The purpose of the Forum was to enhance communication and coordination between DOD, environmental regulators, and land managers with the ultimate goal of improving the efficiency and

effectiveness of cleanup at FUDS. Representing Federal Land Managers (FLMs) in DOI, OEPC raised concerns from the Bureaus and field offices that the Army Corps of Engineer (USACE) frequently conducted cleanups on federal lands with minimal coordination with, or involvement by, FLMs. This had sometimes led to disputes about the adequacy of cleanup, and the propriety of imposition of land use controls that restrict the permissible use of the land. The Forum provided OEPC an excellent opportunity to make good contacts and have a productive dialog with those in charge of the FUDS program in the DoD, EPA, and states, which, hopefully, would improve communication and coordination between DoD and DOI and expedite cleanups of FUDS on DOI lands.

New: OEPC staff continues to support BOEMRE categorical exclusion review process. Staff has provided detailed input to policy related Categorical Exclusions. OEPC has participated in the initial meeting on June 3, 2011 with Director Bromwich with respect to the two Categorical Exclusions which received the most public scrutiny after the Macondo well incident and will participate in a follow up meeting on June 9, 2011. OEPC continues to attend weekly NEPA team meetings and BOEMRE Categorical Exclusion Review Team (CERT) Meetings.
Update: DEEPWATER HORIZON Oil Spill Response. OEPC headquarters and regional staff continue to provide support to senior DOI officials, and the Gulf Coast Incident Management Team (GCIMT) based in New Orleans. The current phase of the cleanup is monitoring and maintenance through the spring and into summer.

- OEPC continues to work with the DOI PRFA Cost Documentation Team to review and improve DOI bureaus/offices' reimbursable cost documentation packages and submit them to the US Coast Guard (USCG) National Pollution Fund Center (NPFC). DOI bureaus and offices have received Pollution Funding Removal Authorizations (PRFAs) totaling $91.18 Million in reimbursable budget authority. So far, DOI has submitted cost documentation packages totaling $51.02 Million and the US Coast Guard has processed and reimbursed in full a total of $11.63 Million.

Update: Emergency Support Function (ESF) #11 – Protection of Natural and Cultural Resources and Historic Properties (NCH). ESF #11 NCH has received a mission assignment from ESF #14 – Long-Term Recovery to assist with recovery following the strong storms and tornadoes that impacted Alabama in late April. Preliminary damage assessments were conducted and numerous historic properties have been identified as damaged. FEMA has requested ESF#11 NCH provide an NCH Field Coordinator to help lead the natural and cultural resources recovery effort, and additional staffing to assist with assessment of damaged historic resources, as well as coordinate the integration of environmental considerations into community planning efforts. ESF #11 NCH is working with the Environmental Safeguards Group and the Bureau Executive Agents to identify personnel who could be deployed to Alabama to assist in these recovery efforts.

Completed: The OEPC Alaska Office finalized Revision 7 of the *Wildlife Protection Guidelines: Pribilof Islands* and submitted the document to the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Alaska Department of Environment Conservation for inclusion in the *Aleutians Subarea Contingency Plan*. The purpose of the guidelines is to help ensure that timely and appropriate response actions may be taken when migratory birds and/or fur seals are at risk of oiling, or have been oiled, following an oil discharge in the marine

environment. The guidelines are the result of collaborative work among representatives of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, and Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Pribilof Islands' local governments, Native corporations, Federally-recognized tribes, and fishing and petroleum products industries. The OEPC Alaska Office is the lead for this work.

Office of Policy Analysis

New: Principles and Requirements for Water Resource Projects. Policy Analysis reviewed and provided comments on Chapter III of the new *Principles and Requirements* (formerly known as the *Principles and Guidelines*). The *Principles and Guidelines* are currently used by federal water resource agencies to evaluate the benefits and costs of water resource projects.

Update: Office of Surface Mining Stream Protection Rule. Policy Analysis economists participated on the technical review panel for the proposal OSM received to conduct the regulatory impact analysis that will accompany this rule.

Update: National Ocean Policy Implementation. The outlines for the nine Strategic Action Plans (SAPs) for the National Ocean Policy were released for public comment on June 2. At the CEQ's request, the Department hosted two Listening/Public Comment sessions on the SAPs: June 9 in Barrow and June 10 in Anchorage, Alaska (BOEMRE lead); and additional sessions will be held on June 30, in New Jersey, Monmouth University (BOEMRE lead); and June 27, Portsmouth, NH (USGS lead). Laura Davis represented the Department at a Deputy-level meeting of the National Ocean Council on June 9. The National Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning Workshop will be held June 21-23, in the Yates Auditorium at the Department of the Interior. The Secretary has been invited to speak on June 21.

Ongoing: Establishment of "Fast Track" OMB Approval Process for Qualitative Feedback on Customer Service Delivery. In accordance with Executive Order 13571 of April 27, 2011, "Streamlining Service Delivery and Improving Customer Service," PPA will establish an expedited process for obtaining OMB approval of surveys of the public on DOI customer service delivery. Once the process is established, DOI bureaus and offices can simply submit a proposed survey to OMB to be approved within 5 business days. Policy Analysis has requested that the bureau information collection clearance officers provide estimates of the annual use their bureaus will be making of this process. Such estimates are a necessary part of the submission that PPA will make to OMB for approval of this process.

Ongoing: 2011 Spring Invasive Species Advisory Committee Meeting. The Spring 2011 ISAC Meeting, "Managing Natural Resources in the Interior West to Control Invasive Species", will be held June 14-16, 2011, in Denver, CO. The meeting will focus on adapting management of invasive species in the vast Rocky Mountain/High Plains region, with the goal of gaining a better understanding of landscape ecology, climate change, land development, introduction pathways, and new invaders. The plenary sessions will be held on Tuesday, June 14; and Thursday, June 16, 2011. A day-long field trip is scheduled for Wednesday, June 15, 2011, during which participants will visit the Rocky Mountain National Park to learn about local on-the-ground efforts in invasive species management. **Deputy Assistant Secretary Lori**

Faeth is scheduled to attend and will deliver remarks as the guest speaker during the Thursday plenary.

Ongoing: Pacific Invasives Partnership Meeting. Starting on June 7, National Invasive Species Council (NISC) staff will spend 3 days on Guam en route to the 4-day Pacific Invasives Partnerships (PIP) meeting in Suva, Fiji. On Guam, NISC staff will meet with collaborators working on the Micronesia Bio-security Plan and discuss the new territorial law establishing the Guam Invasive Species Council and a stable bio-security program funding mechanism. In Fiji, NISC staff will update PIP members from throughout Oceania, New Zealand, and Australia on a variety of U.S. activities in the Pacific and discuss opportunities to link and strengthen initiatives through collaborative strategy development.

Ongoing: Economic Report. PPA revised the draft report to address comments received from the Council of Economic Advisors and met with DAS Faeth, Laura Davis, Matt Lee-Ashley and OCL on June 7 to discuss releasing the report.

Ongoing: Pelton Round Butte (OR) Hydropower Relicensing Settlement. Policy Analysis participated in a teleconference with BIA hydropower staff to review the options used to value tribal lands that were inundated by water from the Pelton Round Butte Hydroelectric Project. The Office may be requested to provide additional assistance depending on the complexity of the case. BIA has provided a number of background documents that PPA is continuing to evaluate. Another teleconference is scheduled for the week of June 6.

Completed: Capitol Hill Oceans Week, June 7-9, 2011: American Prosperity and Global Security: Ocean Solutions for the 21st Century. The PPA Ocean, Coasts and Great Lakes team represented the Department at Capitol Hill Oceans Week (CHOW). Chief of Staff Laura Davis and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement Deputy Director Walter Cruickshank participated in the program. The Department displayed an exhibit emphasizing the ocean role and ongoing work toward implementing the National Ocean Policy: Hosting the Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning workshop, organizing Strategic Action Plan listening sessions, and continued involvement with the National Ocean Council, the Ocean Resource Management-Interagency Policy Committee and the Ocean Science and Technology Interagency Policy Committee.

Completed: USGS Economics Workshop. PPA staff attended a USGS workshop on future directions for economics at the USGS. The Economics Staff director participated on a panel addressing how economic analysis can add to the USGS research portfolio and how can it increase the relevance of USGS science to the Department.

Office of Native Hawaiian Relations

Updated: Screening of the Documentary "Under a Jarvis Moon" On May 31, 2011, Region 1 of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in celebration of Asian American Pacific Islander Month, screened the documentary "*Under a Jarvis Moon*." This documentary tells the story of over 130 young men employed by the U.S. Department of the Interior – most of whom were Native Hawaiians – who were sent to occupy Howland, Baker and Jarvis Islands from 1935 to

1942. While their public mission was to take weather readings and collect specimens and records of the wildlife on and around the islands the United States secretly recruited these young men to colonize the islands to keep them out of the hands of other countries. This screening is a follow-up from the May 12, 2011, showing of the documentary by the Office of Native Hawaiian Relations and Office of Insular Affairs. The Office of Native Hawaiian Relations and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are working together to determine the best course of action for recognizing the services of the more than 130 men who served on the islands.

Office of International Affairs

New: UN Report on Right to Water. OIA is coordinating DOI comments on a report of a UN Special Rapporteur on a right to water and sanitation in the US. The report reviews current domestic frameworks for providing clean water and sanitation with an emphasis on access to water by minority or disadvantaged communities. BIA, USGS, USBR and BLM will review the report and provide comments relevant to their respective mandates and programs.

New: Technical Assistance Team in Oman. A DOI-ITAP team of two will travel to Oman to continue advising the Ministry of Environment and Climate Affairs (MECA) and other key partners on the development of Oman's protected area system. The team will meet with MECA officials in Muscat, as well as representatives of Omran (an ecotourism development organization), the Supreme Committee for Town Planning, and the Environment Society of Oman. The team will also hold consultations in the field at key protected area locations, including Masirah Island, Ras al Hadd Nature Reserve and the Daymaniyat Islands Nature Reserve. Team members will advise the Omani partners on how to integrate the protection of Oman's unique natural resources into economic development and tourism projects. This work is funded by the State Department.

Update: Climate Change Engagement: OIA staff participated on June 2 in meetings led by State to provide read-outs from the most recent climate negotiations in Bangkok and discuss next steps leading up to the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties in Durban, South Africa later this year.

Update: Cooperation with Brazil on Natural Disasters. OIA hosted a meeting on June 2 with Carmen Moura, International Affairs Adviser to Brazil's Ministry of Science and Technology, to discuss natural disaster management, in support of Brazil's efforts to develop a national disaster response center. USGS presented on the use of geospatial tools in disaster management, and the use of scientific data for flood preparedness and response, while the Offices of Emergency Management, Wildland Fire Coordination, and Environmental Policy and Compliance shared perspectives on operational aspects of disaster management. Moura expressed interest in exploring personnel exchanges between the Ministry of Science and Technology and USGS, to gain deeper understanding of scientific tools for disaster management. She noted that while floods are the most immediate priority, in the long run the center will address a broader range of natural and man-made disasters.

Update: DOI International Coordination Committee Convenes. The June 1 meeting of bureau international chiefs, convened by OIA, generated good discussion on how to improve

coordination and communication on bureau international activities. Bureaus committed to increased efforts to look out for each other's interests, and explore opportunities to utilize the ICC meetings to expand inter-bureau collaboration on international affairs.

Office of Restoration and Damage Assessment

ORDA Strategic Planning Meeting. The Office of Restoration and Damage Assessment will hold its annual strategic planning meeting in Breckenridge, CO from June 13-17. Deputy Asst. Secretary Lori Faeth will attend the first two days of the meeting. The office staff along with members of the Restoration Program's Work Group and attorneys from the Solicitors Office will be discussing a wide variety of issues ranging from the Program's operations and procedures and future budgetary and personnel directions to a biennial review of the Department's NRDA regulations. The group will also go on a field trip to the Leadville area to inspect the progress of former NRDA case restoration projects.

YOUTH, PARTNERSHIPS AND SERVICE

Office of Youth in the Great Outdoors

America's Great Outdoors Implementation

New: Office of the Secretary Fellows Program (Summer 2011). For the summer 2011 the Office of the Secretary will host 26 undergrad and graduate students from across the country. All but four fellows started on June 6th. Fellows will be working with the White House Liaison, PMB, NISC, Office of Financial Management, Fish Wildlife & Parks, Energy, Water & Science, Office of the Director, GIS, Youth in the Great Outdoors, Communication & New Media, Intranet, and many others. The fellows will attend weekly lunches with senior political and career staff at DOI; networking events; community service projects at parks and refuges; and OS events and programs. They are excited to be here and we are excited to have them!

Ongoing: 21 Century Conservation Service Corps Advisory Committee (21 CSC AC) FACA Charter Finalized and Transmitted to the Secretary for Approval. Public notice to establish the FACA Committee and call for nominations for the 21CSC is expected to be published in the Federal Register next week. DOI Solicitor (Staff for General Law) approved the Charter, GSA concurred, and the Transmittal Memo to the Secretary requesting his signature on the Charter is moving through surname process in AS/PMB.

Ongoing: AGO Education Work Group. The Youth Office assisted NPS in co-leading the first face-to-face interagency AGO Education Work Group meeting. Support included reviewing bureau's AGO implementation plans and highlighting action items that will produce early accomplishments.

Ongoing: Youth Impact Evaluation Toolkit. The Youth Office, in consultation with Performance Management, prepared an online Survey Monkey survey for use internally by bureaus employing summer interns this year. Participants will complete the survey during the

first and last weeks of their summer program. The Youth Office continues to work with others to secure OMB approval for the Youth Impact Evaluation Toolkit so that we can measure the impact of DOI youth programs with participants who are not employed by DOI.

Ongoing: MOU – DOI/Wilderness Inquiry. MOU drafted to renew and expand the expired MOU between (1) DOI (BLM, BOR, NPS, and FWS); (2) USFS; (3) US Army Corps; and Wilderness Inquiry, Inc. The expanded purpose of the renewed MOU is to "establish framework for cooperation to increase recreation, service and careers related to America's Great Outdoors" for people of all abilities, particularly low-income, underserved and diverse youth."

Ongoing: MOU- DOI (BLM, FWS, NPS)/USDA (USFS) and HistoriCorps. MOU drafted with primary purpose for partnership to cooperatively identify joint historic preservation projects, HistoriCorps was launched as initiative of Colorado Preservation (2009) and is expanding through western states to mobilize and employ youth and teach volunteers trade skills, sustainable technology to restore historic buildings on or adjacent to public lands.

Leveraging Public/Private Resources

Ongoing: Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) Partnership. DOI Cooperative Agreement signed June 1 between DOI (Julie Rodriguez) and Southwest Conservation Corps for the AmeriCorps Summer Intern Program with BLM, FWS, BOR, USGS. NPS will hire interns using an existing cooperative agreement.

Office of Service – Take Pride in America

New: Conference participation. This week Take Pride in America presented and participated in the River Rally Conference in Charleston, South Carolina; and also at the National Conference on Volunteering and Service in New Orleans, Louisiana.

TECHNOLOGY, INFORMATION AND BUSINESS SERVICES

Office of Hearings and Appeals

Update: Hydropower Licensing Rule. The OHA Director revised the draft hydropower licensing interim final rule to reflect the Assistant Secretary's policy guidance on how to proceed on the major remaining issue in the rulemaking. The revised draft was sent to the interagency working group for comment.

Update: White Earth Reservation Land Settlement Act (WELSA) Cases. The OHA Director wrote the Chairwoman of the White Earth Tribe to inform her that OHA would continue to handle WELSA cases from the Twin Cities area. This was the Tribe's preferred option, since the staff had indicated they could not relocate to Bemidji, Minnesota. OHA is working with GSA to find new space for its WELSA office, once the Whipple Federal Building is vacated for renovation this summer.

New: OHA Delegations of Authority. The OHA Director drafted revisions to OHA's delegations of authority chapter in the Departmental Manual and sent it to the Solicitor's Office for review. The main change would give OHA judges express authority to make heirship determinations involving certain Native allotment claims. BLM has several cases it would like to refer to OHA for such determinations.

Office of the Chief Information Office

New: Assistant Director of Information Resources (ADIRs). The OCIO has received three nominations for the Assistant Directors of Information Resources from BIA, NPS and FWS. A GS-15 ADIR was selected for OSM last week.

New: Oracle Bridge Contract. A one-year Oracle Bridge Contract was awarded to maintain continuity of the Department's existing Oracle maintenance services. An enterprise level agreement, which will provide for deeper discounts for the Department, is forthcoming.

Update: Successful submission of the BY 2012 Updated Passback Exhibit 53 to OMB. The OCIO submitted Budget Year (BY) 2012 Exhibit 53 to OMB. The BY 2012 total is $977.33 million, representing a $53.39 million increase from the passback submission in January. Increases are primarily due to more accurate reporting, essential spending or projected spending that has not been reported previously, in addition to some actual increases associated with mission investments.

New: DOI iStat Performance Board to review NPS Point of Sale System. The iStat Performance Board will be examining one IT investment rated "red" or "yellow" on OMB's Federal IT Dashboard per month, beginning with the NPS Point of Sale System, the only DOI IT investment currently rated red in the Federal IT Dashboard.

New: DOI success story for NIST's *Fourteenth Annual Report on Federal Agency Use of Voluntary Consensus Standards and Conformity Assessment.* OCIO is coordinating with the Office of Surface Mining to highlight its success with geospatial standards for coal mining boundaries, which have been adopted as international standards by the American Society for Testing and Materials. These standards have improved safety, reduced costs, and improved the electronic permitting process..

Update: Data Center Consolidation. BIA completed consolidation of two additional data facilities.

Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution.

New: Customer Service. CADR will provide process support for NPS's new customer service team and will coordinate between the Open Government and the Customer Service initiatives.

New: Executive Development Training. CADR is partnering with the Office of Strategic Employee and Organizational Development to provide training on conflict management, collaboration and public participation.

New: National Indian Gaming Commission. CADR is providing impartial process assistance for a reorganization effort.

Update: Request for ombuds/change management assistance. The Office of the Special Trustee is consulting with CADR on ombuds and change management services to assist managers and employees during a period of significant organizational change and transition.

Ongoing: Open Government Initiative. The Open Government Steering Committee and working group are finalizing a new action plan that will be submitted to the AS PMB for approval. Progress continues on open and transparent communications and engagement, including a new "challenge" seeking suggestions for a new DOI logo and the testing of an ideation tool for internal and public use.

Ongoing: Landscape Conservation Cooperatives. CADR is partnering with the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to provide process support to the FWS in planning next steps for the LCCs network.

Ongoing: CORE PLUS services. CADR is providing conflict management and dispute resolution assistance and services for managers and employees in all bureaus and offices in more than 30 active matters. The ongoing work includes mediating EEO complaints, grievances and interpersonal conflicts, and facilitating team and office planning and teambuilding processes, as well as individual coaching.

National Business Center

New: PII Release. An employee of the Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH), which is a client of NBC's email service, sent an email with an attachment containing personally identifiable information for 56 individuals to another internal AFRH employee, who enabled auto-forwarding to their Blackberry.Net account. The Data Loss Prevention tool failed to block the message, and the message was routed in the clear to Blackberry.net. To prevent similar future incidents, NBC has disabled the auto-forwarding capability. AFRH has accepted responsibility for the incident and will notify their employees.

New: **AMD Accepts Custody of 22 New gMAV Unmanned Aircraft**. AMD accepted 22 new gMAVs (gasoline powered Micro Air Vehicle systems) from the Army. USGS and BLM are exploring options for using the gMAV's still and video imagery sensory platform to support a wide variety of DOI missions.

New: **Interagency Collaboration and Improved Safety.** The AMD Associate Director signed a cooperative Memorandum of Understanding with the Commander, U.S. Air Force Air Mobility Command for the exchange of aviation safety information related to a civil air carrier's capability to safely and efficiently provide services to the United States Government.

New: AMD Collaboration with Idaho Army National Guard for Small Unmanned Aerial Systems (sUAS) Training Site. AMD Technical Services recently collaborated with the Idaho

Army National Guard to complete a Memorandum of Agreement for use of the Guard's Orchard Training Area.

New: AMD Support Increases Bureau Aviation Safety Training Compliance. As a result of AMD Training Division's use of live interactive distance learning, there has been a 13% increase in instructor led M3 ("Aviation Management for Supervisors") course completions, with a 400%+ increase in students completing instructor led M3s taught by AMD staff.

New: AQD makes exceptional progress in FBMS data cleansing. As of May 27, 2011, AQD has made significant progress in data cleansing efforts in preparation for FBMS migration. From the initial 16,144 actions identified in late February 2011, AQD has reviewed and cleansed 32% of outstanding actions to date. During the week of May 23 – May 27, 2011 AQD reviewed and cleansed 903 actions for this project.

Office of Valuation Services

Update: Contracting Branch. Selections have been made for two Contract Specialists and a Contract Facilitator.

HUMAN CAPITAL AND DIVERSITY

Office of Human Resources

New: Telework Training. The training required for employees and supervisors to participate in telework is now available through DOI Learn. The training is linked to the OPM telework site and once complete, the training is recorded in DOI Learn. To access the training, employees and supervisor should search the DOI Learn Catalog for "telework" and then take the appropriate course. While there is no actual test at the end of the course, a self-certification of the training is required. Supervisors will receive an email notification from DOI Learn when their employees complete the training in DOI Learn.

Update: Bureau Competitive Areas. Bureau competitive areas have been collected and forwarded to the Solicitors office for review.

Update: National Park Service (NPS) Accountability Program. The Office of Human Resources (OHR) approved a request from the National Park Service (NPS) to postpone three of its accountability reviews originally scheduled for fiscal year (FY) 2011. NPS is currently transitioning to their new Servicing Human Resources Office (SHRO) structure, and consequently, are having difficulty finding team members for their FY 2011 reviews. In addition, because of the transition many of the parks and offices are overloaded and cannot spare employees to work on the review teams. OHR approved this request on the condition that NPS provide a detailed plan on how they will incorporate the three postponed audits into their schedule over the next three years. OHR also asked NPS to provide a copy of their new multiyear schedule.

NPS is also looking into ways in which they can streamline the review process and use tools such as surveys instead of interviews, and electronic media such as the electronic official personnel folder (eOPF) to enable them to conduct interviews, at least in part, remotely. The Accountability team will be working with NPS to explore these ideas.

No Change: The accountability team will be participating in the following reviews scheduled over the next three months:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Region 2, Albuquerque, NM, June 27 ─ 30, 2011;
- BLM Colorado Office, Denver, CO, June 27 ─ July 1, 2011;
- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Bureau of Indian Education, Albuquerque, NM, July 18 ─22, 2011;
- NPS Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park, July 18 ─ 22, 2011;
- Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) Pacific Northwest Region, Boise, ID, August 1 ─ 5, 2011.

Office of Civil Rights

New: Disability Rights Coordinating Committee (DRCC) Meeting. Senior Equal Opportunity Specialist David Quirino, Public Civil Rights Division attended the Disability Rights Coordinating meeting held at the Main Interior Building on June 2, 2011. The agenda included increasing the number of members in the DRCC by identifying experts to serve on the different standing subcommittees such as facility, program, employment, emergency preparedness, and electronic and information technology. The group discussed updates to the strategic plan and planned Disability Summit. A presentation was given by Kareem Dale, Special Assistant to the President for Disability Policy, who works in the Office of Public Engagement and is on the Domestic Policy Council told the members that he is working with Congress on reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act, which contains disability access provisions.

New: Minority Serving Institutions-Community of Partners Council (MSI COPC). On June 7, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) represented DOI in a meeting of the MSI COPC at the US Department of Commerce, located in Washington, D.C. The meeting of representatives, from several Federal agencies, included a discussion of the group's participation in the MSI National Conference, scheduled for September 27-28, 2011, in Dallas, Texas.

New: EEO Compliance Training, NPS, Southeast Region, Office of the Comptroller. OCR Senior Policy Advisor Alvin Dillings conducted EEO Compliance Training on June 8-9, 2011, for managers, supervisors, and non-supervisory employees of the NPS, Southeast Region, Comptroller's Office. The training was ordered by an EEOC Administrative Judge following a recent finding of discrimination against the DOI and NPS. The training is also available to other NPS managers and employees for completion of Annual EEO Training.

Update: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month – June 2011. DOI joins the Nation in observing the month of June as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month. During June, we recognize the many achievements and contributions made by LGBT Americans to strengthen the fabric of our society. In observance of LGBT Month, the Office of

Civil Rights, Bureau of Land Management, and DOI Chapter - Gay, Lesbian, and other Bisexual Employees (GLOBE) co-sponsored programs on June 7, 2011, in the South Interior Building and another is planned for June 22, 2011, in the BLM "M" Street 4th Floor Conference Room. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Commissioner Chai Feldblum provided the keynote address at the June 7, 2011 program. The program is open to all DOI employees in the Washington D.C. Metro area, as well as to area General Services Administration (GSA) and Office of Personnel Management (OPM) employees.

Update: Development of National MOU with the Asian American Government Executives Network (AAGEN). The Office of Civil Rights is currently partnering with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to develop a national Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with AAGEN. The U.S. Geological Survey will serve as the lead bureau on the MOU with AAGEN. In advance of signing a national MOU, OCR and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service co-sponsored an exhibit booth at the 2011 AAGEN National Conference in Crystal City, VA on June 9, 2011.

Update: icomplaints User Training and Webinar. On June 8, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights presented "icomplaints User Training," for DOI EEO Practitioners. The training was held at the NPS, National Capital Training Center, in Washington, D.C. The training is designed for both new users and experienced users of icomplaints.

Update: Rescheduled EEO Counselor Training. During June 27, 2011-July 1, 2011, OCR, in partnership with the National Park Service, will provide EEO Counselor Training at the NPS Service Center in Lakewood, Colorado. A Basic EEO Counselor Training Course will be conducted during June 27, 2011-July 1, 2011. An Advanced EEO Counselor Training Course will be conducted during June 29, 2011-July 1, 2011. Training will be provided by staff members of OCR, NPS, and USGS. Additionally, a presentation will be made to each class by two administrative judges of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

<u>Office of Strategic Employee Organizational Development</u>

New: Competency Model Training. Lynn McPheeters, President, DOI University, Rob Foye, DOI Intern Program Manager, and OSEOD Deputy Director Jerry Gidner received Competency Model Training certificates following a three day course by Workitect, Inc. Workitect is the leading provider of competency development systems, tools, and programs.

New: Upcoming Forums.

- On June 14, OSEOD will host Roger Connors, co-author of The Oz Principle, for a Career, Diversity and Leadership forum to be held at the National Transportation Safety Board auditorium.

- On June 16, OSEOD will host John Berry, Director of the Office of Personnel Management for an SES Forum on workplace issues. The Forum will be held at the National Transportation Safety Board auditorium.

Ongoing: FISSA 2011 Course. The Learning Technology Solutions Division completed both the paper copy and CD versions of the course. The CD version of the course is available on the CD download website. The paper copy of the course will be distributed as needed. To date over 48,700 DOI employees, contractors and volunteers have completed the training.

National Indian Program Training Center (NIPTC)

Ongoing: Tribal Consultation Policy Training. OSEOD has been asked to assist with the design and delivery of training on the DOI Tribal Consultation Policy. We are gathering data for an inventory of existing training.

Office of Occupational Safety and Health

New: POWER Safety and Health Working Group. The Safety and Health Working Group members have presented their "brainstorm" ideas for injury reduction strategies and are now blending them into a cohesive document for presentation at the Designated Agency Safety and Health Officials (DASHO) meeting.

LAW ENFORCEMENT, SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Immediate Office of the DAS

New: Northern Border Operations/Access and Possible Impacts on Endangered Species. Borderlands Coordinator Andrew attended a meeting with Spokane Border Patrol Sector Chief Gloria Chavez, and USFS Regional Forester Leslie Weldon regarding access to Forest Service lands and potential impacts on grizzly bear core habitat. The meeting was very productive and a path forward to provide for BP access without impacting bears was outlined. There was recognition that BP access was a different nature than general public access and was less impacting. Follow up meetings are planned in the coming months. Andrew also attended the Spokane Sector BMTF meeting the same day and participated in a site visit at Glacier National Park with Chief Ranger Mark Foust and SA Oman.

Update: New Legislation Proposed in House. Representative Quayle's (R-Indiana) bill, H.R. 1992 a bill with provisions identical to the McCain-Kyl Bill (S. 803) which would provide Customs and Border Protection with expedited access to DOI lands for the purpose of improving border security went through mark up on June 2nd. Hearings were expected, but have not been scheduled.

Update: Work Load and Staffing Needs. Fish and Wildlife Service staff continue to express concerns about keeping pace with the work load associated with environmental compliance needs related to border security. Most work is related to Endangered Species Act compliance but NEPA and cultural and historic resource concerns are also significant. These concerns have been expressed to CBP with a request for transfer funding, addition of CBP environmental staff or a clear expression of priority needs for CBP projects. Meetings with CBP leadership are planned for the week of June 12 (Rob Jansen).

Update: Interagency Agreement with Customs and Border Protection. FY 09 and 10 dollars that had been set aside in support of this agreement were lost in the final budget resolution for FY 11. CBP is evaluating other options to support the agreement with end of year funds. Discussions on the amendments to the existing Interagency Agreement are continuing so that when funding becomes available the approved projects in the amendment can be executed. The amendments under consideration would provide justification for as much as 22 million dollars to purchase lands to mitigate for the impacts of waived border infrastructure projects in California (San Diego NWR) and Texas (South Texas Refuge Complex). Resolution of the final mitigation justifications is expected in the next month.

Update: Northern Border EIS Being Prepared by CBP. The internal draft of this EIS is undergoing review and concerns have been raised over the document, time frames etc. CBP will be preparing a single document for the entire border. A request for cooperating agency status was received by letter dated March 14, 2011. A letter acknowledging and describing the DOI role as cooperator was sent the on May 26, 2011. The current, ambitious, schedule indicates issuance of a Record of Decision in the fall of this year. DOI and USDA will be provided with an opportunity to review the Draft PEIS prior to the scheduled public release in mid June, followed by public release of the draft. Public meetings will be held in July followed by a 45-60 day comment period. Documents will be placed on the DOI Sharepoint site for review. As of June 7 the PEIS Draft had not been released.

Update: Ajo Forward Operating Base (FOB). CBP has received draft reports on Sonoran Pronghorn Antelope activity in the project area to use in project planning. Draft environmental reports are expected to be out for internal review in early July and a coordination meeting is scheduled for the week of July 4th or 11th. This project is being funded with FY 2010 dollars that must be obligated this FY. Construction of the new, expanded facility will likely be at the currently approved tower site now occupied by a temporary camp which was relocated from the Bates Wells area. BP Agents are now operating at the site in temporary facilities.

Update: Integrated Fixed Towers - OTIA (Office of Innovation, Technology and Acquisition) Program Development (formerly known as SBInet). Site visits have now been completed in three locations, Sonoita/Nogales, Douglas and west of Tucson. Borderlands Coordinator Andrew has rescheduled an overall briefing with OTIA leadership on the status of OTIA activities for June 13th. This briefing will include a summary of progress on tower activities and other aspects of the program such as mobile and agent deployed equipment.

Update: Radio Transformation. Project directors are waiting for approval to hire a senior-level project manager. Initial Core Team meeting is scheduled for June 22.

No Change: Environmental and Cultural Stewardship Training Module. CBP, USDA, and DOI Bureaus are working cooperatively to develop a two hour, on line, mandatory course to be used by CBP to orient CBP personnel to DOI and USDA Forest Service lands and resources. The aim is to educate and thus reduce unnecessary impacts on natural resources and the environment. The Alpha version of the module is overdue from the contractors but is expected soon. Field launch of the module is still expected to begin this fall.

No Change: CBP to Prepare NEPA documents for Maintenance of Tactical Infrastructure Along the Southwest Border. CBP initiated interagency scoping for programmatic NEPA documents in December. A letter describing efforts to date and the plan for preparing NEPA documents for "non-waived" tactical infrastructure was sent to land managers and permitting offices. The initial work will focus on California and Arizona with draft documents released in late July for Arizona and mid August for California. Texas and New Mexico will be released later. The scope of the analysis also includes "new" construction and routine operational maintenance of constructed projects, e.g., roads and fencing. TIMR contracts for other border maintenance work will be finalized this summer. CBP has provided a list of Project Managers for TIMR. These managers will work closely with the Public Lands Liaison Agent to identify and address maintenance needs. Coordination meetings with FWS Field Offices in Carlsbad and Tucson will take place on the 24th and 25th to discuss the possible impacts on endangered species.

No Change: Emergency Rescue Beacons on Organ Pipe NM, BLM Lands and Cabeza Prieta NWR. Border Patrol has relocated rescue beacons due to changes in undocumented alien activity patterns. One of the sites is in an area used by the endangered Sonoran pronghorn. An assessment of possible impacts on this species is being conducted under emergency rules. All beacons are therefore in place and functioning. At the same time, possible impacts are being evaluated. The beacons must be checked daily to assure they are operational and discussion is focused on the best time of day to check the beacons to avoid disturbance to pronghorns.

No Change: Forage Enhancement Plot and Drag Road on Luke Air Force Base. Forage enhancement plots are sometimes used to provide additional food for the endangered Sonoran pronghorn. The region is experiencing a prolonged drought and this program of irrigating a large area provides a supplement to naturally available forage. Illegal activities have resulted in the need for CBP to have access to drag a road in proximity to the FEP. The concern is that regular dragging of this road is disturbing the pronghorn and make the FEP ineffective. Discussions are continuing in an effort to resolve this through relocation of the FEP, possible changes in road dragging methods or some other means.

No Change: Update of Department of the Interior Borderlands Strategy. The last borderlands strategy dealing with security and environmental issues was completed in 2003. DOI Borderlands Coordinator Jon Andrew has initiated internal scoping for a revised document. Scoping comments will be received until June 3 and a draft document will be prepared and circulated internally for review. A final version of the strategy is expected to move forward in late summer for approval by the Secretary.

No Change: Mitigation Project on Lower Colorado River. BLM and CBP had negotiated an agreement to offset impacts of CBP activities through restoration of riparian habitat. After substantial planning and design work BOR noted that the proposed project was located on a site planned for dredge spoil deposition. BLM and BOR are discussing at the regional level and seeking solutions which will allow the planned project to move forward. The field meeting originally scheduled for early March is now scheduled for May 18. Alternative sites have been identified for mitigation and will be evaluated on this field trip.

No Change: Annual Public Lands Liaison Conference. This annual conference will be convened in Tucson from June 28-30.

No Change: Interagency Interoperability. The Interagency Interoperability Oversight Group met on May 26 to discuss a Secretarial level charter and to re-configuration of the group to make it more agile and strategic. Two major sets of initiatives are underway. First is interconnectivity of networks and cross-recognition of credentials. A large interagency conference call took place this week among USDA, FS, and DOI CIO offices, with LESEM, to coordinate and prioritize a number of activities in this area. This work also involves the DOI and USDA Identity, Credential, and Access Management (ICAM) program offices. The second initiative is radio program improvement including interoperability, infrastructure consolidation, and use of new technologies. This initiative is being handled through the DOI Radio Transformation Project in partnership with USDA and Forest Service.

No Change: Fire IT Project. The project leaders are preparing a report to the sponsors.

No Change: Gulf Coast Response Staffing. The DOI transition plan has been signed and transmitted to the Coast Guard.

No Change: Short-term Access to Government Computers for Emergency Response. OCIO Directive 2011-005 was signed and issued. Initial planning on interagency (between Interior and Agriculture) is underway.

No Change: Civil Applications Committee Coordination. The chair of the CAC (USGS Deputy Director Suzette Kimball) and the Interior CAC representative (Deputy Assistant Secretary – Water and Science) briefed the Deputies Operating Group in March on the mission and purpose of the CAC and solicited bureau input on improving coordination within Interior.

No Change: Interagency Dispatch Improvement. All bureaus/agencies have signed the charter. Plans for a meeting or conference call of the Steering Committee are underway.

No Change: Wildland Fire Accident Investigation Procedures. The protocols and procedures for conducting safety investigations after serious accidents differ between the Interior Department and the Forest Service (and somewhat within Interior) with respect to such issues as the role of law enforcement, sharing of information, and release/use of results. In December 2009 a "summit meeting" of wildland fire, safety, and law enforcement was held to discuss these issues and develop solutions. On January 27 the chair of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group briefed the Deputy Assistant Secretary – Law Enforcement, Security, and Emergency management on the results of their efforts to develop a common approach within the wildland fire community. That work now needs to be discussed with safety and law enforcement program managers to determine how to agree on a common approach to these investigations.

<u>Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES)</u>

New: OLES Participation in Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) Conference on Law Enforcement Supervisor and Manager Training. OLES participated in a

two-day curriculum development conference for FLETC's training programs for law enforcement supervisors and managers. One core course satisfies the OPM requirement for new supervisors. Twenty agencies participated in this conference to update the programs to meet the current and future needs of FLETC customers. DOI bureaus participate in these programs, including classes exported to Indian Country.

New: Canadian Niche User Group Conference. Members of the Technology Division attended the Canadian Niche User Group Conference from May 30th - June 2nd. This conference was hosted by Niche Technology, the vendor that provided the Incident Management, Analysis, and Reporting System's Records Management System (RMS). During the conference, the Technology Division attended sessions on specific functionality in the RMS, learned project management approaches from other law enforcement agencies, and networked with US and Canadian law enforcement agencies. When more US customers deploy the Niche RMS, a US users group will form.

New: OLES Security Division Participation in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Interagency Security Committee (ISC) Violence in the Workplace Group. OLES is participating in the ISC working group addressing violence in the workplace. The ISC is developing updated guidelines that incorporate aspects of how to both prevent as well as how to respond to violence in the Federal workplace.

New: Final Draft of the DOI (OLES) National Monuments and Icons (NM&I) Sector Annual Report (SAR). OLES is designated as the Sector Specific Agency in Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) 7 for NM&I's and as such has to produce a sector annual report for the Department of Homeland Security. OLES has completed a final draft of the report and is in the process of coordinating a DHS final review.

New: OLES Meeting with DHS Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) Directorate's Northern and Maritime Border Branch. OLES has coordinated with BIA and with DHS to host a meeting to discuss DHS I&A's analytic efforts related to Indian Country along the northern border. The goal of the meeting will be to review their activities and determine how best to engage towards a mutually supportive relationship.

New: OLES Presentation on Open-Source Investigative Data Bases for DOI Law Enforcement Investigators. OLES will be hosting in-person and remote access presentations on Open-Source investigative databases for DOI Law Enforcement investigators. OLES is seeking ways to lower overall costs of acquiring these services through an enterprise-wide, corporate account approach.

New: Spokane Borderlands Management Task Force (BMTF) Executive Meeting: OLES chaired a meeting for the BMTF executives. The meeting outlined future management of the BMTF and discussed on-going issues of access on Forest Service lands by the Border Patrol. Interagency Borderland Coordinator Jon Andrew attended. A full BMTF meeting followed the executive meeting where steps were outlined to move issues forward.

Update: OLES Departmental Security and Intelligence Workshop. This workshop provides required in-service training that satisfies part of the required 40 hour annual training for DOI security and law enforcement personnel. The security portion of the workshop will highlight the team effort between the Golden Gate Bridge Authority, National Park Service, United States Park Police, California Highway Patrol, San Francisco Police Department and the U.S. Coast Guard in supporting the security program at one of the Nation's most iconic structures, the Golden Gate Bridge. The Assistant Secretary of Infrastructure Protection from the Department of Homeland Security, Todd Keil, has confirmed his participation as the keynote speaker. A draft agenda has been completed and includes presentations from the FBI, Montgomery County Police Department, the NPS, and the Golden Gate Bridge Authority.

Update: Main Interior Building (MIB) Security. The MIB is currently undergoing the following security upgrades:

- **Electric Bollards:** The C ramp bollard installation is complete and C ramp is now opened. The A ramp bollard was installed and is complete and A ramp is now open. Work has started on the G ramp bollards.
- **Exterior Guard Booths:** The C ramp guard booth has been installed and is operational. The A ramp guard booth has been installed and is operational. Installation has started on the G ramp guard booths.
- **Physical Access Control System (PACS):** The PACS solicitation has been posted on the GSA schedule and a contractor "walk through" was completed on April 14th.
- **OPM/GSA Campus Initiative:** Internal Security continues to download OPM/GSA personnel files to allow unfettered access for GSA and OPM employees into MIB.
- **Intrusion Detection System (IDS) and Camera Rehabilitation:** Significant progress has been made on the IDS. Work should be completed w/in the next month.
- **MIB Child Care Center:** OLES Director and DAS briefed on the estimated ($472,095) security upgrade costs associated with this initiative. A talking points paper was submitted for follow-up.
- **MIB Entrance Re-design**: DAS Andrew Jackson commissioned a study to redesign the C and E street entrances into the MIB. OLES has reviewed and commented on this plan.

No Change: OLES Security Assessments. OLES has completed security assessments (in accordance with 444 DM 2) on four of the five designated National Critical Infrastructure (NCI) Dams including Hoover, Folsom, Shasta and Grand Coulee. An assessment has been scheduled at Glen Canyon Dam for the week of June 20th. In addition, OLES has completed assessments at the following National Monuments and Icons: National Mall, St Louis Arch, Statue of Liberty, and a progress review at Mount Rushmore. Additional assessments are in the process of being scheduled at the USS Constitution in July and the Liberty Bell in August. A security assessment (in accordance with 444 DM 1) has been completed at the main BOEMRE facility in New Orleans and at the USGS EROS Data Center located in South Dakota. Also in May OLES conducted a "test" security assessment, using draft guidance, at Davis Dam.

<u>Office of Emergency Management (OEM)</u>

Update: Emergency Response Activities. The Interior Operations Center (IOC) monitored the following activities during the past week:

- *Flooding in the Missouri River Basin:* Flooding is occurring in Montana, Nebraska, North and South Dakota and Iowa due to continuing precipitation and melting snowpack. The Standing Rock Reservation along with the Corps of Engineers is conducting flood fighting operations on reservation land. The Crow, Fort Peck, Omaha, Fort Yates and Rocky Boys Tribes, among others, are being impacted by the flooding. BOR has increased and maintained a heightened alert level for seven dams in the region and USGS teams continue to monitor flow rates and water levels throughout the river system.
- *Flooding in the Lower Mississippi Valley:* The Mississippi River has crested as far south as New Orleans, and water levels at most stations are slowly receding. It may be an additional month before accurate damage assessments can be done. 27 refuges are still responding to flood conditions.
- *Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Response*: Sixty-five DOI personnel continued to work full-time in New Orleans on Deepwater Horizon planning and operations.
- *Four Large Wildfires Continue to Burn on DOI Land:* Over the past weekend the National Wildfire Preparedness Level was increased to 3. There are currently fourteen large wildland fires burning on DOI land in AK (11), GA (2) and NC (1). These fires are impacting facilities under the control of FWS and BLM. Currently there are 1,235 DOI personnel who are actively involved in the interagency firefighting efforts to put down wildland fires.
- *Tropical Weather:* The beginning of the 2011 Atlantic Hurricane Season on June 1 was highlighted with the formation of two weather disturbances in the Gulf of Mexico last week.

Update: National Level Exercise (NLE) 11. A preliminary draft of the After Action Report to address issues captured from the National Level Exercise and the Emergency Management Council Table-Top Exercise is being reviewed within OEM this week. The final report will include lessons learned and proposed corrective actions in accordance with the Department's Corrective Action Program

Update: Enterprise-level Emergency Management Applications. OEM and OCIO continue to make progress on completing enterprise-level emergency management applications. OCIO has begun testing the Contact Management System's ability to managing lists of emergency personnel by automatically feeding data into the Outlook email lists.

Update: Exercise Eagle Horizon-2011 (EH-11). The DOI HQ COOP Team Training sessions to fulfill the annual COOP Team training requirement along with providing an EH overview will continue for the next few weeks. Monday's training session at Site C included the opportunity for participants to test their capabilities at the site as well as partake in the training. Exercise EH-11 will take place on June 23 and will focus on the ability of federal agencies to execute essential functions when their primary continuity sites are inoperable.

Update: Continuity of Operations (COOP) Team Configuration. OEM continues to work with Emergency Coordinators to refine the roster of essential leadership and personnel required

to work from alternate facilities during emergency situations. OEM utilized the EH briefings to update Departmental leadership on their representation and solicit final inputs for their alternates, especially. OEM also performed extensive updates in the new Contact Management System last week to input the data provided on updated COOP team rosters. The updated COOP Team configuration will be included in a revised DOI COOP Plan; the COOP Plan revision is now in progress with the plan to be published prior to exercise EH-11.

Update: Occupant Emergency Planning (OEP). Revisions to the DOI Occupant Emergency Plan and Occupant Emergency Employee Guide based on lessons learned from the 2010-2011 evacuations and drills have been completed; final coordination of the plans will begin this week. OEM is working with NBC Facilities Management and the GSA Fire Protection Engineers to finalize the procedures for the use of elevators to evacuate people with disabilities during a building emergency. Installation of the red emergency phones in the SIB is expected to begin this weekend and should be completed and tested by June 24.

Update: Interagency Emergency Health Policy. LCDR Elaine Wolff, our detailee from the U.S. Public Health Service, will be representing DOI in participating in the Interagency Animal Zoonotic Disease Group meeting on Wednesday. Others in this group include FWS, USDA and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Update: Single Point Ordering of Resources. OEM held a collaboration meeting with the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) and the National Park Service (NPS) on May 11 and May 16 which resulted in a consensus as to the concept of operations for integrating NPS all-hazards resources and the non-land management agencies into the ROSS dispatch system. No significant resources will be required to modify the system to implement the concept; however, there will be resource costs for data management. Last week, OEM briefed the Deputies Operating Group (DOG) on progress and costs associated with implementation of ROSS for dispatch of "all-hazard" resources.

No Change: Indian Affairs Emergency Management Expert Study. OEM provided additional content to the Indian Affairs Emergency Management Expert Study from the Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs (AS/IA)-sponsored Tribal Assistance Coordination Group (TAC-G) Conference and the AS/IA Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. The final report is in the development stages, now that the input collected from the Tribal and federal partners during the three site visits has been integrated into the study effort.

No Change: All-Hazards Positions and Qualifications Guide. The Emergency Management Council (EMC) approved the latest iteration of the *DOI Positions and Qualifications Guide* on May 4. The updated Guide includes positions that were developed as a direct result of the Gulf Oil Spill. OEM received comments from the EMC on the draft policy regarding emergency incident staffing and will be making changes prior to further EMC review. Both efforts directly support the effort to ensure all DOI responder qualifications are loaded into the same qualifications system and subsequently into the single point ordering system for future emergency response efforts.

Office of Wildland Fire Coordination (OWFC)

Update: National Wildland Fire Management Cohesive Strategy - Phase II. The country has been organized into three regions – Northeast, Southeast and West. A Regional Strategy Committee (RSC) guides the activities in each region. Each region has the responsibility to complete a qualitative report articulating the region's values, goals, objectives, and actions and activities that represents the area's best opportunity to reduce risk. The cohesive strategy effort is an all-land, all-hands approach to addressing wildland fire and therefore the inclusive involvement and collaboration of stakeholders is critical. The RSCs are establishing working groups in each region to support completion of the qualitative report and developing outreach plans to ensure adequate engagement of stakeholders throughout Phase II. The science support for the CS has been divided into 8 sub-groups focusing on fuels, ignitions/prevention, smoke, resilience, firefighter safety, suppression, public safety / social vulnerability, and public acceptance/policy. Updates and information on the Phase II can be found at http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/strategy/.

Update: LANDFIRE – 2008 Refresh Production. The last geographic area has had a partial delivery with HI being completed by May 31, 2011. The remaining segment of this geographic area, Alaska was delayed but should be delivered the week of June 5th. Production work of LANDFIRE deliverables was divided into two groups (Group A and Group B) with a staggered delivery of data products to meet leadership direction of data needs for Fire Program Analysis (FPA). All Group "A" data products will be delivered the week of June 5th. Group "B" deliverables will be completed throughout the summer to the end of the fiscal year. The first through seventh of a total of eight geo-areas have been delivered, namely: the Southeast, Pacific Northwest, Pacific Southwest, Southwest, North Central, South Central, and Northeast. Updating LANDFIRE data products as part of the Refresh project is focusing on areas where vegetation composition and structure have changed due to activities such as: wildland fires, fuel treatments, or vegetation management. The 50 United States were organized into eight geographic areas based on ecological parameters.

No Change: Community Assistance. The Community Assistance (CA) program leads met last week to chart a path forward to fulfill the recommendations of the Office of Inspector General's (OIG) evaluation of the DOIs CA program.

No Change: Fire Program Analysis (FPA): Preparations are underway for the next Fire Program Analysis (FPA) Oversight Group Meeting scheduled for June 22 and 23, 2011 in Boise, Idaho. The meeting will be available through VTC for a limited number of Washington Office US Forest Service members due to internal travel restrictions.

In preparation of the upcoming independent, external review of the Fire Program Analysis program, the FPA Scope Definition document has been revised and is being reviewed by the FPA Staff. The FPA Scope Definition document will be shared with the FPA stakeholders on June 22, 2011 at the FPA Oversight Group Meeting for review and comment. The full suite of documents is in the process of being updated and finalized.

No Change: Fire Program Analysis (FPA). The FPA Business Process and Technical Review Request for Information (RFI) has been prepared and posted, soliciting interest from GSA

contractors. Use of the RFI method will expedite the contracting process. If the Open Market Option is employed, then time frames would be extended. The RFI will close on May 27, 2011. The Request for Quotes (RFQ) will be posted by June 8, closing June 22. The anticipated award date is not later than June 30. An interim report is requested by the Oversight Group by mid-August with a final report complete by September 30, 2011.

No Change: Wildland Firefighter Safety – Annual Report to Congress. Interior and the Forest Service prepared the joint report to Congress on wildland firefighter safety practices, including training programs and activities for wildfire suppression and prescribed fire during the 2010 calendar year. A joint DOI and FS letter is being prepared for submission to Congress.

BUDGET, FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND ACQUISITION

Office of Acquisition and Property Management

New: DOI Acquisition Conference. PAM and the Acquisition Managers' Partnership will host a DOI-wide acquisition conference June 21-23, 2011, in Denver, Colorado. The theme of the conference is "DOI Acquisition: Adapting to Change in the 21st Century," and will feature speakers from the Office of Management and Budget, General Services Administration, Office of Inspector General, and Office of the Solicitor." The agenda focuses on relevant topics such as DOI business and acquisition priorities, acquisition workforce, IT Transformation, Strategic Sourcing, and FBMS. The conference will provide Continuous Learning opportunities for acquisition professionals.

Office of Budget

New: Unobligated Balance Congressional Data call. House and Senate Appropriations Committees have increased their focus on budget execution, particularly unobligated balances, as a potential means for identifying potential reductions or rescissions. On May 31, POB issued guidance to bureaus and offices establishing monthly reporting requirements on the execution of funds, with the first report due to POB on Friday, June 3. This first phase requests data at the "Committee support table" level for discretionary accounts only. The second phase, due to POB on June 10, requests data at the account level for mandatory accounts only. Thereafter, bureau/office execution data for both discretionary and mandatory accounts will be due to POB on the 15Th of each month. This data will then be transmitted to Congress.

Update: 2013 Budget Formulation. In anticipation of significant budget reductions in FY 2012 appropriations, PMB issued revised guidance on May 20 directing bureaus and offices to provide information that will be needed in the weeks to come. This guidance directed bureaus and offices to anticipate the impacts of Congressional reductions in 2012 and formulation reductions in 2013. Specifically, the guidance called for:

- A reduction scenario for 2012 with an across-the-board reduction of 11 percent from the 2011 operating plan level. The information will be used to communicate the potential impacts of likely House action for 2012.

- A reduction scenario for 2013 planning that is 11 percent below 2011 that protects specific priorities such as LWCF.
- A reduction scenario for 2013 planning that is 11 percent below 2011 that does not protect priority goals and initiatives.

This guidance package also included bureau-specific and cross-cutting guidance. Technical guidance was provided on May 27 that contained specific instructions on the presentation of these scenarios and associated explanation of impacts/changes. On June 3, POB provided further guidance on calculating separations and separation costs associated with the reduction scenarios.

Update: 2011 Spring Storm Damage Report. Bureau responses to the POB data call indicate an estimated $22 million in damages to facilities and resources resulting from the recent spring storms. This does not include an estimated $60 million in asset damages related to the Pacific Tsunami reported by FWS. POB is reviewing updated damage estimates from bureaus to determine what, if any, new damage estimates have resulted from the more recent incidents, such as the tornado in Joplin, MO.

No Change: OMB Travel.

- Week of June 26 – OMB Examiner James Hurban will visit the Rocky Mountain Region to review BIA and OST programs.
- Week of July 25 – OMB Examiner Tomer Hasson will travel to FWS Region 6 Mountain-Prairie from July 25 to July 30. The trip will cover a number of FWS-related issues, including wolves, sage grouse, wind energy, fisheries, and oil and gas development. POB Analyst Willy Gilmore will accompany him.

Office of Financial Management

New: FBMS Information Technology Audit Kick Off. PFM participated in the FBMS IT Audit Kick Off on June 2. Six of the seven NFRs from last year have been closed. It is anticipated the final NFR "FBMS Prompt Pay Compliance" will be closed in mid June.

Update: GovTrip Audit. PFM issued a memorandum conveying the procedures for conducting fieldwork related to the Office of the Inspector General's audit of GovTrip Use and Monitoring by the Department of the Interior (Assignment No. WR-IN-MOA-00062011). Based on a meeting with the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), the OIG's access will be coordinated with the designated audit liaisons.

Ongoing: GAO Draft Report. PFM received and processed the GAO draft report on *ACORN and Potentially Related Organizations*. The report contained no recommendations for the Department.

Office of Planning and Performance Management

No Change: OMB performance.gov website. OMB is awaiting White House clearance for the opening of the performance.gov website for public access. The address is:

http://performance.gov. The website includes materials on all agencies on Priority Performance Goals, Information Technology and Open Government, Human Resources, Acquisition Improvement, Sustainability, Financial Management, and Customer Service. All materials have been reviewed and approved by the Department.

No change: FY 2010-2011 Priority Performance Goals. The Deputy Secretary completed the quarterly reviews of priority goals and a set of follow up actions will be issued based on the discussions at the quarterly reviews conducted by the Deputy Secretary.

New: GPRA Modernization Act. The Department received draft instructions from OMB for implementation of the Ac, including the preparation of an annual performance plan, reductions of reporting by 10 percent, and improved monitoring of performance metrics. An initial meeting was held with bureau and office representatives to discuss how to implement changes. PMB representatives will be meeting one-on-one with bureaus to discuss the implications of the new act and garner best practices. Guidance will be issued to guide implementation based on bureau and office input.

Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization

New: Special Joint Session. A special joint session of the Chief Acquisition Officers Council (CAOC) and Small Business Procurement Advisory Council (SBPAC) will be held on June 13. The joint session will provide an opportunity for greater collaboration between CAOC and SBPAC communities to help ensure acquisition systems are both efficient and effective and taking full advantage of the skills and talents of small businesses. The agenda will include: agencies' management of the small business goaling process, small business advisor professionalization and development, set-asides for multiple award task and delivery order contracts, the new women-owned small business rule, and, recognition of individuals and groups that provide significant contribution to small business contracting.

Update: Implementation of White House Small Business Procurement Group Recommendations. On April 26, the White House requested that Federal agencies implement a review process to analyze the amount of dollars and contracts awarded to small businesses via the use of multiple-award contracts. This analysis was completed and the report is in the review process within the Department.

Update: SBA FY 2010 and 2011 Scorecard. SBA is scheduled to release the FY 2010 Goaling Report and Scorecards by June 15. Based on the information submitted by SBA to the Department, the Department is expected to receive a grade of "A" for our Small Business Program accomplishments. The Small Business Administration (SBA) intends to begin the process of setting Small Business Program Goals for Federal agencies by the beginning of July. The process will consider Small Business Program accomplishments from all of the agencies based on the previous three years' accomplishments. Once this process is completed, the agencies will have an opportunity to negotiate with SBA based on each suggested Small Business Program goal prior to the release of the final goals before the start of the next fiscal year.

No Change: Events Scheduled. The OSDBU has the following events scheduled. Please contact OSDBU for further information.

- **June 14: Intermountain Region Outreach Event in Houston, TX**. Registration for the event is open and over 170 small business have registered as of June 1, 2011
- **September 15 (tentative) New Mexico Outreach Event in Albuquerque, NM.** Further details to be provided when finalized.

FBMS Program Management Office (PMO)

Update: FBMS Deployment 6 Test Readiness Review – Integration (TRR-I). The TRR-I was held on May 31. The purpose of the TRR-I was to validate that appropriate system preparations have occurred for D6 Integration Testing. During the TRR-I, the FBMS System Integrator (IBM) used a comprehensive checklist to brief D6 stakeholders on the status of prerequisite actions required for D6 Integration Testing, and recommended D6 integration testing be allowed to begin. After the TRR-I, DOI D6 stakeholders recommended to the FBMS Sponsor that D6 integration testing be allowed to begin. The FBMS sponsor approved the recommendation and integration testing began on May 31. Integration testing is scheduled to end on August 19.

New: Special FBMS Executive Steering Committee (ESC) Meeting. On June 1, a special meeting was held for ESC principals, FBMS Bureau Leads, and ESC advisors. Rhea Suh, Assistant Secretary for Policy, Budget, and Management; and Chris Henderson, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of the Interior, attended the meeting. The meeting was held to receive a presentation from representatives from McKinsey & Company on their third party assessment of FBMS. The presentation highlighted FBMS achievements and identified potential improvement areas that could produce greater value in IT saving and cost avoidance, process efficiency, purchasing and asset management, and performance management and management effectiveness. The meeting attendees discussed the FBMS improvement areas and next step ESC actions. The ESC will hold its regular monthly meeting on June 14, during which FBMS activity updates will be presented by the FBMS PMO, NBC, DO, and FWS. However, the majority of the meeting time will be devoted to continuing the discussion of potential FBMS improvement areas and making decisions concerning them.

Departmental Offices FBMS Implementation Office

No Change: FBMS Cycle 2 Testing. The OS IMO has been working to develop an internal project plan and identify lead testers for Cycle 2 testing that will begin mid July. These testers will primarily be subject matter experts that are daily system users. User Acceptance Testing (UAT), which begins in August, will require a different audience of testers that will bring more OS users into the testing labs. Both testing cycles are carried out in PMO labs in Herndon and Denver.

No Change: Training Workshops. The OS IMO is preparing for training workshops on D6 Deployment that will begin in July. Tentative workshops are scheduled for July 12-13, August 10-11, and September 6-7. Locations for fall training for the OS community are being identified.

Office of Natural Resources Revenue

Federal Register Notice on Assessment for Erroneous Information (Updated): On June 9, 2011, ONRR published a Federal Register notice setting an assessment for mismatched payments or inadequate information on solids minerals, geothermal, and American Indian oil and gas leases. ONRR is authorized to collect such assessments based on the regulations at 30 C.F.R. § 1218.41. The assessment amount is $214.00 per infraction, an amount which is based on ONRR's associated costs with processing inadequate information or mismatched payments. ONRR Public Affairs prepared a draft response for inquiries and potential Questions & Answers in support of this Federal Register notice.

Report to Congress: Analysis of RSFA Provisions and Adjustments to Royalty Payments (No Change): ONRR will be submitting for Departmental review a report to Congress as requested in GAO-08-893R, *Mineral Revenues: Data Management Problems and Reliance on Self-Reported Data for Compliance Efforts Put MMS Royalty Calculations at Risk.* The report examines the six-year time period during which companies may adjust their Federal royalty data without ONRR approval and ONRR's seven year time period for issuing monetary demands. The report notes that the majority of company adjustments occur within the first three years of the six-year period.

Indian Oil Negotiated Rulemaking (No Change): ONRR is in the process of forming a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee (Committee) to address the valuation of crude oil produced from Indian leases. ONRR is working with the Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution and the Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to obtain a third party neutral to serve as facilitator for the Committee. In addition, ONRR has submitted the proposed nominees to the White House liaison for vetting. Once the White House liaison approves the members, the Department will publish *Federal Register* notices announcing the members and establishing the Committee. Additionally, the Secretary will need to sign the charter for filing with Congress. The estimated timeframe for holding the first meeting of the Committee is August 2011.

Align Goals of WASC and ONRR Implementation Work Group (IWG) Highlights (New): The Align Goals of WASC and ONRR IWG team is continuing research into existing Federal administrative support providers to gather already established metrics and process mapping to assist in the development of the team's metrics and processes. The Human Resources group has also met with the National Business Center's Human Resources team to begin the transition coordination.

IWGs to Present Milestones to ONRR Senior Management (New): The IWGs will present their milestones and deliverables for approval in senior management meetings scheduled for late June and mid-July, 2011.

Cooperative Agreement Reviews (Ongoing): Staff from the State and Tribal Support office conducts Cooperative Agreement Reviews to enhance our partnership with the States and Tribes and comply with Section H 10 of the 202/205 Agreements and CFR Title 30, Part 227 (Delegation to States) and Part 228 (Cooperative Agreements with Indian Tribes). On a cyclical basis, ONRR is required to conduct attestations to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the Delegations/Agreements. The main areas reviewed include the audit work done under the Agreement, contract costs incurred under the Agreement, special provisions for safeguarding and maintaining work papers, records developed under the Agreement, and equipment.

- Ute Mountain Ute review on June 28-29, 2011

Outreach with Individual Indian Mineral Owners (Ongoing): ONRR continues its outreach with individual Indian mineral owners. These meetings enable us to listen to concerns and suggestions for royalty accounting improvement, answer questions, and identify and resolve mineral-related problems in partnership with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Office of the Special Trustee. ONRR's goal is to enhance our trust responsibility and foster a positive working relationship with the Indian community. Outreach sessions will take place with mineral owners including:

- Farmington Area, Farmington, NM, on June 14, 2011
- Pueblo Cultural Center, Albuquerque, NM on June 14, 2011
- Kauley Settlement, Anadarko, OK, on June 15, 2011
- Ft. Berthold Agency, New Town, ND on June 15, 2011 (morning)
- White Shield Community Center, White Shield, ND on June 15, 2011 (afternoon)
- Turtle Mountain Agency, Belcourt, ND on June 16, 2011
- Northern Ute Pow-wow, Ft. Duchesne, UT on July 1-2, 2011

From:	Kemkar, Neal
To:	Neal Kemkar (CEQ) (nkemkar@ceq.eop.gov)
Subject:	FW: Bureau Reports 6.17.11
Date:	Friday, June 17, 2011 4:34:10 PM
Attachments:	Weekly Report 6.17.11.docx Reports awaiting management response as of June 17 2011 (2).xlsx

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From: Sisk, Jennifer R
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2011 4:34:05 PM
To: DOI_Politicals
Subject: Bureau Reports 6.17.11
Auto forwarded by a Rule

Have a wonderful weekend!

- Jennie

Jennifer Sisk
Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff |U.S. Department of the Interior
202-208-5403|Jennifer_Sisk@ios.doi.gov

OIG - Reports Awaiting Management Response

June 17, 2011

Reports	Report Title	Bureau/ Office	Status	Response Due Date	Contact	Comments	PFM Action/Remarks
Draft ER-IN-BIA-0016-2009	Fire Equipment Purchases	BIA	Completed	5/30/2011			Response submitted to he OIG on May 31st.
Draft HI-EV-NPS-0001-2010	National Park Service: Climate Friendly Parks Initiative	NPS	Late	5/31/2011	Vera Washington (202)354-1960		Unable to track the response.
Final K-CX-BOEM-0001-2011	Final Costs Incurred by Accenture,LLP under Contract No. M99PC14572, with BOEMRE	BOEMRE	Completed	6/15/2011			Response submitted to he OIG on June 13 h.
Final K-CX-BOR-0003-2010	Martin Brothers Construction, Inc. Request for Equitable Adjustment under Contract No. R10PC20747, Modification No. 2, with the Bureau of Reclamation	BOR	Due	6/22/2011			
Final K-CX-FWS-0002-2011	Costs Claimed by Singleton Enterprises for Modification No. 2 under Contract No. 60181RC004, with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	FWS		9/7/2011			
Draft R-GR-FWS-0003-2011	Arizona Department of Game and Fish	FWS	Completed	6/13/2011			Response submitted to he OIG on June 10 h.
Draft R-GR-FWS-0004-2011	Georgia Department of Natural Resources	FWS		6/27/2011			
Draft R-GR-FWS-0005-2011	South Carolina Dept of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries and Division of Marine Resources	FWS	Completed	6/16/2011			Response submitted to he OIG on June 9th.
Final R-GR-FWS-0014-2010	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Grants Awarded to the State of Delaware, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, From July 1, 2008, Through June 30, 2010	FWS		8/29/2011			
WR-EV-BIA-0001-2011	Advisory- Indian Land Consolidation: Mass Appraisals of Indian Lands	BIA		12/31/2011			

Early Alert - Coming up
Due - Due within 10 business days or less of the response due date.
Late - After the response due date.
Extension - Reports that have been granted a response due date extension.
Completed - Response sent to OIG.

Attorney Client Communication – Confidential & Privileged

SOL Weekly Bureau Report for the Week Beginning June 20, 2011

Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Matters:

***New Cases: Defenders of Wildlife v. BOEMRE;* and *GRN v. Salazar* (11th Cir.)**

(b) (5)

Ensco Litigation

(b) (5)

BOP Examination

(b) (5)

Multi-District Litigation (MDL)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Other Matters:

***United States v. Jicarilla Apache Nation* (S. Ct. June 13, 2011).**

(b) (5)

***Water Wheel Camp Recreation Area, Inc. v. Gary LaRance* (9th Cir.)**

(b) (5)

Off-Reservation Gaming

(b) (5)

Grand Canyon Withdrawal

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

TRO Motion on Blythe Solar Project in CA

(b) (5)

Westwide Energy Corridors: The Wilderness Society v. DOI

(b) (5)

Grand Canyon Trust v. U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

(b) (5)

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority v. Department of the Interior.

(b) (5)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
THREE WEEK OUT REPORT
June 17, 2010

WEEK AHEAD

Fee Free Day. On Tuesday, June 21, the first day of summer, entrance fees will be waived at all national parks sites. With 394 national parks throughout the country, most Americans live within a few hours of a park, making them places for easy and affordable vacations any time of the year. Also many national park concessions will also offer discounts on fee free days, saving visitors money on food, lodging, tours, and souvenirs.

John H. Chaffee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor (MA-RI) – Special Resource Study and Preliminary Alternatives. On June 18, the NPS will release a newsletter containing preliminary alternatives for the Blackstone River Valley Special Resource Study. Two of the alternatives include potential NPS unit designations for specific resources in Rhode Island or in both states. Four public meetings have been scheduled for July 7 and 8 to provide opportunities for public comment. Pre-public release copies of the newsletter will be distributed to the appropriate congressional offices.

ON THE HORIZON

Grand Teton NP (WY) – Record of Decision: **FEIS Jackson Hole Airport Use Agreement.** The park expects to release a final EIS for the Jackson Hole Airport Use Agreement Extension in mid-August 2010. A Record of Decision to be signed by the IMR Regional Director is expected in late September 2010. In 2005, the Jackson Hole Airport Board asked that their Agreement with the Department of the Interior, authorizing the airport to operate within the park, be amended to provide for two 10-year extensions. Currently, the 50-year agreement would expire on April 27, 2033. In order to remain eligible for Airport Improvement Program funds from Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the airport must be able to document that more than 20 years remain on their agreement. The park released a draft EIS in March 2009, and is currently preparing the final EIS. The preferred alternative would authorize the two 10-year extensions, and is being modified to address public comments by strengthening the commitment to ensure that the impacts are mitigated and reduced to the greatest extent practicable.

Week Ahead Report
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
June 13, 2011

2011 Priority Renewable Energy Project First to Request Eagle Take Permit: The West Butte Wind Project in Oregon, one of Department of the Interior's Priority Projects, has requested an eagle take permit under regulations authorized by the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. Field and regional office staff are working jointly to prepare the needed Environmental Assessment and other analyses to produce a permit by the end of the year. If successful, this will likely be the first eagle take permit provided by FWS. Considerable analysis of the potential for take and mitigation measures has been accomplished through Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) NEPA process and the Avian and Bat Protection Plan associated with BLM's right-of-way application. We do not anticipate controversy associated with this activity.

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish withdraws from participating in the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project: On June 9, 2011, at a public meeting of the New Mexico State Game Commission (Commission) and New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF) the decision was made by the Commission to have the NMDGF end their support and participation in the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program, effective June 30, 2011. NMDGF will no longer provide staff to assist the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Mexican Wolf Interagency Field Team to capture, monitor, translocate wolves, or any other activities related to the program. We are communicating with NMDGF and determining how this might impact Mexican wolf recovery. Media coverage has been extensive locally.

Final Revision to the 2008 Northern Spotted Owl Recovery Plan
FWS is coordinating with BLM on the release the final revision to the 2008 recovery plan for the threatened northern spotted owl in order to meet a court-ordered deadline of *July1, 2011*. The main recommendations in the final revised plan relate to conserving spotted owl sites and high value habitat both inside and outside reserved areas established by the Northwest Forest Plan, actively managing forests to restore ecosystem dynamics and promote overall forest health, and managing the barred owl, which displaces and competes with the spotted owl. Level of controversy: High.

Mexican gray wolf shot and killed at the Minnesota Zoo: A Mexican gray wolf was shot and killed at the Minnesota Zoo on Wednesday after it chewed through its enclosure and escaped onto zoo grounds, which were very full with visitors. The 8-year-old male wolf slipped through the gaps of a fence in the keeper area of its exhibit into a secondary enclosure where it jumped an 8-foot fence. Zoo officials said no people were in immediate danger but they decided to shoot the wolf because they couldn't predict where it would go or whether it would hurt people visiting the Northern Trail if tranquilized. Zoo officials said tranquilizers take eight to 10 minutes to take effect and since the animal was in close proximity to visitors, the zoo's emergency response team decided to shoot the wolf. The wolf was M833, which was part of the Species Survival Plan breeding population in the Minnesota Zoo. M833 had been placed in a back pen to accommodate 2 wolves that were evacuated from the Dakota Zoo and brought to the Minnesota Zoo temporarily due to flooding. Media coverage continues to be significant nationally

Significant Drought Impacts of Endangered Aquatic Species in New Mexico: Drought and wildfires throughout the Southwest are threatening aquatic species and habitats. Over the past two weeks, the FWS Southwest Regional office has moved several fish populations from drying rivers in NM including 1050 Pecos bluntnose shiner~~s~~ and 10 Chihuahua chubs. The fish are being held in refugia at Dexter National Fish Hatchery and Technology Center, and will be returned to the rivers from which they were captured once water levels rise.

Missouri River Flooding: Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is closed until further notice. Desoto NWR is closed to the public. The three mile temporary dike has been completed to protect against the original prediction of 32 foot crest. The new prediction for the crest is 34 feet. FWS will not be increasing the dike height. Stanley Engineering is performing an evaluation to protect the museum at DeSoto NWR, and Midwest Archeology Center is providing 4 staff to assist in moving museum collection. FWS will continue to remove material until access is no longer available. DeSoto NWR is moving heavy equipment to higher ground.

Wallow Fire Update - AZ: As of Thursday, June 9, the Wallow Fire in eastern Arizona had grown to 400,000 acres with five percent containment and is anticipated to become the largest fire in Arizona history by the week's end. The communities of Alpine, Nutrioso, Greer, Blue River, Sunrise, Eager and Springerville have been evacuated. Many FWS staff have been evacuated from their home and offices and are currently working and living at Sevilleta NWR. . Two wolf packs that are known to reproduce regularly in Arizona - the Rim and Bluestem Packs - are in the immediately impacted area of the fire. The fire's impact on these wolves is uncertain at this time. An Interagency Field Team will monitor the after-effects of the fire and may provide supplemental feeding if the wolf's prey base diminishes significantly immediately after the fire. Other affected threatened and endangered species include Mexican spotted owl, Chiricahua leopard frog, Apache trout, loach minnow, spikedace and Little Colorado spinedace, and the only two locations of the proposed Three Forks springsnail appear to have been overrun by the fire. When fire conditions permit, FWS personnel will begin to assess these species and habitats and make determinations for salvaging aquatic species prior to monsoon storm deposition of sediments in occupied streams. Additionally, the 116,000-acre Horseshoe Two and 68,000-acre Murphy Complex fires continue to burn in endangered species habitats in southern Arizona. Media has reported on efforts to save species habitat in Sycamore Canyon on the Murphy Complex Fire. Media coverage has and continues to be extensive.

2011 Priority Renewable Energy Project First to Request Eagle Take Permit: The West Butte Wind Project in Oregon, one of Department of the Interior's Priority Projects, has requested an eagle take permit under regulations authorized by the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. Field and regional office staff are working jointly to prepare the needed Environmental Assessment and other analyses to produce a permit by the end of the year. If successful, this will likely be the first eagle take permit provided by FWS. Considerable analysis of the potential for take and mitigation measures has been accomplished through Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) NEPA process and the Avian and Bat Protection Plan associated with BLM's right-of-way application. We do not anticipate controversy associated with this activity.

Draft Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines: FWS received approximately 30,000 comments on the Draft Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines at the close of the public comment period May 19, 2011. Comments were provided by wind energy industry companies and coalitions,

wildlife conservation organizations, state, federal, and tribal agencies, environmental consultants, and concerned citizens. In addition, the Wildlife Society provided a peer review of the draft Guidelines on June 3, 2011. FWS will consider all comments received, and the peer review as it formulates the final Guidelines. Due to high public interest and the immediate need for guidance and consistency, completion of the final Guidelines is a high priority. FWS aims to produce final Guidelines by October 2011. We expect public, congressional, and media interest to be high.

Proposed Rule to Remove Exception from Permitting Requirements for Three Endangered African Antelopes
When FWS listed three African antelopes--scimitar-horned oryx, addax, and dama gazelle--as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 2005, the listing was accompanied by a rule that exempted these animals from the ESA permitting requirements for various activities (take, interstate and foreign commerce, export and re-import) if the animals involved were captive-bred in the United States. FWS was sued by the Friends of Animals and others over the rule because they argued it was not consistent with the ESA, particularly its provisions allowing for public notice of activities conducted with endangered species. The judge in the case agreed with the plaintiffs and remanded the rule to FWS. FWS, in consultation with the Office of the Solicitor, has concluded that the only action it can take that is consistent with the judge's ruling is to repeal the rule and subject these animals to the normal permitting procedures that are applied to other endangered species. FWS plans to send a proposed rule to initiate this action to the *Federal Register* during the week of June 27, 2011.

Surface Coal Mining - Cumulative Effects Analysis: From November 2010 through April 2011, an interagency group comprised of FWS, Environmental Protection Agency, U.S Army Corps of Engineers, and Office of Surface Mining began a collaborative effect in order to improve cumulative effect analysis during surface coal mining project review. The result of this collaboration is a set of findings and recommendations that was presented to the Agency Principals on June 8, 2011. This effort will not only result in expedited permit reviews, but also provide a process for predicting potential cumulative effects to watersheds, and the ability to run scenarios to reduce those impacts through project design modification. This could avoid future damage and loss of watersheds due to placement of excess fill in streams from surface coal mining activities. We expect congressional interest to be high; we anticipate moderate controversy.

Revisions to 1983 Principles and Guidelines - Federal water resource investments: The 1983 Principles and Guidelines (P&G) established a detailed framework for the public-interest and cost-benefit analyses of Federal water resource investments. The Water Resources Development Act of 2007 required significant revisions to the 1983 document, including modernization elements, including a watershed-based scope of analysis and a higher profile for projects focused on ecological restoration. FWS has participated in review of numerous iterations in the revision process led by Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ). In the first week of June, 2011, CEQ and Office of Management and Budget announced to Federal agencies their plan to initiate a final, brief review among the agencies prior to publication in late June. The revised P&Gs, now titled Principles and Requirements, will be released along with an Executive Order and a Guidelines document that directs agencies to develop agency-specific implementation guidance. We expect public and congressional interest to be high; we do not anticipate controversy from FWS perspectives.

Southern Sea Otter Military Readiness and Conservation Act: The U.S. Navy (Navy) plans to submit a draft legislative proposal for the FY13 National Defense Authorization Act. The amendment would repeal the 1986 legislation (Public Law 99-625) that authorized the southern sea otter translocation program, and put in place a regulatory regime that included the relaxation of Endangered Species Act (ESA) requirements (pertaining to sea otters) for defense-related activities in a "translocation zone," and the relaxation of both ESA and Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) requirements (pertaining to sea otters) for all activities in a much larger surrounding "management zone." FWS is currently pursuing a rulemaking that would terminate the translocation program, allow natural range expansion of southern sea otters into Southern California, and restore full ESA and MMPA protections to the species (The Navy's proposed legislation would allow them to retain ESA and MMPA exemptions in some areas, but to date, the Navy and FWS have not reached an agreement on the need for legislation or the areas to which proposed exemptions would apply. The Navy provided draft legislation to FWS on June 1, 2011, and is seeking input from FWS, but appears prepared to proceed independently. We expect public interest to be high and anticipate some controversy.

90-day Finding on a Petition to List the Bay Skipper: The 90-day finding concludes that substantial information exists to indicate that listing the Bay skipper (butterfly) may be warranted. Primary threats to the species include hurricanes and sea level rise. *Potential Issues:* The petitioners (WildEarth Guardians and Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation) filed a 60-day Notice of Intent to sue for our alleged failure to make a 90-day finding within the allowable timeframe. Target date for submitting to the *Federal Register* is June 30, 2011

Final Rule to Delist the Concho Watersnake Due to Recovery: The Concho watersnake is endemic to central Texas. As a result of recovery efforts and increased understanding of the biology of the species (including distribution, survival in reservoirs, drought tolerance and diet), the FWS determined that the species has recovered and should be delisted. *Potential Issues:* This species occurs in Representative Conaway's district. There has been controversy over the future management of water levels by the Colorado Municipal Water District. Target date for submitting to the *Federal Register* is July 15, 2011.

Reproposal to Delist Johnston's Frankenia Due to Recovery: Johnston's frankenia is a plant endemic to southern Texas, and an adjacent area in northeastern Mexico. The FWS proposed to delist the Johnston's frankenia due to recovery in 2003. However, the proposed rule was never finalized due to competing workload issues. The FWS is now reproposing the delisting in order to reopen the comment period, and also to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on the draft post-delisting monitoring plan. *Potential Issues:* We do not anticipate any potential issues from delisting this species. Target date for submitting to the *Federal Register* is July 15, 2011.

Final Rule to Delist the Tennessee Purple Coneflower Due to Recovery: The Tennessee purple coneflower is a plant restricted to the limestone barrens and cedar glades of Tennessee. The species' status has significantly improved as a result of recovery efforts, and the FWS determined that the species has recovered and should be delisted. The State of Tennessee now protects the species under the Tennessee Rare Plant Protection Act of 1985. *Potential Issues:* There are no potentially controversial issues associated with this action. Target date for

submitting to the *Federal Register* is July 15, 2011.

12-month Finding an a Petition to List White Bark Pine: FWS received a petition on December 9, 2008 from Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) requesting that whitebark pine be listed as endangered, and to designate critical habitat. Major threats are ubiquitous rangewide with millions of acres already impacted, including: white pine blister rust, mountain pine beetle predation, mortality from catastrophic fire and fire suppression, and inadequate regulatory mechanisms. The draft finding is that listing is warranted, but precluded by higher priority actions. *Potential Issues* : The U.S. Forest Service manages approximately 81 percent of the land containing white bark pine, and is concerned that listing would undermine restoration efforts. BLM and NPS manage a total of approximately 15 percent of the species distribution; neither agency has expressed an opinion on listing. The State of Idaho does not support listing, as they feel there is a lack of 'credible' scientific information to warrant listing. Federal agency fire management plans, restoration activities specifically in wilderness areas, forest management actions, and recreation planning may also affected. Per a settlement agreement with NRDC, the 12-month finding must be submitted to the *Federal Register* by July 15, 2011.

Marine bird workshop scheduled: The FWS's Migratory Bird Program for the Northeast Region is sponsoring a workshop in the Washington, D.C. area from June 21 to 23 on the distribution and abundance of marine birds in the Atlantic Ocean. This workshop is being held jointly with BOEMRE for the purposes of summarizing and mapping all current information on where birds are using the offshore environment. Identification of critical "hotspot" foraging and roosting areas and migratory pathways will be crucial in the development of leasing areas for renewable energy offshore. States, federal agencies (DOE, USGS), non-government organizations and universities are all participating, either in person or through a webinar.

Quick Desk Reference Guide to Approved Drugs for Use in Aquaculture: To assist aquaculturists and other fisheries professionals, FWS' Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership program, the American Fisheries Society's Fish Culture and Fish Health Sections, and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies - Fisheries and Water Resources Policy Committee's Drug Approval Working Group have partnered to prepare and disseminate a "Quick Desk Reference Guide to Approved Drugs for Use in Aquaculture." The desk reference guide is free-of-charge and provides up-to-date information about all FDA-approved aquaculture drugs, including trade names, approved uses, allowable treatment regimens, and supplier contact information.

National Ocean Policy Listening Session: The National Ocean Council will hold three listening sessions in the FWS Pacific Region during June and early July to gather public comments on draft strategic plans identified in the National Ocean Policy. The plans were developed as part of President Obama's charge for federal agencies to implement the *National Policy for the Stewardship of the Ocean, Our Coasts, and the Great Lakes.* The Pacific Region meetings are June 16 in Honolulu, June 27 in Ocean Shores, Washington, and July 1 in Portland, Oregon. The 3 strategic action plans most directly relevant to the FWS Pacific Region concerns are Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning, Adaptation to Climate Change, and Regional Ecosystem Protection and Restoration. FWS regional and field office staff will attend the Portland and Honolulu meetings to listen to public comments and help answer questions, as needed.

Eel River restoration project in Massachusetts will receive Coastal America Partnership Award: Federal, state and local partners of the Eel River project will celebrate one of New England's most ambitious coastal restoration projects in Plymouth, Mass., on Friday, June 17. The project restored about 40 acres of retired cranberry bogs for wildlife and public use. Five years of work has resulted in dramatic improvements to fish passage, water quality, wetland communities, migration corridors and recreational opportunities. The project received $1 million from a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant.

Northwest Montana Native Youth Conservation Corp Program Kicks Off: FWS, in partnership with the Salish Kootenai College, will start a second season on June 13 for the Northwest Montana Native YCC program. Thirteen youth from the Flathead Reservation have been hired to participate in this year's program, which will include a variety of conservation work at Creston National Fish Hatchery, the National Bison Range, and the Flathead Reservation, over a seven-week period.

Pollinator Festival on the National Mall: National Pollinator Week is June 20-26, 2011. FWS staff will participate in a Pollinator Festival on the National Mall, outside of the South Agriculture Building, next to the People's Garden on Friday June 24, 2011, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Other participants will include: U.S. Department of Agriculture - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Agriculture Research Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency, Forest Service/Pollinator Live, People's Garden Environmental Protection Agency, Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, National Park Service, Bat Conservation International, America the Beautiful, and a local beekeeping organization. FWS will also participate in local events across the country.

Pollinator Partnership to Host Congressional Briefing and Pollinator Break: Congressional briefing and pollinator break are planned for Thursday, June 23, 2011, in the Longworth House Office Building. This event will be hosted by the Pollinator Partnership. Haagen Daz and Burt's Bees will provide "pollinator treats" for the break. The Congressional Pollinator Protection Caucus (co-chaired by Tim Johnson (R-IL)) and Alcee Hastings (D-FL) will extend an invitation to hill staff. The event is open to interested stakeholders and the public. The Preliminary Agenda includes: an Update on Honey Bee Health Research, Update on Pollinators and the Farm Bill, Update on Environmental Protection Agency's Pollinator Action Plan, Introduction of Highways Benefiting the Economy and the Environment Act of 2011 [right-of-ways].

LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT
June 19 – June 25, 2011

SENIOR OFFICIALS' ACTIVITIES

ASLM Lewis – In the office all week.
DAS Baca – In the office all week
DAS Farquhar – (b) (6) Speaking at the VA Offshore Wind Conference in Virginia Beach, VA; on Wednesday. In the office Thursday and Friday.

HOT TOPICS

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Wild Horse and Burro

- ***New*: BLM Announces Wild Horse Gather Schedule for Summer 2011*:*** *During the week of June 19, the BLM will announce its tentative summer schedule for gathering wild horses and burros. The gathers will be consistent with the new strategy for managing wild horses and burros on public lands, which includes the use of fertility control. The public and media will be invited to observe the gathers. The BLM expects that these gathers will be controversial, attract media attention, and the attention of wild horse and burro advocates.*

- ***New*: BLM-OR Wild Horse Gather:** *On July 1, BLM-OR will conduct a wild horse gather in the Kiger and Riddle herd management areas (HMA) in Diamond, OR. The combined AML of the two HMAs is between 84 and 138 horses. The total gather will include between 119 and 129 horses. Traditionally, horses gathered from the Kiger and Riddle HMAs are popular at BLM adoptions.*

Forestry

- ***New*: BLM-OR Eugene District Timber Sale:** *On June 23, the BLM-OR Eugene District will offer three timber sales at auction. The Siuslaw Resource Area (RA) will offer a 73-acre density management sale at North Creek for 635 thousand board feet (MBF), and Hawley Creek, a 331-acre commercial thinning sale for 4,570 MBF. The Upper Willamette RA will offer Wilson Creek, an 88-acre density management sale for 1,554 MBF. None of the sales are expected to be controversial.*

- ***New*: BLM-OR Cheney Slate Timber Sale:** *On July 28, the BLM-OR will release the notice for the Cheney Slate Timber Sale. The 140-acre project will include density management, modified group select (specific trees within a small area), and group select for 1.2 million board feet (MMBF). The project was analyzed under the Cheney Slate Landscape Management Project EA. The project is located in the Grants Pass Resource Area. The project is expected to be controversial.*

- ***New*: BLM-OR Double Rum Timber Sale:** *On June 30, BLM-OR will release the notice for the Double Rum Timber Sale. The BLM Grants Pass Resource Area issued a*

Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) for the 41-acre sale for 373 MBF, previously analyzed in the Rum Creek Landscape Management Project EA. There were no changes to the re-offered component of the Double Rum Timber Sale, so there will be no new protest opportunities, and the decision will be effective immediately upon signing of the DNA, anticipated for the week of June 13.

- ***New*: BLM-OR Slim Jim and Fizzy Stew Timber Sale***: On June 30, BLM-OR will release the Notice of Sale for the Slim Timber Sale. The Glendale Resource Area issued a DNA regarding the 231-acre Slim Timber Sale, which is comprised of portions of two mutually cancelled timber sales, Slim Jim Timber Sale and the Healthy Murph Timber Sale, plus the Fizzy Stew Project totaling 900 MBF. No written protests were received within the protest periods for the Slim Jim Timber Sale or the Fizzy Stew Project. One protest from the Healthy Murph Timber Sale was received and subsequently withdrawn.*

- ***New*: BLM-OR Forest Management Decision:** A Decision Documentation will be posted on June 30, for the Bob N Weave CT Timber Sale, which will be held on July 29. The sale includes 1.4 MMBF of commercial thinning and density management thinning. The project is not expected to be controversial.*

Legislative Hearings

- ***New*: Grand Canyon Mineral Withdrawal Briefing:** During the week of June 19, BLM leadership will brief Rep. Grijalva and staff from the House Natural Resources Committee on the status of the potential withdrawal of up to 1 million acres of Federal lands around the Grand Canyon.*

Special Recreation Permits

- ***New*: BLM-NV Denies Western States Racing Association (WSRA) Special Recreation Permit (SRP):** The BLM suspended WSRA's SRP privileges from February 2009 to February 2010 for knowingly racing on an unauthorized course. In a June 8 letter to the WSRA, the BLM-NV Carson City District notified the Association that BLM would not issue a SRP for WSRA's October 29-30 event because WSRA has repeatedly failed to provide required documentation within established timeframes to allow the BLM adequate time to thoroughly analyze the proposed off-highway vehicle (OHV) event. WSRA also failed to enter into a cost-recovery agreement.*

- ***New*: BLM and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Agreement on Ecoregional Planning, Implementation and Monitoring:** On June 7, the Acting BLM-NV State Director and the USFS Humboldt-Toiyabe Forest Supervisor signed an MOU to work together to plan, develop, implement, and monitor landscape-level programs and projects in NV, including Rapid Ecological Assessments, the Great Basin Landscape Conservation Cooperative, Juniper-Pinyon Partnership Project, and sage-grouse conservation.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEMRE)

- ***Update:* Panel Investigation Team--Vermillion 380:** On May 25, the Panel Investigation Team released the findings of its investigation into a fire that occurred on

Sept. 2, 2010, on Mariner Energy Inc.'s, Vermillion 380 oil and natural gas production platform located approximately 102 miles off the coast of LA. The Panel concluded that the fire was caused by the collapse of a fire tube located inside of the platform's Heater-Treater. The Investigative team also issued a safety alert to oil and gas operators to address the findings of the investigation.

- ***Update:*** **U.S. - Mexico Transboundary Issues:** *DOI and the State Department have completed four working sessions with Mexico. The draft counterproposal is under Departmental review. BOEMRE and DOS seek to deliver the counterproposal to the Representatives of the Government of Mexicans on June 20. Outreach sessions include: an interagency briefings at the White House was held on June 15, congressional briefings and calls to Governor's offices of TX, MS, LA and AL are scheduled for June 16-17, a meeting with NGOs on June 23, and a meeting with the oil and gas industry representatives on June 28-29.*

- ***Update:*** **Final Rule – OCS Civil Penalties**: *This Final Rule sets the maximum daily civil penalty assessment by adjusting the current maximum for changes in inflation. BOEMRE can make such an adjustment every 3 years. In this case, the maximum civil penalty will increase from $35,000 to $40,000 per violation per day. The rule is under departmental review and approval.*

- ***Update:*** **Proposed Safety and Environmental Management Systems (SEMS) Rule II:** *This proposed rule requires operators to develop and implement additional requirements to their SEMS program for oil and gas and sulphur operations in the OCS including: a stop work authority, ultimate work authority, an employee participation program, and reporting unsafe work conditions. Additionally, only independent third parties would be authorized to conduct a SEMS audit and would provide additional requirements for conducting job safety analysis for job activities identified in an operator's SEMS program. The rule was surnamed by the ASLM on June 15.*

- ***Update:*** **Ensco v. Salazar:** *Regarding Ensco's complaint alleging undue delay in acting upon applications for permit to drill, on June 8, Ensco and DOJ executed a settlement agreement under which BOEMRE agreed to take action on the six pending permits by Jul. 8. On June 10, the Court issued a stay of the injunction until Jul. 8.*

- Update: **"Smart from the Start" (NJ, DE, MD and VA): BOEMRE is preparing a regional EA and conducting consultations for lease issuance and site assessment activities for areas on the OCS, offshore NJ, DE, MD and VA. U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Commonwealth of VA Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy have agreed to be cooperating agencies on the EA. A preliminary draft of the EA was sent to the SOL and the cooperating agencies on May 16, 201. Endangered Species Act and 106 consultations are ongoing. BOEMRE is also preparing a regional Federal consistency determination (CD) under the Coastal Zone Management Act, Subpart C for all the affected states identified in the Mid-Atlantic Wind EAs. BOEMRE anticipates completion of the**

Regional CD for submittal to the States of NJ, DE, VA and MD in mid-June with the EA.

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

☐ ***New:*** **U.S. Supreme Court Denies Request for Review of Consolidation Coal (CONSOL), et al v. United States:** *In 2001, CONSOL Energy and more than 60 other coal operators filed suit against OSM, claiming that Abandoned Mine Land (AML) fees collected on coal intended for export was a violation of the Export Clause of the U.S. Constitution. The petitioners sought a refund of AML fees previously paid on coal that was ultimately exported. Both the district court and appellate court upheld the government, finding that the fees were levied on "coal produced" rather than "coal sold," and thus did not violate the Export Clause. On June 13, the U.S. Supreme Court denied a Writ of Certiorari to hear the case.*

- ***Update:*** **Meeting with Hill Staff on Breaks Airport**: *On June 16, I met with staff from Senator Warner's (D-VA) office, along with officials from the FAA. This was a follow-up to our meeting with the Senator on May 24th. The June 16th meeting was to lay out for the Senator's staff the technical, legal and other issues related to a "government financed exemption" under SMCRA which if granted would allow, without the issuance of a permit, the mining of coal incidental to a proposed extension of the existing airport in Grundy, Virginia, to be known as the Breaks Regional Airport. The State of Virginia is considering such an exemption and has asked for input from OSM and FAA. OSM is reviewing information submitted by the applicant related to the proposed exemption. This week's meeting was productive, and helped staff to more fully understand the issues that must be resolved.*

WEEK AHEAD – June 19 to June 25, 2011

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Tuesday, June 21:

- **No Change: BLM-WY Public Hearing on Helicopter/Motor Vehicle Use for Gathers:** BLM-NV will conduct a public hearing to discuss the use of motorized vehicles and aircraft in the monitoring and management of wild horses and burros on public lands in NV. The hearing will also consider the use of motorized vehicles to transport gathered wild horses and burros removed from the range during gather operations. The hearing will be held at the BLM-WY Rocks Springs Field Office.

Thursday, June 23:

- ***New*****: Wilderness Policy Meeting:** *At the request of Reps. Bishop and Hastings, the Secretary will host a meeting to discuss the BLM's implementation of the wilderness policy.*

Thursday-Friday, June 23-24:

- **No Change: ID Delegation Courtesy Visits:** *The BLM-ID State Director and BLM Legislative Affairs staff will meet with members of the ID Congressional delegation to discuss the 2011 fire season, renewable energy projects, and sustainable rangelands.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEMRE)

Tuesday – Thursday, June 21-23:

- **No Change: Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning (CMSP):** The National CMSP Workshop will take place at Main Interior. This workshop is a flagship event to develop and carry forward a shared understanding of regional coastal and marine spatial planning processes. The workshop will identify key challenges, solutions, and collaborative strategies for regional CMSP, including steps for developing the tools, resources, and guidance materials to implement regional CMSP plans. The workshop will also engage the public/stakeholders in a dedicated session on CMSP as a further opportunity to educate, listen, and connect to the public. The national workshop will be followed by workshops in all nine regions. National workshop attendance is limited to a selected group of approximately 250 Federal, state, regional and tribal representatives.

Thursday – Friday, June 23-24:

- **No Change: Joint BOEMRE/DOE/NOAA Workshop on Metocean Information Needs for Resource Assessment and Design Conditions:** There will be a workshop in Crystal City, VA to obtain information on existing needs for acquiring meteorological and oceanographic information to support deployment of offshore renewable energy plants, particularly wind and marine hydrokinetic (MHK) technologies. Breakout groups will focus on the following: Forecasting; Energy Projections/Performance Monitoring; Technology Design and Validation; Facility Design; and Operations Planning/Site Safety. BOEMRE Staff from the following offices will attend this meeting: Pacific Region, the Office of Alternative Energy, Environmental Assessment, and the Office of Offshore Regulatory Program; and the Economic Division.

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

- ***Update:*** **TN Lands Unsuitable for Mining Petition:** *OSM staff is preparing a report summarizing the comments received during public meetings regarding the scope of the petition's EIS. When finalized, OSM will share the report with the EIS cooperating agencies — NPS, FWS, and EPA — as part of a larger effort to finalize a MOA with them. Other tasks include working with NPS to obtain estimated costs (for budgeting purposes) for contracting assistance on recreation, socioeconomics, and biological components of the draft EIS through their university cooperative agreements. Staff will also discuss EPA's participation on the socioeconomics and environmental justice assessment portion of the petition's EIS, among other things.*

WEEKS AHEAD

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEMRE)

Wednesday-Thursday, July 13 – 14:

- ***New: Offshore Energy Safety Advisory Committee (OESC) Visit to Gulf of Mexico Region (GOMR):*** *The next meeting of the OESC will be held in the New Orleans area. The Committee will review reports from the subcommittees on Oil Spill Prevention/Safety; Containment; Oil Spill response; and Safety Environment Management Systems. Other topics include the safety and containment research/design efforts from industry and other government agencies.*

Weekly Report
June 17, 2011

Memorandum

To: Meghan Conklin
Associate Deputy Secretary

From: Anne J. Castle
Assistant Secretary for Water and Science

Subject: Weekly Meeting Issues

Senior Officials' Activities June 20-24:
Anne Castle – June 20-22, in Helena, MT for AGO meetings, Reclamation briefings on Canyon Ferry activities, and all-hands meeting at USGS Water Science Center in Helena and Rocky Mountain Science Center in Bozeman; June 23-24, in DC.
John Tubbs – June 20-22, same travel as Anne Castle; June 23, possible overview visit with Great Northern LCC; (b) (6)
Lori Caramanian – June 20-24, in DC.
Marcia McNutt – June 21, addresses the American Horse Council in Washington, DC, regarding the America's Great Outdoors Initiative and how it could impact equine recreation.
Mike Connor – June 20-22, in Denver attending the Reclamation Leadership Team meeting; June 23-24, in DC attending various meetings.

Reclamation

High Inflow to Lake Powell, 159% of Average (Arizona)

The Colorado Basin River Forecast Center's June 2011 final forecast for inflow to Lake Powell increased by 1.1 million acre-feet (maf) to 12.6 maf, which equates to 159% of average. As of June 6, the snowpack above Lake Powell was 255% of average with only 40% of the peak snowpack for the year melted compared to 80% which is considered typical by June 6. Based on the most probable inflow forecast, the annual release volume from Lake Powell will likely be 12.44 maf. The projected equalization volume of approximately 14.89 maf may not be fully achieved by the end of the water year. In early August, Lake Powell is projected to reach a peak elevation for the year of approximately 3,665 to 3,670 feet (30 to 35 feet below full pool elevation of 3,700 feet).

Inflow to Flaming Gorge Reservoir High at 159% of Average (Colorado)

The Colorado Basin River Forecast Center's June 2011 final forecast for inflow to Flaming Gorge Reservoir increased by 230,000 acre-feet to 1.89 maf, which equates to 159% of average. Approximately 75% of the total runoff volume is expected between now and the end of July. To create additional storage space in the reservoir, releases from the

dam were increased above powerplant capacity by 2,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 6,600 cfs utilizing the bypass outlets for almost a week, starting on June 9. Depending on the timing of a higher flow level as the Yampa River peaks, Reclamation intends to reduce releases from the dam to the extent practicable to reduce flooding in the Green River below the confluence. Maintenance on two generators will take place on June 20, during which time it is anticipated that additional bypass flows will be initiated to maintain the current release level.

Grand Canyon Trust Files Appeal in Glen Canyon Dam Operations Lawsuit (Arizona)
On May 26, the Grand Canyon Trust (GCT) filed a notice of appeal with the Ninth Circuit Court of the United States appealing the March 30, 2011, U.S. District Court of Arizona order that resolved all remaining issues in the case that challenged multiple aspects of Glen Canyon Dam operations under the 2008-2012 experimental plan. The appeal included all 13 claims in the original complaint. In addition, on June 3, the GCT filed a request for injunction in the U.S. District Court of Arizona. GCT argues that because Reclamation's operations of Glen Canyon Dam are killing endangered humpback chub without any applicable incidental take permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife (Service). The GCT seeks a court order for Reclamation to implement the conservation measure of non-native fish control, whether through a form of mechanical removal acceptable to the Zuni Tribe or another alternative method. Reclamation's response to be filed on June 17 will explain that the operations of the Dam are in compliance with the applicable Biological opinion and a valid incidental takes statement from the Service.

Sumner Lake Tests Positive for Quagga Mussels (New Mexico)
Reclamation's Albuquerque Area Office reports that the State of New Mexico (State) closed Sumner Lake (located on the Pecos River in eastern New Mexico) to boating through June 14, following a positive independent lab test result for aquatic invasive mussels. The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish is awaiting additional test results prior to making an official declaration of infestation. Carlsbad Irrigation District will determine the size of its next block release of water which will likely drop the reservoir level to a minimum pool of approximately 2,500 acre-feet. The State is hopeful that the release will drop the reservoir below the boat ramps which will preclude boating for the remainder of the summer. If the reservoir level remains above the boat ramps, the State will likely re-open the lake with a decontamination requirement. Reclamation's decontamination unit will be used on a temporary basis until a permanent unit is established.

Reduced Pumping at Jones Pumping Plant for 2 Weeks Started June 8 (California)
To meet requirements of Section 3406(b)(2) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (commonly referred to as (b)(2)), pumping cutbacks are being made at the CVP's Jones Pumping Plant from 5 units (approximately 4,200 cubic-feet per second) to 3 units (approximately 3,000 cfs) for a 2-week period. This is expected to reduce exports by 20,000 to 30,000 acre-feet. The reduced pumping is aimed at reducing the effects of pumping on entrainment of out-migrating salmonids and generally improves conditions for fish in the south Delta. Monitoring of fish in the system and the fish take at Jones is under way to see if additional actions are warranted. On June 9, the San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority issued a news release stating that they were immediately filing for a temporary restraining order to stop the Department of the Interior

from taking actions to reduce their water supply citing section 6(g) from the Coordinated Operation Agreement. Judge Wanger denied the TRO without prejudice on June 15.

Public Meetings for the Navajo Nation Water Rights Settlement (New Mexico)
Beginning June 22, staff from Reclamation's Four Corners Construction Office will participate in a series of public meetings to be hosted by the State of New Mexico, Department of Justice, and the Navajo Nation regarding the Navajo Nation Water Rights Settlement in the San Juan River Basin. Reclamation employees will be available to answer questions related to Reclamation projects included in the settlement. Five meetings will be held: June 22, in Shiprock; June 23, in Aztec and Farmington; and June 29, in Crown Point and Bloomfield.

60-Day Notice of Intent to Sue Filed on Alleged Violation of the Clean Water Act (California)
On June 7, Reclamation and the San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority were provided with the required 60-day notice of intent to sue under the Clean Water Act for operation of the Grassland Bypass and San Luis Drain. The notice was sent on behalf of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Association, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance, and Friends of the River, San Francisco Crab Boat Owners Association, and Institute for Fisheries Resources, and Felix Smith.

Congressional Activities

- June 23 – Senate Subcommittee on Water & Power planning a hearing on between 7 bills: S. 500 (Strawberry Title Transfer), S. 715 (Collinsville Renewable Energy), S. 802 (Lake Thunderbird), S. 997 (East Bench), S. 1033 (Hermiston XVI), S. 1047 (Leadville), and two as-yet-unintroduced bills, S. ___ (UC/San Juan RIPs), and S.___ (Fort Sumner Title Transfer). Testimony is in development. 2:30pm.
- June 23 – House Subcommittee on Water & Power planning a hearing on H.R. 461 (Strawberry Title Transfer), H.R. 795 (Small In-canal Hydropower) and H.R. 2060 (Central Oregon Jobs & Water Security). 10 am.

<u>U.S. Geological Survey</u>

Christchurch, New Zealand, Earthquake Response: On June 13, a M6.0 earthquake struck near Christchurch. USGS responded by issuing a PAGER red alert for economic losses, creating a ShakeMap for intensity of shaking, and recording responses from the Did you Feel It? Tool Media coverage included: ABC, CBS, CNN, Fox News, MSNBC, *Bloomberg Businessweek*, *USAToday*, and the *Washington Post*.

Velocity Profile Mapping of the Missouri River in Response to Flooding: Within 2 weeks USGS will begin conducting Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP) velocity profile mapping of the Missouri River approximately every 20 miles from Rulo, Nebraska, to Waverly, Missouri (with decreased spacing in the Kansas City area), pending final negotiations with the Kansas City District of the US Army Corps of Engineers. USGS has also used ADCP on the Mississippi River in partnership with the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Volcanic vs. Anthropogenic Carbon Dioxide: A new paper authored by USGS brings together in one article the established scientific literature showing that anthropogenic CO2 emissions dwarf volcanic emissions. June 14, a press release was issued and the paper was published in *Eos*, a publication of the American Geophysical Union.

Summer Research Experience for Tribal College Undergraduates: The research experience includes 3 weeks of training in research, remote sensing, GIS, and climate change followed by 7 weeks of student/faculty-led research conducted at the Tribal Colleges. The USGS is providing training to the attendees June 14-22 at Haskel Indian Nations University, Lawrence KS.

Indonesia Requests Help on Mapping for Climate Change and Forestry Workshop: USGS will participate in an inter-agency team to develop a unified map of forest cover for Indonesia. This supports Indonesia's efforts to decrease greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and degradation and is part of a broader US-Indonesia bilateral agreement. Results will enhance climate change reporting and monitoring. Indonesia is a global leader in climate change and tropical forestry research.

DOI Green Dream Team Environmental Achievement Award: USGS and BOEMRE scientists were given the DOI's 2011 Award that recognizes exceptional leadership in effectively placing a federal sustainability idea into action. The recipients were members of a team that analyzed island changes and refuge recovery potential after Hurricane Katrina, resulting in the report "Sand Resources, Regional Geology, and Coastal Processes of the Chandeleur Islands Coastal System: an Evaluation of the Breton National Wildlife Refuge." During the response to the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill, coastal managers repeatedly referred to the report and reached out to the authors for assistance.

Projecting Status of the Pacific Walrus in the Twenty-first Century: The USGS has co-authored a new *Polar Biology* paper on the effects of changing environmental conditions and other stressors on the future status of the Pacific walrus population at four periods through the twenty-first century. In the model, sea ice habitat and human harvest levels had the greatest influence on future population outcomes. The model can help scientists to focus more effectively on new research efforts and provide wildlife managers with information to more efficiently monitor walrus populations in the future.

Trout Likely to be affected by Climate Warming: A recent study by USGS and co-authors, published in the Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, evaluates the climate sensitivity of two native fishes, cutthroat and bull trout, and one non-native species, brook trout, in the interior Columbia River basin. Models indicate negative effects of climate on brook trout could have an indirect positive benefit on native cutthroat trout. Results highlight the importance of considering species-specific responses and biological interactions in evaluating climate effects.

Congressional Activities:

- **Tentative Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Briefing on Landsat: USGS** plans to brief staffers in the Committee hearing room Monday, June 20. The focus will be on application of Landsat data in three management themes: water, agricultural, and forest management.

Media:

- ***PBS* Interviews USGS on Bird Beak Deformities in Alaska**: USGS wildlife biologist Colleen Handel was interviewed for the nature film series "Expeditions with Patrick McMillan" about the epizootic of bird beak deformities currently occurring in Alaska and the Pacific Northwest. The interview is scheduled to be in a special program on Alaska's wildlife, produced by Clemson University and broadcast by *PBS* this fall.
- **Colorado Flooding Interviews:** Michael Lewis of the USGS Colorado Water Science Center was interviewed by the Steamboat Pilot newspaper, Steamboat Springs, CO, and Denver Post. The topic for both interviews was a new peak record of 7,520 cfs set June 7, on the Elk River near Milner, CO. Publication dates TBD.
- **NEIC interviewed by the Lawrence Journal World:** Rob Williams, USGS National Earthquake Information Center, was interviewed by the Lawrence Journal World newspaper, Kansas. Rob discussed the June 7th 3.9-mag. earthquake in Missouri and whether reports of ground movement in Kansas were related to the Missouri quake. Publication date TBD.

Memorandum

To: Chief of Staff

From: Chief of Staff, Indian Affairs

Subject: Indian Affairs Weekly Look Ahead Update

FOCUS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 17, 2011
INDIAN AFFAIRS

HEALTH AND SAFE COMMUNITIES

- **Homeland Security**:
  - *Flooding*: The Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (OHSES) continues to work with Tribes, FEMA, US Army Corps of Engineers and state/local contacts on flood damages and needs of Tribal communities.

    IT Support - Communications support for US Army Flood Support in North Dakota was provided by the OCIO. Situation was that Army personnel deployed at one of the reservations in North Dakota to help fight the flooding had no Internet access due to the remote location(s). As there was no wireless service in the area, OCIO provided Internet access for their communication purposes.

  - *State of the Border:* OHSES officials participate on the weekly STATE OF THE BORDER TELECONFERENCE call where updates were provided on "State of the Border and Effects of the Arizona Surge". The State of the Border PowerPoint and NDIC Maps were provide and were shared with tribal programs.

  - *Budget:* DAIP working group and budget subcommittee met on June 9, 2011, to discuss the FY 2013 budget. The DAIP Fiscal Year 2013 Share Based Funding Model was approved and will be provided to the DAIP Executive Steering Committee (ESC) at a special session for vote on ratification.

  - *Physical Security:* Officials from the Physical Security Program will be meeting with the OHSES contractor Iron Bridge to start analysis on the data from the Pre-Assessment Checklist survey.

- **HPPG:** The Office of Justice Services (OJS) has achieved a combined reduction of 11% in violent crime on the HPPG during the Q2 reporting period. The reduction has been a combined effort in increased staffing, training, coordination and community oriented policing strategies.

- ***Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA)***
  - *Tribal Courts:* The BIA OJS is hosting its fourth installment of training for Tribal Courts, specifically for Tribal Judges to provide a greater understanding of the authorities

of the Indian Civil Rights Act (ICRA) and the TLOA. The curriculum was developed in consultation with an advisory board comprised of tribal court judges, prosecutors, clerks, practicing attorneys and others who provided their expertise and hands-on perspective on the unique issues facing tribal courts. The instruction has been provided by faculty from the UNM School of Law along with experienced tribal judges, practitioners, clerks and administrators. All four sessions have been offered at no cost to the attendees; in addition, attorneys who successfully complete the training can receive CLE credits. All of these training sessions have been held at the National Indian Programs Training Center in Albuquerque, NM.

- *Long Term Detention:* The BIA and DOJ have completed the final session regarding long term detention titled: Community Support for Reentering Tribal Members on May 11, 2011. The OJS and DOJ collaborated on the detention plan required by the Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA). The project engaged the Tribes in the process through a series of webinars held in conjunction with NCAI to discuss TLOA detention plan issues.

- *Substance Abuse MOA:* The Indian Affairs review team comprised of IA, BIA and the SOL have made the initial review of the draft MOA. These comments will be provided to TLOA workgroup for revisions. Section 241 of TLOA amends the 1986 Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse Treatment Program. This amendment specifically directs the Secretaries of DOI, HHS and the AG to develop a Memorandum of Agreement by July 29, 2011. The draft MOA is currently being reviewed by the BIA, SOL and IA.

EDUCATION

- Regulatory Meeting: A No Child Left Behind Tribal Consultation meeting will be held in Rapid City, SD on July 13, 2011

- **Elementary and Secondary Education** (Associate Deputy Director West):
  - *Reduction in Force (RIF) Action:* The Sherman Indian High School Reduction in Force (RIF) is moving forward with additional positions that will enable the school to operate within the allocation provided.

  - *Budget:* Concerned with declining 2011 ELO EPM dollars.

  - *AYP:* Presented Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) information to the Navajo Nation Council of Delegates (NNCD). All was accepted and an Education Summit was requested. The NNCD was informed that once they determine a date for this activity the ADD Navajo office will facilitate and present all requested information.

  - *Leadership:* Continue guiding and leading the Arizona Central Education Line Officer in several areas including personnel actions, budget and finance within Grant Officer roles with tribally controlled grant schools. Constant communication is ongoing.

Continue to provide detailed technical assistance to ADD West and ADD Navajo ELOs daily. Mentoring of new line officers is effective in assisting these ELOs to be more effective in their operation and management of individual line offices.

Continue to direct and guide Teach for America Performance Work Statement (PWS) development.

- *Personnel:* The Director announced that a selection for the ADD Navajo has been made and now the clearance process begins. The Director hopes this to be two to four weeks away.

- *Accreditation:* All Navajo ELOs met with North Central Accreditation in Albuquerque, NM. The electronic system for schools to utilize for accreditation duplicates efforts of NATIVE Star indicators. The Director and Chief of Staff briefly met with these ELOs and this issue was raised.

- *Residential Transition Team:* The Residential Transition Team continues to meet in addressing beginning of the year required training alignment and other student safety policies pending and currently in place.

- *Outreach:*
  - Continue to participate in BIE SSOS Operations Manual development meetings.
  - Continue participating in weekly Summer Institute Planning Meetings.
  - Continue meeting with Action Summit addressing suicide planning committee (BIA, BIE, IHS, SAMHSA) in the development of a national suicide prevention conference along with ADD West, ADD East, Navajo Safe School Specialist.
  - Coordinates bi-weekly meetings with Education Line Officers in Navajo and West ADD regions.
  - The ADD West on behalf of the DD coordinates and leads monthly Residential Transition Team meeting with all regional School Safety Specialists and Associate Deputy Directors East, West and Navajo.
  - Continue to lead as the BIE POC meetings with OCIO to address IT issues from the field.
  - ADD West, ADD East, ADD Navajo Safe School Specialist to attend School Resource Officer Training in Albuquerque, June 16, 2011. All ELOs and principals were also invited.
  - Participated in meeting with CDC to roll out health survey.
  - Participated in sidebar discussion with SAMSHA regarding educational component of the Suicide Action Summit.

School Improvement (ADD, East Office):

- *Operations Manual:* (Ongoing) The ADD and a select group of ELOs are working on an Operations Manual for the Statewide System of Support team, which will outline for schools, in particular, what supports and technical assistance they can expect from the Division of Performance and Accountability, the Education Line Office and the Associate Deputy Director. The draft will be presented to the ELOs at the Summer Institute.

- *Safety/Facilities:* Oklahoma ELO: The planning and design for Riverside Indian School is to begin with conference calls to determine phase 1 of construction.

- *Budget/Audits:* ISEP Funding (Ongoing): Certification for the 2011-2012 school ISEP funding is scheduled to be completed by June 15, for calculation of funding for next school year. ALL Education Line Officers will work closely with Native American Student Information System and school personnel to ensure accuracy of student counts and the information in the NASIS.

Students/Instruction/Improvement:
Many schools are having summer school; updating handbooks; and conducting Native Star leadership meetings.

- Oklahoma ELO: Riverside Indian School (RIS) has completed the update of the Student Handbook; they are now working on the Employee and Residential Handbooks.
  - RIS is awaiting the annual test scores, to determine AYP status.
  - The line office worked with Kickapoo Indian School on school improvement components. An action plan is in development.

- Pine Ridge ELO has selected Clarence Chuck Conroy as the new Chief School Administrator for Pine Ridge School.
  - Pine Ridge School staff will participate in classroom management training with Oglala-Lakota College this summer.

- Standing Rock ELO met with Sitting Bull School on the School Improvement Grant (SIG); it is apparently under review at DPA. The ELO also met with the school board at Rock Creek and they too expressed concerns about timelines and preparation for fall 2011.

- The Minneapolis ELO is researching historical documentation for Bahweting Anishnabe School to expand from a K-8 to a K-12 school. The documentation has been requested by Dr. Herrin in DC.
  - Lac Courte Oreilles had 100% of their seniors graduate. This is quite an accomplishment.

- Standing Rock ELO:
  The first lady of North Dakota visited Standing Rock Elementary School to promote the importance of summer reading. (See 2 attachments)

PostSecondary Education
Haskell Indian Nations University:

- *IT:* Haskell OCIO has numerous projects underway to upgrade computer network infrastructure on the campus including a major equipment and security upgrade to the

wireless network which may results in some outages. When completed these upgrades will provide much needed improvements for both students and staff.

- *Upward Bound Program:* Haskell Upward Board Five-Week Summer Event began this week at Haskell Indian Nations University. This event is on campus for five weeks during the month of June and July which requires students to reside on the Haskell campus during the week and return home on the weekend. During the Billy Mills Summer Academy portion, students will participate in core subject classes plus enhancement programs including cultural, self esteem, goal setting, recreational, nutrition, health, drug, and alcohol prevention, and other special events.

<u>Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI)</u>

- *Administration:*
  - The President and Vice-President, Academic Programs and Acting Vice President College Operations met with Union representatives Ms. Sue Parton, Dr. Jennings and Ms. N. EagleTail on the draft organizational chart for SIPI. The meeting was to inform them of the possible changes. June 6.
  - The President facilitated the monthly conference call with 2 of the 3 fellow of the American Indian College Fund (A*CF)-Embrey. June 6.
  - The President planned and facilitated the quarterly President's Cabinet meeting on June 7.
  - The President submitted a proposal, in the amount of $10,171.00 to the A*CF-President's Leadership Initiative. Dr. Allison was informed that her proposal was approved to: 1) attend the Worlds Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education in Cuzco, Peru with a delegation of Tribal College Presidents; and, 2) if selected, participate in the "Executive Leadership Institute" in Phoenix, Arizona, December 2011 (participation is competitive with fewer than 40 participants selected each year. June 9.)

- *College Operations:*
  - The Vice President of College Operations planned and facilitated the second part of an internal grant management work session. The goal of these sessions was to identify issues and solutions, including the development of written processes and procedure. All PIs, Program Managers and Program Assistants involved in Grant programs participated. June 10.

- *Academic Programs:*
  - SIPI was chosen as a finalist to receive a grant from the American Indian College Fund (A*CF) for the *Wakanyeja*/Sacred Little Ones initiative. Out of 16 proposals, SIPI was selected as one of the 6 semi-finalists. Focused on Early Childhood, only 4 sites will be selected to receive this grant. The grant is $800,000.00 over a period of 4 years ($200,000.00 p/yr). A visiting team conducted a site visit on June 9-10 and met with individuals on a one-one basis and/or in groups….including the President, parents of children of our Early Learning Center. June 9 and 10.
  - The first meeting of the accreditation steering committee was held. Committee members and co-chairs were identified. June 8

- *Adult Basic Education:*
  - Adult Basic Education program funded for $129, 962 for Fiscal Year 2011-12.

- *Institutional Effectiveness:*
  - Registered Institutional Review Board with the Department of Health and Human Services.

- *Housing and Recreation:*
  - Conducted a meeting where a Steering Committee was identified along with the Criterion Working Committees in preparation for the upcoming accreditation visit by the Higher Learning Commission. No major student violation occurred nor reported for the second week in a role.

RESTORATION OF TRIBAL HOMELANDS

- The Fee to Trust Handbook is currently undergoing final review by the Office of the Deputy Secretary. Upon completion of review will be implemented for use by BIA field staff.

- The BIA on behalf of the Department has accepted 27,264 acres into trust for the benefit of Tribal Nations during the 2011 calendar year. The restoration initiative was prioritized and supported by the Secretary and Assistant Secretary to further self-determination and tribal sovereignty. The BIA's collective efforts have translated into 519 applications processed and accepted 118,533 acres in total for the initiative under the Obama Administration.

GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT

- Cobell Consultation*:* The Deputy Assistant Secretary – Policy and Economic Development presented the Cobell consultation announcement for the July 15 session scheduled in Billings, Montana, at a plenary session of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI.)

- Self Governance Amendments: The Deputy Assistant Secretary facilitated the meeting between the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Department on the Self Governance Title IV amendments of the Indian Self Determination Act. There were four areas focused on: declination criteria; construction oversight; burden of proof in appeals of declinations; and reporting requirements. OMB has agreed to send the agreed upon language through the interagency clearance process to signal an "informal position" of support by the Obama Administration in discussions with Members of Congress and Tribes.

- **Federal Recognition: The Office of Federal Acknowledgement (OFA) continues its work on the following:**

  Proposed findings:
  - **Piro-Manso-Tiwa Indian Tribe (Petitioner #5) – by July 18, 2011.**
  - **Meherrin Tribe, NC (Petitioner #119b) – by before November 1, 2011.**
  - **Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation, CA (Petitioner #82) – by November 1, 2011.**

Comment Period(s) on Proposed Finding(s):

- **Central Band of Cherokee, TN (Petitioner #227), extended to August 15, 2011.**
- **Tolowa Nation, CA (Petitioner #85) extended to November 11, 2011.**

ORGANIZATIONAL IMPROVEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- OIG Backlog Corrective Action Plan: To assist in the overall corrective action plan to reduce the OIG Response backlog, Indian Affairs has scheduled four sessions of the Management Symposium for all its Managers. The four sites and dates are as follows:

June 28-29	Phoenix, Arizona
July 26 – 27	Albuquerque, New Mexico
August 2 – 3	Seattle, Washington
August 16 – 17	Catoosa, Oklahoma

- Administration Reassessment: On June 10, the joint Indian Affairs – Department panel made a final decision on the selection of a contractor for an assessment of the implementation/effects of the 1999 NAPA Study. NBC contracting staff is working diligently to finalize the award the week of June 15; target date for the kickoff meeting is June 20. Upon contract award, it will be four months out for the completion of the reassessment study.

OUTREACH

- Planned Events:

Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs:
July 9-14, 2011, speech at the Conference of Western Attorneys General Annual Conference, Kona, Hawaii.

July 21, 2011 address the Navajo Nation Council, Window Rock, Arizona.

July 27, 2011 speech at the Attorney General's Advisory Subcommittee and the Native American Issues Subcommittee, Rapid City, South Dakota.

Bureau of Indian Education:
Week of June 20, 2011, BIE Summer Institute, Reno, Nevada

June 28 – 30, 2011, OMB site visits in the Billings, MT area, including tour of the Busby School on June 29 (aka the Northern Cheyenne Tribal School) with the OMB examiners.

August 1 – 4, 2011, BIA/SAMSHA/IHS/BIE Suicide Conference (location TBD)

September 25-27, 2011, 8th annual South Dakota Indian Education Summit, Cedar Shores Resort in Chamberlain, SD. The theme of the Summit is "Supporting Culture, Building Expectations and Creating Partnerships."

CONFIDENTIAL

June 17, 2011

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
Attn: Courtenay Lewis, Special Assistant

From: Ray Joseph, Principal Deputy Special Trustee

Re: Assistant Secretary Report for June 20 to June 26, 2011

Office of the Special Trustee (OST)
Assistant Secretary Weekly Report

June 20, 2011

Schedule and Activities
Principal Deputy Special Trustee Ray Joseph

- Management meetings in Washington (6/20-24/11)

Review – June 13 to June 17

- **New:** The Deputy Special Trustee for Trust Accountability met June 16 with Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR) senior management in Denver. They discussed ONRR internal controls that have a direct effect on funds brought into trust and reflected in the oil and gas line item on OST financial statements.

- **New:** On June 15, DOJ filed with the Court the Office of Trust Records Monthly Activity Report for May 2011.

- **Update:** The Deputy Special Trustee for Trust Services was in Washington, D.C., the week of June 13 for depositions in the Osage Tranche 2.0 tribal litigation.

Week Ahead – June 20 to June 24

- **New:** The Fiduciary Trust Officer (FTO) at the Winnebago Agency will conduct a financial skills seminar at the Winnebago Senior Citizen Center in Winnebago, Nebraska, on June 23. The FTO will partner with a Certified Financial Advisor from Omaha, Nebraska, to present materials developed by the Oweesta/First Nations Development Institute.

- **New:** The FTO at the Flathead Agency will conduct financial skills training on June 23 for participants attending the Native Home Buyer Education Class sponsored by the Salish Kootenai Housing Authority.

- **No Change:** Plaintiffs' counsel, Brian Leinbach, is handling 16 tribal litigation cases in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims in the DDC. The government's brief, provided to the judge on May 13, included settlement offers to the plaintiffs. A joint status conference call is scheduled for June 20.

- **No Change:** DOI's Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution advised OST about making an additional information resource available to OST employees as changes occur throughout the organization in support of OST's effort to realign functions to better serve its mission and promote the Secretary's *oneInterior* initiative. OST will be rolling out an ombudsman position over the next two weeks in order to provide such support.

- **No Change:** The Fiduciary Trust Officer at the Flathead Agency will conduct financial skills training for participants attending the June 23 Native Home Buyer Education Class sponsored by the Salish Kootenai Housing Authority.

- **No Change:** OST continues to work directly with the Cobell Implementation Team, the Garden City Group and SOL on communication challenges as they arise.

On the Horizon

- **No Change:** The Fiduciary Trust Officer at the Tulsa Urban Office in Tulsa, Oklahoma, will attend an Alternative Dispute Resolution hearing on June 27. The hearing will be held in the Eastern District Federal Court on litigation issues between the Seminole Tribe and the Department of the Interior. Also attending will be SOL and DOJ attorneys and the BIA Superintendent for the Wewoka Agency.

- **No Change:** OST's Field Operations schedules outreach events, training seminars and meetings at powwows, schools and other venues. To date, more than a dozen activities have been planned for June.

- **No Change:** The Office of Historical Trust Accounting is closing its Muskogee, Oklahoma; Billings, Montana; and Crow Agency, Montana, field offices effective September 30. Relevant documents will be shipped to Albuquerque to allow continuation of the Special Deposit Account work currently conducted by these field offices.

Week Ahead Report to the Secretary

Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas

June 17, 2011

Courtesy Call between Assistant Secretaries Babauta and Pfannenstiel – On June 21, 2011 AS-IN, joined by Scott Haase of the National Renewable Energy detailed to the Interior, will be meeting with Jacqueline Pfannenstiel, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installation and Environment to discuss recent May travel to Guam, the buildup, and renewable energy initiatives. On May 25, 2011, AS-IN officially announced the release of the OIA-NREL Guam Initial Technical Assessment Report as Dr. Robert Underwood convened the Guam Energy Task Force. During this forum, AS-IN and task force members spoke of the challenges and opportunities to develop efficient renewable energy technology in Guam. As such, the courtesy call will provide a venue to discuss Navy's energy vision and initiatives in Guam as well as their progress in moving forward with the buildup.

U N I T E D S T A T E S

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

June 17, 2011

Memorandum

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary

Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary

c/o Courtenay Lewis, Special Assistant

From: Rhea Suh, Assistant Secretary-Policy, Management and Budget

Subject: June 17, 2011, Policy and Other Issues

This provides major policy and other issues that fall under the purview of the Assistant Secretary – PMB.

POLICY

POLICY

Arctic Council Follow-Up. PMB is working closely with the Department of State to follow up on the initiatives that were approved at the Arctic Council of Ministers in Nuuk last month. This month the U.S. government is setting up its own working groups to coordinate U.S. positions, which will then feed into international coordination and eventually negotiation. For both efforts, the goal is to have interim accomplishments at the 2012 Arctic Council Deputies meeting and final products for the 2013 Arctic Council Ministerial in Sweden.

- **Oil and Gas Taskforce.** The purpose of this effort is to develop an international agreement on oil spill prevention, preparedness and response. The State Department will serve as the US diplomatic lead, while the Coast Guard and DOI (PMB and

BOEMRE), will provide technical leadership and guidance. The State Department is eager to ensure that this effort is well coordinated with the outcomes from your international oil and gas forum on containment and other international cooperation mechanisms for oil and gas prevention, preparedness and response. PMB and BOEMRE attended the first interagency meeting last week hosted by State Dept and the Coast Guard, where the agencies discussed a variety of technical questions such as incident management, equipment sharing for both transboundary and non-transboundary situations, joint exercises, R&D cooperation, environmental sensitivity mapping, facilitation of customs and entry, liability issues and private sector roles, geographic considerations, coordination with other treaties and agreements, etc. There are a lot of details to be ironed out in the months ahead.

- **Ecosystem Based Management Experts Meeting.** The purpose of this effort is to convene a group of experts that will provide recommendations to the Arctic Council on best practices for ecosystem based management, which could serve as a cross-sectoral decision-making tool for the Council and Arctic member states. The State Department will serve as the US diplomatic lead on the EBM initiative, and will rely heavily upon DOI (PMB coordinating input from the Alaska advisor and the bureaus) and NOAA for technical leadership and guidance. Iceland has expressed an interest in co-chairing the international working group. This effort will need to involve a variety of stakeholders in the region, including indigenous groups, NGOs and industry. DOI is already mapping out a process for setting up a well informed and productive meeting, which we will present to the State Dept and interagency working group for their consideration this week. We hope to host an initial meeting of ecosystem based management experts this September.

In addition to Arctic Council activities, PMB is also exploring opportunities for bilateral cooperation with Canada, particularly on indigenous subsistence issues, transboundary species conservation, coordinated management of adjacent protected areas, and other shared priorities in the Arctic.

Idaho Superfund Site Settlement. Under a settlement the Coeur d'Alene DOJ, SOL, EPA and NRDAR team has reached with Hecla Mining Company, one of the largest cases ever filed under the Superfund statute has been resolved. Hecla will pay $263.4 million plus interest to the United States, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe and the State of Idaho to resolve claims stemming from releases of wastes from its mining operations. Approximately $197 million of the settlement funds will be use to remediate the widespread contamination in the Coeur d'Alene Basin, and about $65.9 will be dedicated to restoration of the basin's natural resources. The agreement brings closure to the lawsuit and establishes a strong basis for future cooperation between Hecla and the governments in the Coeur d'Alene Basin.

Office of Restoration and Damage Assessment Director. Steve Glomb has been appointed to the position of the Director of the Office of Restoration and Damage Assessment (ORDA). Steve has extensive experience with the Department of the Interior that includes working as a

wildlife biologist for FWS, serving a detail on the House appropriations committee and most recently as Acting Director of ORDA.

Youth: Let's Move Outside! On Monday the Youth Office, in partnership with the First Lady's Office and the Outdoors Alliance for Kids (OAK), hosted an outdoor event with 75 students from DC's Thurgood Marshall High School on the White House South Lawn. Students participated in five rotating activity stations including a rock climbing wall, camping demonstration, kayak clinic, mountain biking, frisbee, and a fly fishing station. The student's had a great time getting a taste of the outdoors in America's most famous backyard!

MANAGEMENT

Fire Management Hearing with the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee: The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held its annual hearing on Tuesday to examine wildfire management programs at federal land management agencies and to probe a new interagency plan to maintain resilient forests, build fire-adapted communities and respond to wildfires. The hearing came as wildfire managers face escalating costs, changing climates and a growing wildland-urban interface, where residential homes abut fire-prone trees. The hearing went well. Members of the panel heard from Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell and DAS Thorsen. Questions focused on hazard fuels, aviation, cost of fires, and utilization of Native American crews in Alaska. Most questions were directed at the Forest Service. DAS Thorsen will follow-up with Senator Murkowksi on the Alaska issues. In addition, DAS Thorsen is coordinating with Chief Tidwell on a joint aviation strategy.

Border Legislation in House. On June 2, legislation (HR 1922) to provide Customs and Border Protection with expedited access to DOI lands for the purpose of improving border security was marked up by the House Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security and forwarded to the Committee on Homeland Security for further action. Hearings are not expected at this time. Borderlands Coordinator Andrews and DAS Thorsen provided information on cooperative work with Customs and Border Protection under the 2006 MOU to House staff on June 7th.

IT Transformation Update. We are working on the latest draft of the IT Transformation Strategic Plan, which is due to be delivered to the Secretary on June 17. The Plan reflects comments from IT Transformation listening sessions held with employees throughout the Department and will outline at a high level the strategic plan to accomplish the ambitious goals outlined in Secretarial Order 3309. The draft Plan has been reviewed by multiple stakeholders in bureaus, budget, finance, and human resources.

BUDGET

Update: 2012 Budget and 302(b) Allocations. The House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee will mark up the Interior bill on July 6, with Committee action to follow on July 11. The House Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee approved its bill on June 2, and the Full Committee is expected to consider it on Wednesday, June 15.

- The House Energy & Water Development Subcommittee eliminated funding for San Joaquin restoration including a $9.0 million discretionary request and a rescission of $66.0 million in mandatory funds.
- Overall, Interior received $1.0 billion, $51 million below the 2012 Request.
- The bill does not include the new Indian Water Rights Settlements account proposed in 2012 to implement 2011 Claims Resolution Act ($51.5 million). Some or all funding may be included in the Water & Related Resources account

IG/GAO Reports. The list of current reports and their status is attached.

Attachments:

PMB Office Reports

cc: Deputy Assistant Secretaries—Policy, Management and Budget

POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

Update: Central Hazardous Materials Funds (CHF) Internal Control Reviews. Staff from OEPC are conducting an Internal Control Review at Valley Forge National Historic Site in Pennsylvania this week. During this site visit, staff will be reviewing the financial documentation and administrative records to ensure the project is following all proper procedures and policies.

New: National Response Team (NRT) Arctic Oil Spill Response Work Group. The OEPC Alaska Office is supporting the OEPC Headquarters Office by participating in the NRT Arctic Response Capabilities Work Group, compiling information on oil spill preparedness and response plans, studies, and agreements related to the Arctic. The Work Group, which is chaired by the U.S. Coast Guard, also includes representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Department of State.

New: OEPC staff continues to support BOEMRE categorical exclusion review Process. Staff has provided detailed input to policy related Categorical Exclusions. OEPC has participated in two meetings (June 3, 2011 and June 9, 2011) with Director Bromwich with respect to the two Categorical Exclusions which received the most public scrutiny after the Macondo well incident. As a result of the meetings, additional draft language will be created. OEPC continues to attend weekly NEPA team meetings and BOEMRE Categorical Exclusion Review Team (CERT) Meetings.

Update: DEEPWATER HORIZON Oil Spill Response. OEPC headquarters and regional staff continue to provide support to senior DOI officials, and the Gulf Coast Incident Management Team (GCIMT) based in New Orleans. The GCIMT is targeting an end of phase 3 and 4 operations by the end of the hurricane season, and an end to response operations by late November.

- OEPC continues to work with the DOI PRFA Cost Documentation Team to review and improve DOI bureaus/offices' reimbursable cost documentation packages and submit them to the US Coast Guard (USCG) National Pollution Fund Center (NPFC). DOI bureaus and offices have received Pollution Funding Removal Authorizations (PRFAs) totaling $91.18 million in reimbursable budget authority. So far, DOI has submitted cost documentation packages totaling $51.02 million and the US Coast Guard has processed and reimbursed in full a total of $12.18 million.

- The Section 106 team held a Trustee Work Group meeting June 1 and 2. Twenty-six participants met in NOLA to discuss a draft Programmatic Agreement that addresses Response activities. The Area of Potential Response was also discussed. Revised drafts of both documents among others will be prepared for a full Trustee Consultation Meeting

scheduled for July 19 and 20.

- The submerged oil mat (SOMs) work plan for Florida, Pensacola and Perdido Key area, WPFL01, has been signed and contractors have been collecting remote sensing data. The Alabama Work Plan WPAL01 contract for the area near Ft. Morgan has not been issued. Per Trustee consultation, Section 106 consultation requires an archaeological monitor for all sampling operations. Once a SOM is located, a Ponar grab sample and coring operations are planned to confirm the remote sensing data.

- Cleaning operations continue on the BP-owned areas of Cat Island. The other islands within the Gulf Islands National Seashore remain on operational pause. Least Tern chicks have been reported at Santa Rosa and Perdido Key and snowy plovers are hatching. Sea turtle nests including one Kemp's Ridley at Perdido Key and three loggerheads at Fort Pickens have been located. Resource advisors are conducting bird surveys and oil observations.

Update: Emergency Support Function (ESF) #11 – Protection of Natural and Cultural Resources and Historic Properties (NCH). ESF #11 NCH has received a mission assignment from ESF #14 – Long-Term Recovery to assist with recovery following the strong storms and tornadoes that impacted Alabama in late April. Preliminary damage assessments were conducted and numerous historic properties have been identified as damaged. FEMA has requested ESF#11 NCH provide an NCH Field Coordinator to help lead the natural and cultural resources recovery effort, and additional staffing to assist with assessment of damaged historic resources, as well as conduct basic environmental reviews to ensure NEPA compliance. ESF #11 NCH is working with the Environmental Safeguards Group and the Bureau Executive Agents to identify personnel who could be deployed to Alabama to assist in these recovery efforts. ESF #11 NCH hopes to begin deployment of identified individuals this week.

Office of Policy Analysis

New: Technology Transfer. Policy Analysis organized a June 9 briefing for Mike French, Senior Advisor to the Secretary, on Interior's role in Technology Transfer. The Bureau of Reclamation, NPS, USGS, BLM, BOEMRE, and the Solicitor's Office also participated. PPA also consolidated bureau comments on a draft proposal initiated by the National Economic Council in preparation for an interagency conference call the week of June 13th. PPA is also coordinating with the bureaus and SOL to develop a new DOI technology transfer policy.

Update: Arctic. On June 16th Policy Analysis participated in an interagency meeting hosted by the State Department to discuss the planning and implementation of a convening of international experts group on ecosystem-based management, Interior will play a leadership role in planning this effort. On June 13, Policy Analysis represented Interior on the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee which will be outlining a government-wide 5-year plan for Arctic research.

Ongoing: National Ocean Policy Implementation. The outlines for the nine Strategic Action Plans (SAPs) for the National Ocean Policy were released for public comment on June 2. At the CEQ's request, the Department hosted two Listening/Public Comment sessions on the SAPs: June 9 in Barrow and June 10 in Anchorage, Alaska (BOEMRE lead), with Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks Eileen Sobeck representing the National Ocean Council. Additional sessions will be held on June 30, in New Jersey, Monmouth University (BOEMRE lead); and June 27, Portsmouth, NH (USGS lead). The National Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning Workshop will be held June 21-23, in the Yates Auditorium at the Department of the Interior. The Secretary has been invited to speak on June 21.

Ongoing: Coastal Zone 11. The Oceans team is continuing to provide support in the planning of this conference along with other major co-hosts: NOAA, EPA, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, The Nature Conservancy, and the State of Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Chief of Staff Laura Davis will be participating in the CZ11 Opening Plenary "Winds of Change: Charting the Future of our Oceans and Great Lakes" as well as a Focus Session "Help Us Paint a Picture: Illustrating the National Ocean Policy Vision." Other Interior Department involvement ranges from highlighting research and resource management in the Great Lakes, leading field trips, and supporting the conference web page. The CZ11 Conference is scheduled for

July 17-21, in Chicago, Illinois.

Ongoing: Establishment of "Fast Track" OMB Approval Process for Qualitative Feedback on Customer Service Delivery. In accordance with Executive Order 13571 of April 27, 2011, "Streamlining Service Delivery and Improving Customer Service," PPA will establish an expedited process for obtaining OMB approval of surveys of the public on DOI customer service delivery. Once the process is established, DOI bureaus and offices can simply submit a proposed survey to OMB to be approved within 5 business days. PPA has requested that the bureau information collection clearance officers provide estimates of the annual use their bureaus will be making of this process. Such estimates are a necessary part of the submission that PPA will make to OMB for approval of this process.

Ongoing: 2011 Spring Invasive Species Advisory Committee Meeting. The Spring 2011 ISAC Meeting, "Managing Natural Resources in the Interior West to Control Invasive Species", was held June 14-16, 2011, in Denver, CO. The meeting focused on adapting management of invasive species in the vast Rocky Mountain/High Plains region, with the goal of gaining a better understanding of landscape ecology, climate change, land development, introduction pathways, and new invaders. The plenary sessions were held on Tuesday, June 14; and Thursday, June 16, 2011. Participants on a day-long field trip on Wednesday, June 15, 2011, visited the Rocky Mountain National Park and learned about local on-the-ground efforts in invasive species management. **Deputy Assistant Secretary Lori Faeth delivered remarks as the guest speaker at the Thursday plenary.**

Ongoing: Economic Report. PPA drafted a press release and talking points and made final revisions to the draft report.

Ongoing: Pelton Round Butte (OR) Hydropower Relicensing Settlement. Policy Analysis provided comments to BIA on a draft statement of work for a contract to conduct the valuation analysis. BIA may seek assistance in reviewing contractor work products if the contract is let.

Completed: Oil Price Shocks. At the request of the Secretary, Policy Analysis updated the oil price shock paper and provided the report Departmental leadership.

Completed: Office of Restoration and Damage Assessment Annual Policy Planning Meeting. PPA staff participated in Office of Restoration and Damage Assessment's annual policy planning meeting in Breckenridge, CO. Items on the agenda included reviewing several draft white papers on the policies, procedures ad activities of the Restoration Program for the coming year, including case funding allocation and regulation review.

Completed: Principles and Requirements for Water Resource Projects. PPA reviewed and provided comments on Chapter III of the new *Principles and Requirements* (formerly known as the *Principles and Guidelines*). The *Principles and Guidelines* are currently used by federal water resource agencies to evaluate the benefits and costs of water resource projects.

Completed: Pacific Invasives Partnership Meeting: Starting on June 7, National Invasive Species Council (NISC) staff spent 3 days on Guam en route to the 4-day Pacific Invasives Partnerships (PIP) meeting in Suva, Fiji. On Guam, NISC staff met with collaborators working on the Micronesia Bio-security Plan and discussed the new territorial law establishing the Guam Invasive Species Council and a stable bio-security program funding mechanism. In Fiji, NISC staff updated PIP members from throughout Oceania, New Zealand, and Australia on a variety of U.S. activities in the Pacific and discussed opportunities to link and strengthen initiatives through collaborative strategy development.

Office of Native Hawaiian Relations

New: Issuance of Improper Leases by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) has issued multiple leases through transfers and successorships to the siblings of homestead lessees when such siblings were not native Hawaiian as defined under the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920, as amended (HHCA). DHHL has done so pursuant to the proposed amendments to Sections 208 and 209 of the HHCA proposed by Acts 12, Session Laws of Hawaii 2002, and 16, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005, respectively, despite such acts requiring the consent of the United States and no such consent being granted by

the United States. Such transfers and successorships of homestead leases to siblings with less than fifty percent Hawaiian descent are not authorized under current law. The Office of Native Hawaiian Relations is seeking to work with the State of Hawai‘i to rectify the situation.

Office of International Affairs

New: US-Mexico Emergency Management Agreement: The Office of International Affairs represented DOI on a USG interagency conference call on June 7 to discuss next steps on a recently ratified US/Mexico agreement on emergency management cooperation for natural disasters and accidents. The call was co-chaired by the Department of State and the Department of Homeland Security. Based on consultation with relevant Bureaus and Offices, OIA outlined DOI's current role in emergency management relating to Mexico. The Office of International Affairs will continue to facilitate DOI participation in next steps including formation of working groups and planning for an initial meeting.

New: Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC): The Office of International Affairs staff attended a CEC interagency and delegation meeting at EPA on June 9 to discuss the agenda for the upcoming CEC Council meeting to be held in Montreal, Canada on June 21-22. The Council oversees the implementation of the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (NAAEC) and serves as a forum for the three countries to discussion environmental matters of mutual interest. A representative from SEMARNAT, Mexico's Environment and Natural Resources Ministry, is scheduled to present on the Big Bend/Río Bravo Project. OIA is discussing with EPA whether funding might be available to send an OIA staff member to the meeting.

New: Deputy Secretary Meeting with Danish and Greenlandic Officials: The Office of International Affairs staff drafted briefing materials for a June 9 meeting between the Deputy Secretary and officials from Denmark and Greenland, as well as the US Ambassador to Denmark. OIA also attended the meeting. The main topics were Greenland's interest in energy development and interest on the part of the US-Denmark-Greenland Joint Committee in developing collaborative activities with DOI, particularly those that might allow Greenlandic youth to visit the United States.

New: Outreach to ESTH Diplomats: The Office of International Affairs staff will participate in a training course for incoming Foreign Service Officers who will be covering environment, science, technology and health (ESTH) issues in US embassies overseas. ESTH officers are critical contacts for implementing DOI programs overseas and for supporting travel of high-level DOI officials. The Office of International Affairs will present on DOI's international priorities and programs.

New: Technical Assistance Team in Mozambique: A team of two will travel to Gorongosa National Park, Mozambique to assist the Park and the Gorongosa Restoration Project with developing a trails system for tourism development at Mount Gorongosa, an area recently annexed into the park. The team will assess existing trail networks at Mt. Gorongosa, assess facilities needs and waste management in the area, and make specific technical recommendations for conceptual design and layout of tourist trails and multiple-use trails. This work is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Update: TPP Negotiations: The Office of International Affairs staff will participate in a USTR-led meeting on June 16th with members of industry in order to discuss proposed new obligations on sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures under the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade negotiations. The Office of International Affairs staff, in coordination with the National Invasive Species Council (NISC), has been closely following the SPS negotiations in order to ensure consistency with DOI wildlife trade regulations.

Update: UN Report on Right to Water: The Office of International Affairs coordinated DOI comments on a report of a UN Special Rapporteur on the right to water and sanitation in the US. The report reviews current domestic frameworks for providing clean water and sanitation with an emphasis on access to water by minority or disadvantaged communities. The Bureau of Indian Affairs, USBR and BLM reviewed the report and provided comments relevant to their respective mandates and programs.

YOUTH, PARTNERSHIPS AND SERVICE

Office of Youth in the Great Outdoors

New: Office of the Secretary Fellows Program (Summer 2011). Last week Youth in the Great Outdoors Director Julie Rodriguez kicked off the Summer Friday Lunch series for DOI interns. She was joined by over 50 interns who will be working for DOI for the next few months, helping with mission critical projects and running the Feds Feed Families program. The fellows will attend weekly lunches with senior political and career staff at DOI; networking events; community service projects at parks and refuges; and OS events and programs. They are excited to be here and we are excited to have them!

Ongoing: *Let's Move! in Indian Country*. LMIC presented at the Annual conference for Volunteer and Service in New Orleans, Louisiana and received many commitments from VISTA / AmeriCorps members who will work to ensure that their programs in Native American communities are addressing LMIC and the four pillar areas identified. The Youth Office has

been creating a stakeholder list for over a year now and will be sending out the first LMIC newsletter this week. Website can be found at www.LetsMove.gov/IndianCountry.

Ongoing: 21 Century Conservation Service Corps Advisory Committee (21 CSC AC) FACA Charter Finalized and Transmitted to the Secretary for Approval. Public notice to establish the FACA Committee and call for nominations for the 21CSC is expected to be published in the Federal Register next week. DOI Solicitor (Staff for General Law) approved the Charter, GSA concurred, and the Transmittal Memo to the Secretary requesting his signature on the Charter is moving through surname process in AS/PMB.

Ongoing: AGO Education Work Group. The Youth Office assisted NPS in their role co-leading, with the EPA, the AGO Education Work Group. Support included reviewing meeting notes, organizing information collected to date, and brainstorming next steps.

Ongoing: Youth Impact Evaluation Toolkit. The Youth Office continued outreach to identify additional potential programs willing to test the toolkit, and provided technical assistance to four programs that have agreed, to date, to pilot the toolkit internally. The Youth Office continues to work with others to secure OMB approval for the Youth Impact Evaluation Toolkit so that we can measure the impact of DOI youth programs with participants who are not employed by DOI.

Ongoing: DOI STEM Education Strategic Plan Work Group. The Youth Office co-led, with USGS, a meeting with group members to move a SWOT analysis forward to identifying DOI STEM Education core principles and purpose.

Ongoing: MOU – DOI/Wilderness Inquiry. MOU drafted to renew and expand the expired MOU between (1) DOI (BLM, BOR, NPS, and FWS); (2) USFS; (3) US Army Corps; and Wilderness Inquiry, Inc. The expanded purpose of the renewed MOU is to "establish framework for cooperation to increase recreation, service and careers related to America's Great Outdoors" for people of all abilities, particularly low-income, underserved and diverse youth."

Ongoing: MOU- DOI (BLM, FWS, NPS)/USDA (USFS) and HistoriCorps. MOU drafted with primary purpose for partnership to cooperatively identify joint historic preservation projects, HistoriCorps was launched as initiative of Colorado Preservation (2009) and is expanding through western states to mobilize and employ youth and teach volunteers trade skills, sustainable technology to restore historic buildings on or adjacent to public lands.

Ongoing: Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) Partnership.

DOI Cooperative Agreement signed June 1 between DOI (Julie Rodriguez) and Southwest Conservation Corps for the AmeriCorps Summer Intern Program with BLM, FWS, BOR, USGS. NPS will hire interns using an existing cooperative agreement.

New: Cooperative Agreement between Active.com/The Active Network and Office of Youth in the Great Outdoors. Active.com, a community service of The Active Network, Inc. (a technology and media company that provides software to automate business operations), contacted the Office of Youth in the Great Outdoors to donate their services to create software for the YouthGo.Gov webportal. A cooperative agreement has been drafted to formalize the proposed 3 year relationship and outline how Active.com will create unique software to filter and sort youth events for users of the YouthGo.Gov webportal, as a donation to the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Office of Service – Take Pride in America

Ongoing: National Awards Prep. Preparations will be ongoing for the July 18 awards ceremony that will take place at the Old Executive Office Building.

TECHNOLOGY, INFORMATION AND BUSINESS SERVICES

Office of Hearings and Appeals

New: GAO Review of Attorney Fee Claims. OHA is assisting the Solicitor's Office in gathering information for a GAO review of the Department's experience with attorney fee claims during FY 2000-2010. OHA provided preliminary data from its Docket Management System and is scheduled to meet with the Solicitor's Office to determine what other information is needed.

New: Request for Assistance from NOAA. OPM contacted the OHA Director to ask if OHA could provide one or more Administrative Law Judges to handle hearings for NOAA on a reimbursable basis. In a follow-up phone call, NOAA indicated that it is looking for an agency that could handle 20-30 hearing requests per year. The Director said that a caseload of that size

would be quite manageable for our Departmental Cases Hearings Division. NOAA will get back to the Director if it wants to pursue a memorandum of understanding with OHA.

Office of the Chief Information Office

New: IT Transformation Update. The OCIO led a 2 day working session last week with bureau Assistant Directors for Information Resources (ADIRs), who replaced bureau CIOs under Secretarial Order 3309. The 2 day workshop focused on gathering detailed bureau feedback on the latest draft of the IT Transformation Strategic Plan, which is due to be delivered to the Secretary on June 17. The Plan reflects comments from IT Transformation listening sessions held with employees throughout the Department and will outline at a high level the strategic plan to accomplish the ambitious goals outlined in S.O. 3309. The draft Plan has been reviewed by multiple stakeholders in bureaus, budget, finance, and human resources.

New: Assistant Director of Information Resources (ADIRs). The OCIO has received three ADIR nominations from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service. The CIO is having discussions with the other bureaus to finalize all nominations by next week.

New: Oracle Bridge Contract. A one-year Oracle Bridge Contract was awarded and enables the Department to maintain continuity of its existing Oracle maintenance services. Additionally, the Department can trade licenses as well as acquire new contracts.

Update: **OCIO - Independent Verification & Validation -- List of OPEN Audit Item Activity -- As of June 10, 2011.** The OCIO continues to coordinate with PFM to track IT Program audit activity. As a result, 13 open findings are being tracked by PFM (7 from OIG reports and 6 from GAO reports). OCIO has only achieved 13% of targeted closings for FY11.

New: OCIO Organizational Development Activities. The OCIO hosted a two day staff leadership meeting to orient and develop a common understanding of the new organizational divisions, Customer Relationship Management and Performance (CRMP), Service Planning and Management (SPM) and Service Delivery (SD) leadership. Discussion centered around the functions, roles and responsibilities of these organizations in their future transformed state, as well as moving from an asset-based orientation to a service-based model and served to enhance internal relationships, work flow and communication between the divisions.

New: IT Policy Management Development. OCIO has proposed an IT Policy Management lifecycle that will serve as the foundation for the management of existing and future IT policies

that are generated and distributed throughout the Department. A companion document includes an IT Policy Matrix that provides an inventory of existing IT policies published in the Departmental Manual (DM) and stored in the Electronic Library of Interior Policies (ELIPs). Based on the initial assessment, there are more than 60 policies dating back to 1982 contained in the DM and over 180 directives dating back to 2000; all which need to undergo a thorough review.

New: BY 2013 IT Budget Submission. The Capital Planning Working Team is convening to focus on the upcoming BY 2013 IT Budget Submission, standardizing our IT cost reporting, and other topics to help drive the maturity of the Department's Capital Planning and Investment Control (CPIC) program.

Update: eMail Enterprise Records and Document Management System (eERDMS). OCIO is actively examining opportunities to acquire an enterprise records and document management system. Due to the scale of the acquisition and procurement rules the contract award is targeted for the end of the fiscal year with initial execution to begin the first quarter of FY 2012.

New: Joint Spectrum Support for AZ Fires: DOI and USDA are now jointly coordinating and obtaining non-DOI/USDA frequencies for the wild land fires in Arizona.

Update: National Indian Gaming Commission Consolidation: The DCC team and Infrastructure Services Division will host a briefing with the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) on Monday June 13, 2011. The NIGC is seeking information on the requirements, benefits, and services offered through the DOI services catalog and through migration with the DOI Active Directory system. NIGC believes that they can achieve some cost avoidance through a merger with DOI.

Update: Office of the Inspector General Consolidation: The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) completed the first steps needed to connect them to FBMS. Through coordination with the DOI Active Directory and FBMS teams, they were able to create Active Directory accounts in the DOI Enterprise Active Directory system. This will enable OIG to test FBMS along with other organizations. A full migration to the DOI Active Directory will take place when the migration contractor is onboard.

Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution.

New: NBC leadership team. CADR is consulting on team building for the NBC Senior Leadership Team.

Update: Indian Land Consolidation Consultation planning. CADR is providing guidance and support for selecting an impartial facilitator to assist with a Government-to-Government consultation with Tribes on Indian Land Consolidation.

Ongoing: Office of the Special Trustee. CADR is providing impartial process support to assist with a significant change initiative, including ombuds services.

Ongoing: Open Government Initiatives. CADR continues to provide process support for DOI's Open Government steering committee and working group. The Steering committee will present the updated project plan for review by AS PMB and the DOG, and complete the self evaluation due to the White House in July.

Geospatial Information Officer

New: Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. The GIO will meet with staff of the Committee to discuss the status of geospatial coordination in the Federal government among multiple agencies.

New: Geospatial Interns. GIO is hosting two interns this summer as a part of the Office of the Secretary Fellows Program. The interns are gaining experience in a variety of geospatial activities including Federal Geographic Data Committee, National Geospatial Advisory Committee, DOI's Geospatial RFI, Interior Operations Center and the DOI Open Government initiatives.

National Business Center

New: Secretary's relocation during Wing 1 modernization. Plans are underway to determine where the Secretary will be relocated during modernization with a final decision likely next week.

New: IDRA Vendor Counters Installed. The vendor counter to support IDRA sales has been modified to fit in its new location outside the storage room underneath the grand stairs.

Update: Clover Mite Control. A pest-control contractor treated rooftop areas of the MIB as a result of complaints from building occupants.

Update: MIB Parking Garage. Ramp A in the MIB garage will be returned to service on June 6 and Ramp B will be closed on June 13.

Update: Special Events. The Secretary and other Cabinet members will be participating in the National Coastal and Marine Spatial workshop, which will be held in the Sydney Yates Auditorium, June 21 – 23.

New: AMD Supports Southwest Area Coordination Center. An AMD Management Analyst has been dispatched to assist with the massive Wallow Fire, designated as the third largest in Arizona history.

New: AQD-Sierra Vista Breaks Ground on New Office Location. NBC Director Ward and Associate Director of AQD Nyce celebrated the opening of new office space with local community leaders.

Update: Upgrade Completed The Federal Personnel and Payroll System (FPPS) and Federal Financial System (FFS) applications have been upgraded to provide the increased security that better protect human resource and financial management systems.

New: Migration of HR Support for Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR) NBC and ONRR continue to collaborate and prepare for the migration of ONRR's Human Resources support to NBC's Human Resources Operations Division. Next steps include identifying gaps and discussing recommendations for optimizing service delivery to ensure a smooth transition.

Office of Valuation Services

New: Check-in Meeting with Client Bureaus. OVS Director met with state/regional realty staff in Portland for FWS, NPS and BLM and received positive input regarding improved service levels.

HUMAN CAPITAL AND DIVERSITY

Office of Human Resources

New: Accountability Performance Indicators. The Accountability team developed thirteen performance indicators based on findings identified in accountability reports issued in FY 2009 and 2010. The indicators align with OPM's five Human Capital Accountability and Assessment Framework (HCAAF) elements. All of the bureaus were rated on their performance against each indicator. The team is sharing these findings individually with each bureau and plans to publicize this information after giving the bureaus an opportunity to provide additional feedback.

New: Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) Corrective Action Plan Review. The Accountability team is reviewing a corrective action plan and documentation prepared by the BOR Lower Colorado Region in response to BOR's accountability review report issued January 6, 2011. While BOR found no illegal appointments or severe deficiencies, they did identify a number of required and recommended actions. The corrective action plan addresses those requirements and recommendations. Upon satisfactory completion of those actions, BOR will close out the review.

New: Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Accountability Review. The Accountability team is reviewing advance information for a review of the BLM Colorado Office which will take place during the week of June 27 – July 1, 2011.

Update: Federal Government-wide Veterans Acquisition Career Field Developmental Program. OPM is reviewing a final draft of the Job Opportunity Announcement for a Federal Government-wide Veterans Acquisition Career Field Developmental Program. This program should be announced in early July with placements happening in August, pending OPM approval. Agencies will use a single list of candidates and those chosen will work directly for the hiring agency and be members of a cohort class with those that are hired under this pilot program.

Update: DOI and the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve (OCAR) Employer Partnership. The Veteran Employment Program Office hosted representatives from OCAR Employer Partnership of the Armed Forces, Julie Rodriguez, Director, Office of Youth in the Great Outdoors, Robert Stanton, Senior Advisory to the Secretary, and Juliana Scolly, DOI Law Enforcement to engage in a conversation exploring partnership opportunities. The discussions included a consensus of four areas that could lead to the following potential partnerships: Youth Engagement; Military Families and Wounded Warriors; Employment Program Opportunities; and Public Relations (Communication) Opportunities. A DOI internal meeting is scheduled for June 21, 2011. The meeting will focus on discussing the development of a strategic Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with OCAR to show broad support for partnership opportunities from senior leadership of DOI and OCAR.

Update: Project SEARCH. DOI Individual with Disabilities Employment Program Office met with the Kennedy School to explore student with disabilities opportunities at Interior. The Kennedy School is very excited about the prospect of partnering with DOI to bring possible employment opportunities and internships to students with disabilities. The program will include eight to twelve students who will gain work experience through three ten week internships within our offices in DC and Arlington. The students' classroom will be located at the MIB and the Kennedy School will provide a full-time teacher and other support staff. The next steps for DOI is locating managers that are interested in providing internship opportunities for the students and reviewing the MOA. DC Department of Disability Services is currently working with Project SEARCH, DC Public Schools, and the Kennedy School to draft the MOA. OHR is targeting the week of July 25, 2011 for a "kick-off" event, including the signing of the MOA. This week coincides with the anniversary of the American's with Disabilities Act.

Update: Telework Department Manual (DM), Handbook, and Training. The DOI Telework Handbook which was distributed in mid-May received a good reception. OHR received and reviewed some questions and recommendations and are preparing an update to the Handbook and to the DM. The changes to the DM chapter are clerical in nature and do not change the policy from the previously proposed version. In addition, free online telework training for employees and supervisors is now available through DOI Learn. DOI reported to OPM on Monday, June 6, 2011 that all employees have been notified of their eligibility to telework. The range of reports of ineligibles is .003%-18% of the workforce. We asked bureaus/offices reporting 1% or greater ineligibles to conduct a self-audit of their employee records to be sure they were reporting accurately. These reports are due June 17, 2011.

Office of Civil Rights

New: DOI Pre-Conference at the Society of American Indian Government Employees (SAIGE) National Conference. On June 13, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights (OCR), U.S. Geological Survey EEO Office, and Bureau of Indian Affairs are co-sponsoring a DOI Pre-Conference Training Forum at the SAIGE National Conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The training forum takes place in the Cherokee Hard Rock Hotel. The facilitator, Larry Keown, will address "Working in Indian Country: Building Successful Relationships with Indian Tribes."

New: Federal Interagency Diversity Partnership. On June 16, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights is representing the DOI in a meeting of the Federal Interagency Diversity Partnership. The purpose of the meeting is to continue collaboration and coordination of the Annual Diversity Briefing scheduled to take place in September 2011. The meeting will take place at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

New: EEO Compliance Training, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) New Mexico State Office, Santa Fe, NM. Lola Hatcher-Capers, Deputy Director, OCR, will conduct EEO Compliance Training during June 14-16, 2011, for managers, supervisors, and non-supervisory employees of the BLM New Mexico State Office, in Santa Fe, NM. The training was ordered following a recent Finding of Discrimination against the BLM New Mexico State Office.

New: Civil Rights Compliance Reporting Requirements and Enforcement. Acting Public Civil Rights Chief, David Quirino and Equal Opportunity Specialist Michael Zimmerman have been working with DOI Bureaus to verify and review the Department of Justices' FY 2009 and FY 2010 information and reporting requirements for the Department of the Interior's (DOI) civil rights compliance and enforcement program, subject to Executive Order 12250. These reports cover the DOI's policies, plans, and accomplishments in ensuring compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the various Federal civil rights laws under Title VI and Title IX, for which we have designated responsibility. Executive Order 12250 gives the U.S. Attorney General coordinating responsibilities for Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and other grant-related nondiscrimination statutes.

Update: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month – June 2011. DOI joins the Nation in observing the month of June as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month. During June, we recognize the many achievements and contributions made by LGBT Americans to strengthen the fabric of our society. In observance of LGBT Month, the Office of Civil Rights, Bureau of Land Management, and DOI Chapter - Gay, Lesbian, and other Bisexual Employees (GLOBE) co-sponsored a program on June 7, 2011, in the South Interior Building. EEOC Commissioner Chai Feldblum was the keynote speaker. Approximately 50 employees attended. On June 22, 2011, in the BLM "M" Street 4th Floor Conference Room, training will be conducted by William Scaggs of USDA, entitled "Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in the 21st Century Workplace."

Update: Rescheduled EEO Counselor Training. During June 27, 2011-July 1, 2011, OCR, in partnership with the National Park Service, will provide EEO Counselor Training at the NPS Service Center in Lakewood, Colorado. A Basic EEO Counselor Training Course will be conducted during June 27, 2011-July 1, 2011. An Advanced EEO Counselor Training Course will be conducted during June 29, 2011-July 1, 2011. Registration closed on May 27, 2011. Training will be provided by staff members of OCR, NPS, and USGS. Additionally, a presentation will be made to each class by two Administrative Judges of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

Completed: Minority Serving Institutions-Community of Partners Council (MSI COPC). On June 7, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights represented DOI in a meeting of the MSI COPC at

the US Department of Commerce in Washington, D.C. The meeting of representatives, from several Federal agencies, included a discussion of the group's participation in the MSI National Conference, scheduled for September 27-28, 2011, in Dallas, Texas.

Completed: EEO Compliance Training, NPS, Southeast Region, Office of the Comptroller. Senior Policy Advisor Alvin Dillings conducted EEO Compliance Training during June 8-9, 2011, for thirty-two managers and supervisors, as well as twenty-six non-supervisory employees of the NPS, Southeast Region, Comptroller's Office. The training was ordered by an EEOC Administrative Judge following a recent Finding of Discrimination against the DOI and NPS. The training was also provided to other NPS managers and employees in the Southeast Region for completion of Annual EEO Training.

Completed: icomplaints User Training and Webinar. On June 8, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights presented "icomplaints User Training" for DOI EEO Practitioners. The training was conducted at the NPS, National Capital Training Center inWashington, D.C. The training was designed for both new users and experienced users of icomplaints. Fifteen DOI EEO Practitioners completed the training, which was also provided via Webinar.

Office of Strategic Employee and Organizational Development

Update: Upcoming Forums.

- On June 14, 2011 the Office of Strategic Employee and Organizational Development (OSEOD) hosted Roger Connors, co-author of The Oz Principle, for a Career, Diversity and Leadership Forum to be held at the National Transportation Safety Board Conference Center.

- On June 16, 2011 OSEOD will host John Berry, Director of the Office of Personnel Management for a Government-wide Senior Executive Service (SES) Forum on workplace issues. The SES Forum will be held at the National Transportation Safety Board Conference Center.

LAW ENFORCEMENT, SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Immediate Office of the DAS

Update: Annual Public Lands Liaison Conference. This annual conference will be convened in Tucson from June 28-30. Special Agents Wirth and Oman and Borderlands Coordinator Andrew will all present at this meeting. Andrew will also participate in a panel discussion on Borderland Management Task Force activities.

Update: Northern Border EIS Being Prepared by CBP. The internal draft of this EIS is undergoing review and concerns have been raised over the document, time frames etc. CBP will be preparing a single document for the entire border. A request for cooperating agency status was received by letter dated March 14, 2011. A letter acknowledging and describing the DOI role as cooperator was sent the on May 26, 2011. The current, ambitious, schedule indicates issuance of a Record of Decision in the fall of this year. DOI and USDA will be provided with an opportunity to review the Draft PEIS prior to the scheduled public release in mid July. Public meetings will be held in July/August followed by a 45-60 day comment period. Documents will be placed on the DOI Sharepoint site for review.

Update: Ajo Forward Operating Base (FOB). CBP has received draft reports on Sonoran Pronghorn Antelope activity in the project area to use in project planning. Draft environmental reports are expected to be out for internal review in early July and a coordination meeting is scheduled for the week of July 11th. This project is being funded with FY 2010 dollars that must be obligated this FY. Construction of the new, expanded facility will likely be at the currently approved tower site now occupied by a temporary camp which was relocated from the Bates Wells area. BP Agents are now operating at the site in temporary facilities.

Update: Integrated Fixed Towers - OTIA (Office of Innovation, Technology and Acquisition) Program Development (formerly known as SBInet). Site visits have now been completed in three locations, Sonoita/Nogales, Douglas and west of Tucson. Borderlands Coordinator Andrew attended a coordination briefing with OTIA leadership on the status of OTIA activities on June 13th. Coordination of the work of OTIA has been good thus far. Construction is expected to begin in late summer of 2012 in the Sonoita-Nogales area. No significant issues have arisen with regard to T+E species.

Update: Environmental and Cultural Stewardship Training Module. CBP, USDA, and DOI Bureaus are working cooperatively to develop a two hour, on line, mandatory course to be used by CBP to orient CBP personnel to DOI and USDA Forest Service lands and resources. . The Alpha version of the module was received on June 10th with a requested review turnaround of June 20th. The module is now being reviewed by NPS, FWS and BLM personnel. The objective of this module is to educate and thus reduce unnecessary impacts on natural resources and the environment. Field launch of the module is still expected to begin this fall.

Update: Radio Transformation. Planning for meeting with ADIRs the week of June 13 and for initial core team meeting the week of June 20.

Update: Short-term Access to Government Computers for Emergency Response. Met with a group of subject matter experts from wildland fire on needs and requirements. Obtained from that group an initial set of data on number of employees potentially affected. Prepared for meeting with DHS-lead interagency group to discuss the issue and look for common solutions.

No Change: CBP to Prepare NEPA documents for Maintenance of Tactical Infrastructure Along the Southwest Border. CBP initiated interagency scoping for programmatic NEPA documents in December. A letter describing efforts to date and the plan for preparing NEPA documents for "non-waived" tactical infrastructure was sent to land managers and permitting offices. The initial work will focus on California and Arizona with draft documents released in late July for Arizona and mid August for California. Texas and New Mexico will be released later. The scope of the analysis also includes "new" construction and routine operational maintenance of constructed projects, e.g., roads and fencing. TIMR contracts for other border maintenance work will be finalized this summer. CBP has provided a list of Project Managers for TIMR. These managers will work closely with the Public Lands Liaison Agent to identify and address maintenance needs. Coordination meetings with FWS Field Offices in Carlsbad and Tucson took place on the 24th and 25th of May and coordination with NM and TX programs are scheduled for June 29th and 30th. The meetings will focus on possible impacts on endangered species.

No Change: Interagency Agreement with Customs and Border Protection. FY 09 and 10 dollars that had been set aside in support of this agreement were lost in the final budget resolution for FY 11. CBP is evaluating other options to support the agreement with end of year funds. Discussions on the amendments to the existing Interagency Agreement are continuing so that when funding becomes available the approved projects in the amendment can be executed. The amendments under consideration would provide justification for as much as 22 million dollars to purchase lands to mitigate for the impacts of waived border infrastructure projects in California (San Diego NWR) and Texas (South Texas Refuge Complex). Resolution of the final mitigation justifications is expected in the next month.

No Change: Work Load and Staffing Needs. Fish and Wildlife Service staff continue to express concerns about keeping pace with the work load associated with environmental compliance needs related to border security. Most work is related to Endangered Species Act compliance but NEPA and cultural and historic resource concerns are also significant. These concerns have been expressed to CBP with a request for transfer funding, addition of CBP

environmental staff or a clear expression of priority needs for CBP projects. Meetings with CBP leadership are planned for the week of June 13 (Rob Jansen).

No Change: Forage Enhancement Plot and Drag Road on Luke Air Force Base. Forage enhancement plots are sometimes used to provide additional food for the endangered Sonoran pronghorn. The region is experiencing a prolonged drought and this program of irrigating a large area provides a supplement to naturally available forage. Illegal activities have resulted in the need for CBP to have access to drag a road in proximity to the FEP. The concern is that regular dragging of this road is disturbing the pronghorn and rendering the FEP ineffective. Discussions are continuing in an effort to resolve this through relocation of the FEP to a more northerly location away from the Vidrios drag.

No Change: Update of Department of the Interior Borderlands Strategy. The last borderlands strategy dealing with security and environmental issues was completed in 2003. DOI Borderlands Coordinator Jon Andrew has initiated internal scoping for a revised document. Scoping comments will be received until June 3 and a draft document will be prepared and circulated internally for review. A final version of the strategy is expected to move forward in late summer for approval by the Secretary.

No Change: Mitigation Project on Lower Colorado River. BLM and CBP had negotiated an agreement to offset impacts of CBP activities through restoration of riparian habitat. After substantial planning and design work BOR noted that the proposed project was located on a site planned for dredge spoil deposition. BLM and BOR are discussing at the regional level and seeking solutions which will allow the planned project to move forward. The field meeting originally scheduled for early March is now scheduled for May 18. Alternative sites have been identified for mitigation and will be evaluated on this field trip.

No Change: Northern Border Operations/Access and Possible Impacts on Endangered Species. Borderlands Coordinator Andrew attended a meeting with Spokane Border Patrol Sector Chief Gloria Chavez, and USFS Regional Forester Leslie Weldon regarding access to Forest Service lands and potential impacts on grizzly bear core habitat. The meeting was very productive and a path forward to provide for BP access without impacting bears was outlined. There was recognition that BP access was a different nature than general public access and was less impacting. Follow up meetings are planned in the coming months. Andrew also attended the Spokane Sector BMTF meeting the same day and participated in a site visit at Glacier National Park with Chief Ranger Mark Foust and SA Oman.

No Change: Interagency Interoperability. The Interagency Interoperability Oversight Group met on May 26 to discuss a Secretarial level charter and to re-configuration of the group to make

it more agile and strategic. Two major sets of initiatives are underway. First is interconnectivity of networks and cross-recognition of credentials. A large interagency conference call took place this week among USDA, FS, and DOI CIO offices, with LESEM, to coordinate and prioritize a number of activities in this area. This work also involves the DOI and USDA Identity, Credential, and Access Management (ICAM) program offices. The second initiative is radio program improvement including interoperability, infrastructure consolidation, and use of new technologies. This initiative is being handled through the DOI Radio Transformation Project in partnership with USDA and Forest Service.

No Change: Civil Applications Committee Coordination. The chair of the CAC (USGS Deputy Director Suzette Kimball) and the Interior CAC representative (Deputy Assistant Secretary – Water and Science) briefed the Deputies Operating Group in March on the mission and purpose of the CAC and solicited bureau input on improving coordination within Interior.

No Change: Interagency Dispatch Improvement. All bureaus/agencies have signed the charter. Plans for a meeting or conference call of the Steering Committee are underway.

No Change: Wildland Fire Accident Investigation Procedures. The protocols and procedures for conducting safety investigations after serious accidents differ between the Interior Department and the Forest Service (and somewhat within Interior) with respect to such issues as the role of law enforcement, sharing of information, and release/use of results. In December 2009 a "summit meeting" of wildland fire, safety, and law enforcement was held to discuss these issues and develop solutions. On January 27 the chair of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group briefed the Deputy Assistant Secretary – Law Enforcement, Security, and Emergency management on the results of their efforts to develop a common approach within the wildland fire community. That work now needs to be discussed with safety and law enforcement program managers to determine how to agree on a common approach to these investigations.

Final: Emergency Rescue Beacons on Organ Pipe NM, BLM lands and Cabeza Prieta NWR. Border Patrol has relocated rescue beacons due to changes in undocumented alien activity patterns. One of the sites is in an area used by the endangered Sonoran pronghorn. An assessment of possible impacts on this species is being conducted under emergency rules. All beacons are therefore in place and functioning. At the same time, possible impacts are being evaluated. The beacons must be checked daily to assure they are operational and discussion is focused on the best time of day to check the beacons to avoid disturbance to pronghorns.

Final: Gulf Coast Response Staffing. The DOI transition plan has been signed and transmitted to the Coast Guard.

Final: Fire IT Project. The project leaders are preparing a report to the sponsors. Further updates will commence once a path forward has been identified.

Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES)

Update: Facility Security Level Initiative in Support of the Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) 12. Per guidance from the Executive Steering Committee and the DOI Access Team, OLES had requested all bureaus/offices compile and submit a list of facilities they own or have control over the security function along with the assigned security level. To date OLES has received a partial response from NPS, BOR, OTHA and NBC. OLES is meeting on 6/14 with EM and Facilities personnel in an attempt to further this initiative.

Update: Canadian Niche User Group Conference. Members of the Technology Division attended the Canadian Niche User Group Conference from May 30th - June 2nd. Business Operations Manager Danielle Smith gave two presentations on the project management approach and business processes of the Incident Management, Analysis, and Reporting System (IMARS).

Update: Facility Security Assessments and Security Reviews. A security assessment (in accordance with 444 DM 1) has been completed at the main BOEMRE facility in New Orleans and at the USGS EROS Data Center located in South Dakota. Also in May OLES conducted a security review, using draft guidance, at Davis Dam. An additional security review is in the process of being scheduled at Fort McHenry in Baltimore, MD.

Update: Main Interior Building (MIB) Security. The MIB is currently undergoing the following security upgrades:

- **Electric Bollards:** The A and C ramp bollard installation is complete and the ramps are open. Work has started on the G ramp bollards and is scheduled for completion at the end of July.
- **Exterior Guard Booths:** The A and C ramp guard booths have been installed and are operational. Installation has started on the G ramp guard booths.
- **Physical Access Control System (PACS):** The PACS solicitation has been posted on the GSA schedule and approximately 25 manufactures attended a “walk through” on April 14th. The Request for Quotes (RFQ) by the potential bidders is due no later than Wednesday, June 15.
- **OPM/GSA Campus Initiative:** Internal Security continues to download OPM/GSA personnel files to allow unfettered access for GSA and OPM employees into MIB.

- **Intrusion Detection System (IDS) and Camera Rehabilitation:** Significant progress has been made on the IDS. Work should be completed w/in the next month.
- **MIB Child Care Center:** OLES Director and DAS briefed on the estimated ($472,095) security upgrade costs associated with this initiative. A talking points paper was submitted for follow-up.
- **MIB Entrance Re-design**: DAS Andrew Jackson commissioned a study to redesign the C and E street entrances into the MIB. OLES has reviewed and commented on this plan. A conceptual drawing (from a security prospective) has been submitted to the GSA for additional review and comments.

No Change: OLES Presentation on Open-Source Investigative Data Bases for DOI Law Enforcement Investigators. OLES will be hosting in-person and remote access presentations on Open-Source investigative databases for DOI Law Enforcement investigators. OLES is seeking ways to lower overall costs of acquiring these services through an enterprise-wide, corporate account approach.

No Change: OLES Meeting with DHS Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) Directorate's Northern and Maritime Border Branch. OLES has coordinated with BIA and with DHS to host a meeting to discuss DHS I&A's analytic efforts related to Indian Country along the northern border. The goal of the meeting will be to review their activities and determine how best to engage towards a mutually supportive relationship.

No Change: OLES National Critical Infrastructure (NCI) Security Assessments. OLES has completed security assessments (in accordance with 444 DM 2) on four of the five designated NCI Dams including Hoover, Folsom, Shasta and Grand Coulee. An assessment has been scheduled at Glen Canyon Dam for the week of June 20th. In addition, OLES has completed assessments at the following National Monuments and Icons (NM&I): National Mall, St Louis Arch, Statue of Liberty, and a progress review at Mount Rushmore. Additional assessments are in the process of being scheduled at the USS Constitution in July and the Liberty Bell in August.

<u>Office of Emergency Management (OEM)</u>

Update: Emergency Response Activities. The Interior Operations Center (IOC) monitored the following activities during the past week:

- *Flooding in the Missouri River Basin:* Continuing heavy precipitation and melting snowpack are causing near-record flooding in the Missouri River Basin and tributaries. The Crow, Blackfeet, Northern Cheyenne, Fort Peck, Omaha, Fort Yates and Rocky

Boys Tribes, among others, are being impacted by the flooding. BOR is currently maintaining a heightened alert level for nine dams in the region and USGS teams are monitoring flow rates and water levels throughout the river system. Flooding in the region is expected to continue for several more weeks.

- *Flooding in the Lower Mississippi Valley:* USACE continues to regulate water flow along the Mississippi using flood control structures. USFWS still has multiple refuges closed due to flooding. The levees near the Chitimacha Tribe continue to hold, sparing the Tribe from flooding. As the crest from the Missouri River Basin flows down river, it will enter the Mississippi and possibly cause additional flooding on the Lower Mississippi River.
- *Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Response*: Sixty-five DOI personnel continued to work full-time in New Orleans on Deepwater Horizon planning and operations. Much emphasis is being placed on how to determine when a beach can be considered clean and require no more cleanup effort.
- *Ten Large Wildfires Continue to Burn on DOI Land:* The National Wildfire Preparedness Level remains at Level 3. There are currently ten large wildland fires burning on DOI lands in AK (6), GA (1) FL (2) and NC (1). These fires are impacting facilities under the control of USFWS and BLM. Currently there are 2,882 DOI personnel who are actively involved in the interagency wildland firefighting efforts. The Wallow Fire in Arizona is burning near two Apache Reservations, but has not impacted infrastructure and has done only done minor damage. Currently the fire has burned 444,000 acres.
- *Tropical Weather:* The first hurricane (Adrian) in the 2011 Pacific Hurricane Season formed last week. The storm strengthened to a Category 4 storm but then weakened and dissipated over the weekend.

Update: National Level Exercise (NLE) 11. A draft After Action Report capturing issues raised during NLE-11 and our associated internal Emergency Management Council (EMC) tabletop is being staffed and should be finalized by June 17. The report will include lessons learned and proposed corrective actions in accordance with the Department's Corrective Action Program.

Update: Enterprise-level Emergency Management Applications. OEM and OCIO continue to make progress on completing enterprise-level emergency management applications. Contact Management System interface with email address books and the alert notification system in now operational. OEM will be issuing instructions to individuals this week to allow them to securely manage their own contact information. The CMS project has streamlined the process of managing lists of DOI emergency personnel thereby ensuring alerts are properly delivered and received during emergency situations.

Update: Exercise Eagle Horizon-2011 (EH-11). The DOI HQ COOP Team Training sessions to fulfill the annual COOP Team training requirement along with providing an EH overview will conclude this week. A total of 86 participants have been trained as of June 10. Exercise EH-11

will take place on June 23 and will focus on the ability of federal agencies to execute essential functions when their primary continuity sites are inoperable.

Update: Continuity of Operations (COOP) Team Configuration. OEM continues to work with Emergency Coordinators to refine the roster of essential leadership and personnel required to work from alternate facilities during emergency situations. OEM utilized the EH briefings to update Departmental leadership on their representation and solicit final inputs for their alternates. The updated COOP Team configuration will be included in a revised DOI COOP Plan which is now in progress and scheduled to be published following exercise EH-11.

Update: Occupant Emergency Planning (OEP). The 2011 revisions of the Occupant Emergency Plan and Occupant Emergency Employee Guide are in the surname process and are expected to be submitted for final approval this week. OEM is working with NBC Facilities Management and the GSA Fire Protection Engineers to finalize the procedures for the use of elevators to evacuate people with disabilities during a building emergency. Installation of the red emergency phones in the SIB has begun and should be completed and tested by June 24.

Update: Interagency Emergency Health Policy. OEM is crafting an email message to initiate a pilot project to get OEM, OWFC and OLES personnel medically cleared to wear N-95 respirators. Once we complete the pilot, we will expand this effort to the rest of the Departmental COOP Team and other key personnel in the Main Interior and South Interior Buildings. The N-95 respirators would only be worn by these personnel in emergency situations involving a release or spread of a biological agent (to include influenza pandemics that are more severe than the H1N1 Flu Pandemic). The Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) rules require that personnel to be medically cleared prior to using an N-95 respirator as part of their job.

Update: Indian Affairs Emergency Management Expert Study. OEM has received the first draft of the Indian Affairs Emergency Management Expert Study from the contractor. OEM has initiated the first phase of internal OEM review which will take place this week. After the feedback from the first phase review, coordination will take place with key participants in the study and with senior leadership.

Update: All-Hazards Positions and Qualifications Guide. The Emergency Management Council (EMC) approved the latest iteration of the *DOI Positions and Qualifications Guide* on May 4. The updated Guide includes positions that were developed as a direct result of the Gulf Oil Spill. OEM will be coordinating a policy bulletin regarding emergency incident staffing this week with the EMC. Both efforts directly support the effort to ensure all DOI responder qualifications are loaded into the same qualifications system and subsequently into the single point ordering system for future emergency response efforts.

No Change: Single Point Ordering of Resources. OEM held a collaboration meeting with the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) and the National Park Service (NPS) on May 11 and May 16 which resulted in a consensus as to the concept of operations for integrating NPS all-hazards resources and the non-land management agencies into the ROSS dispatch system. No significant resources will be required to modify the system to implement the concept; however, there will be resource costs for data management.

Office of Wildland Fire Coordination (OWFC)

New: Meeting with OMB on Hazardous Fuels Priorities: On Thursday of this week the Bureau Directors, Pam Haze, Kim Thorsen, and OWFC Director will meet with OMB to discuss hazardous fuels treatment priorities. We will be sharing the importance of treating the hazardous fuels outside the WUI area and its positive impacts on Communities and its values both today and in the future.

New: Federal Fire Policy Council. The Federal Fire Policy Council (FFPC) met on June 9, 2011. The discussions focused around the topics of Situational Awareness, Preparedness, Serious Accident Investigation, How we handle political inquiries and How do we respond to the "Perfect Storm." The meeting was attended by Assistant Secretary Suh; Undersecretary, USDA NRE, Harris Sherman; DAS Thorsen; Chief USFS, Tom Tidwell; as well as executive leadership from OWF, USFS, BIA, BLM, FWS, and NPS. The group was very engaged in the discussions and identified several high priority follow-up topics for future meetings of this executive level council. These topics include: After action review for lessons learned, development of a communication strategy – key messages, aviation assets, budget strategy, all hazard command system, wildland fire workforce, and serious accident investigation to name a few. Meetings will be scheduled quarterly with additional meetings as necessary.

New: International Wildland Fire Program/ Emergency Management- OWFC participated in a conference call with Department of State and representatives of DOI International Programs as well as several other DOI Bureaus for the purpose of reviewing and US/Mexico bilateral agreement for emergency management. Work groups will be identified to define DOI priorities for editing and updating this agreement.

New: Fire Program Analysis (FPA). The re-compete of the FPA Operations and Maintenance (O&M) contract is pending review of the Forest Service Office of General Counsel (OGC). A six-month extension of the existing development and maintenance contract has been requested in order to avoid disruption to the program should the re-compete timeframe cross into the new

fiscal year. Risk identification and mitigation are currently being prepared and will be shared with the FPA Oversight Group (OG) at the upcoming OG meeting June 22 and 23.

New: LANDFIRE. OWFC attended a meeting at NASA on June 14-15, 2011 on disturbance mapping. Participants included Universities of Maryland and Oregon State, USFS Forest Inventory Analysis (FIA), NASA Goddard, and USGS. Elements of the meeting include production of a US National wall-to-wall annual disturbance map, identification of disturbance causes, validation of results, and characterization of post-disturbance recovery.

Update: Fire Program Analysis (FPA). Preparations are underway for the next FPA Oversight Group (OG) meeting scheduled for June 22 and 23, 2011, in Boise, Idaho. The main meeting topics identified for discussion and decision are: budget update, progress of the FPA Business Process and Technical Review, FPA project timeline, staffing and operations, Department of the Interior (DOI) 2012 budget development exercise, IBM contract re-compete, and system design enhancements into O&M. The meeting will be available through VTC for a limited number of DOI OWFC and Washington Office Forest Service OG members due to Forest Service internal travel restrictions.

The FPA External Business Process and Technical Reviews, Request for Proposals (RFP) will be posted Wednesday, June 15. The RFP request will close on Friday, June 24, 2011. The Technical Proposal Evaluation Committee (TPEC) will evaluate the responses against identified selection criteria on June 28. The anticipated date of award is "not later than June 30, 2011." A mid-August interim report has been included in the RFP. This interim report will be shared with the FPA OG and with the Government Accountability Office (GAO) auditors by the FPA Executive Director. Anticipated completion date of the External Review is September 30, 2011, with the final report due no later than October 30, 2011.

Update: National Wildland Fire Management Cohesive Strategy - Phase II. The Cohesive Strategy effort is an all-lands, all-hands approach to addressing wildland fire and reducing risk. Each cohesive strategy region – West, Northeast and Southeast – continues to make progress in developing a qualitative report of the region's values, goals, objectives, and actions and activities. The Regional Strategy Committees (RSC) have established working groups in each region to support completion of the qualitative report and are developing outreach plans to ensure adequate engagement of stakeholders throughout Phase II. The West RSC and Working Group are conducting a workshop June 15-17 in Boise, Idaho. The Northeast RSC and Working Group will convene in Baltimore June 27-29. Updates and information on the Phase II can be found at http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/strategy/.

Update: Hazardous Fuels Reduction. Decisions regarding Phase 2 of the FY 2012 Hazardous Fuels Prioritization and Allocation System (HFPAS) Technical Guidance Document (TGD),

which is designed to determine the process for integration of results of the Project Priority System (PPS) component and the Ecosystem Management Decision Support (EMDS) component have been temporarily deferred until PPS is complete (due July 29).

The web-based PPS data collection tool developed with our USGS partners is ready for operational use. It will shortly be employed (currently scheduled to go live on 6/22) to help prioritize project proposals. A preliminary program of work is currently anticipated by approximately the beginning of September.

Update: Wildland Firefighter Safety – Annual Report to Congress. Interior and the Forest Service prepared the joint report to Congress on wildland firefighter safety practices, including training programs and activities for wildfire suppression and prescribed fire during the 2010 calendar year. The report is under is in the surnaming process now.

Update: LANDFIRE – 2008 Refresh Production. The last geographic area with the delivery of AK was completed June 10, 2011. Production work of LANDFIRE deliverables was divided into two groups (Group A and Group B) with a staggered delivery of data products to meet leadership direction of data needs for Fire Program Analysis (FPA). All Group "A" data products have been delivered. Group "B" deliverables will be completed throughout the summer to the end of the fiscal year. Updating LANDFIRE data products as part of the Refresh project is focusing on areas where vegetation composition and structure have changed due to activities such as: wildland fires, fuel treatments, or vegetation management. The 50 United States were organized into eight geographic areas based on ecological parameters.

No Change: Community Assistance: The Community Assistance (CA) program leads are charting a path forward to fulfill the recommendations of the Office of Inspector General's (OIG) evaluation of the DOIs CA program.

BUDGET, FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND ACQUISITION

Office of Acquisition and Property Management

Update: DOI Acquisition Conference. PAM and the Acquisition Managers' Partnership are finalizing preparations for a DOI-wide acquisition conference June 21-23, 2011, in Denver, Colorado. The conference will feature speakers from the Office of Management and Budget, General Services Administration, Office of Inspector General, and Office of the Solicitor. The

agenda focuses on relevant topics such as DOI business and acquisition priorities, acquisition workforce, IT Transformation, Strategic Sourcing, and FBMS. The conference will provide Continuous Learning opportunities for acquisition professionals.

New: DOI Suspension and Debarment Program – Recent Actions. On June 9, 2011, Notices of Proposed Debarment were issued for Evadna M. Running Bear, Paul J. Bemer, Shelly Devonne Pipe, Connie Jean Smith, Dolly Diane Crowe, and Angelita Marie Headdress. DOI proposed debarment of these individuals based upon their respective criminal convictions for participation in a scheme to defraud the Fort Peck Tribal Credit Department, an agency of the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes in Poplar, Montana.

On June 9, 2011, DOI debarred, for a period of three years, Alex Charles Good Rider (aka Alexander Charles Good Rider) and Clarice Ann Hall based upon their respective convictions for participation in a scheme to defraud the Blackfeet Tribal Credit Department, an agency of the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council in Browning, Montana.

Office of Budget

Update: Unobligated Balance Reporting to Congress. Congressional appropriators have increased their focus on budget execution, particularly unobligated balances, as a potential means for identifying reductions or rescissions. The first report of unobligated and unexpended balances was transmitted to the House Interior Subcommittee on June 10. Hereafter, bureau/office execution data for both discretionary and mandatory accounts will be due to POB on the 15th of each month. This data will then be transmitted to House appropriations.

Update: 2013 Budget Formulation. PMB issued revised guidance on May 20 directing bureaus and offices to provide information that will be needed for 2013 budget formulation. Specifically, the guidance called for:

1) A reduction scenario for 2012 with an across-the-board reduction of 11 percent from the 2011 operating plan level.
2) A reduction scenario for 2013 planning that is 11 percent below 2011 that protects specific priorities such as LWCF.
3) A reduction scenario for 2013 planning that is 11 percent below 2011 that does not protect priority goals and initiatives.

POB is currently reviewing bureau/office submissions for the first scenario. Scenarios 2 and 3 are due to POB on June 22.

No Change: 2011 Spring Storm Damage Report. Bureau responses to the POB datacall indicate an estimated $22 million in damages to facilities and resources resulting from the recent spring storms. This does not include an estimated $60 million in asset damages related to the Pacific Tsunami reported by FWS. POB is reviewing updated damage estimates from bureaus to determine what, if any, new damages have resulted from the more recent incidents, such as the tornado in Joplin, MO.

No Change: OMB Travel.

- Week of June 26 – OMB Examiner James Hurban will visit the Rocky Mountain Region to review BIA and OST programs.
- Week of July 25 – OMB Examiner Tomer Hasson will travel to FWS Region 6 Mountain-Prairie from July 25 to July 30. The trip will cover a number of FWS-related issues, including wolves, sage grouse, wind energy, fisheries, and oil and gas development. POB Analyst Willy Gilmore will accompany him.

Office of Financial Management

New: Improper Payment Elimination and Recovery Act (IPERA). PFM is collaborating with the offices and bureaus on updating the Department's Inventory of Programs as initial steps towards implementing IPERA. OMB has advised PFM that it is scheduling to meet with agencies one-on-one on their plans and has requested to meet with PFM on June 21st.

Update: GAO Related Activities. PFM coordinated and attended three GAO entrance conferences:

- *Review of Uranium Mining on Federal Lands*
- *Review of Tax Expenditures Promoting Community Development*
- *Review of Equal Access to Justice Act.*

PFM completed departmental review and surname of the proposed response to the GAO draft report on *Data Center Consolidation: Agencies Need to Complete Inventories and Plans to Achieve Expected Savings (Report No. GAO-11-565)* and prepared a final letter. PFM prepared a survey for response by the finance officers regarding GAO's review of Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA).

Update: E-Travel system (ETS2). PFM attended the General Services Administration (GSA) Travel Programs Executive Governance Council meeting. Updates were presented on the protest of the procurement activities on the new master award contract for the E-Travel system (ETS2). Initially, the award was expected to be announced in November of this year. However, due to the protest, GSA expects a significant delay in awarding the contract. A new award date is tentatively set for the third quarter of 2012.

Office of Planning and Performance Management

No Change: OMB performance.gov website. OMB is awaiting White House clearance for the opening of the performance.gov website for public access. The address is: http://performance.gov. The website includes materials on all agencies on Priority Performance Goals, Information Technology and Open Government, Human Resources, Acquisition Improvement, Sustainability, Financial Management, and Customer Service. All materials have been reviewed and approved by the Department.

Update: FY 2010-2011 Priority Performance Goals. A set of follow up actions have been issued from the discussions at the quarterly reviews conducted by the Deputy Secretary in early May. The next set of quarterly status reviews will be scheduled for late July/early August.

Update: GPRA Modernization Act. OMB is reviewing comments provided on draft instructions for implementation of the Act. The instructions include preparation of an annual performance plan to be submitted with the FY 2013 budget to OMB in September, submission of Priority Goals FY 2012 and 2013 (potentially as early as mid-July), improved quarterly monitoring of performance metrics, and a 10% reductions of reports required by Congress. PMB representatives will be meeting one-on-one with bureaus to discuss the implications of the new act and garner best practices.

Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization

Complete: **Construction Small Business Outreach Session.** More than 80 small businesses attended the DOI OSDBU Construction Small Business Session held at the Yates Auditorium on June 3. Presenters representing the Office of Budget, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management and the Office of Acquisition and Property Management provided insight on procuring contracting opportunities within the Department.

New: Johnstown, PA Showcase of Commerce. On June 6, OSDBU represented Interior at the 21st Annual Showcase for Commerce hosted by Representative Mark Critz and Johnstown Area Regional Industries in Johnstown, PA. Approximately 40 small businesses attended.

New: FraserNet Power Networking Conference. From June 9-11, OSDBU **represented the Department at the tenth annual FraserNet Power Networking Conference in Atlanta, GA. The OSDBU served on the "Unlock the Millions in Government Contracts through Strategic Alliances" panel hosted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, along with**

other federal agencies. FraserNet.com is a global leadership power network of 60,000 Black professionals, Business Owners, Colleges and Universities' students and Community Leaders.

Complete: Special Joint Session. A special joint session of the Chief Acquisition Officers Council (CAOC) and Small Business Procurement Advisory Council (SBPAC) was held on June 13. The joint session provided an opportunity for greater collaboration between CAOC and SBPAC communities to help ensure acquisition systems are both efficient and effective and taking full advantage of the skills and talents of small businesses. The agenda included: agencies' management of the small business goaling process, small business advisor professionalization and development, set-asides for multiple award task and delivery order contracts, the new women-owned small business rule, and, recognition of individuals and groups that provide significant contribution to small business contracting

No Change: SBA FY 2010 and 2011 Scorecard. SBA is scheduled to release the FY 2010 Goaling Report and Scorecards by June 15. Based on the information submitted by SBA to the Department, the Department is expected to receive a grade of "A" for our Small Business Program accomplishments. The Small Business Administration (SBA) intends to begin the process of setting Small Business Program Goals for Federal agencies by the beginning of July. The process will consider Small Business Program accomplishments from all of the agencies based on the previous three years' accomplishments. Once this process is completed, the agencies will have an opportunity to negotiate with SBA based on each suggested Small Business Program goal prior to the release of the final goals before the start of the next fiscal year.

Update: Events Scheduled. The OSDBU has the following events scheduled. Please contact OSDBU for further information.

- **June 14: Intermountain Region Outreach Event in Houston, TX**. Registration for the event has now closed and over 210 small businesses had registered as of June 10, 2011.
- **September 15 (tentative) New Mexico Outreach Event in Albuquerque, NM.** Further details to be provided when finalized.

<u>FBMS Program Management Office (PMO)</u>

New: Deployment 6 Role Mapping Workshop. On June 7 and 8, the PMO conducted the second Deployment 6 (D6) Role Mapping Workshop hosting all of the bureaus. The objectives

of the workshop were to (1) discuss new FBMS end user roles; (2) highlight significant changes to existing end user roles; (3) discuss changes to separation of duty rules, rules that preclude role conflicts; (4) provide update guidance on the End User Role Mapping Worksheet and Role Mapping Certification; and (5) provide insights on the relationship between D6 Role Mapping and D6 Training.

Departmental Offices FBMS Implementation Office

No Change: FBMS Cycle 2 Testing. Cycle 2 testing will begin mid July. User Acceptance Testing begins in August. Both testing cycles are carried out in PMO labs in Herndon and Denver.

No Change: Training Workshops. The OS IMO is preparing for training workshops on D6 Deployment that will begin in July. Tentative workshops are scheduled for July 12-13, August 10-11, and September 6-7. Locations for fall training for the OS community are being identified.

OFFICE OF NATURAL RESOURCES REVENUE

Office of Natural Resources Revenue

Company Analytics Implementation Work Group (IWG) Highlights (New): The Company Analytics IWG completed two milestones ahead of schedule related to the gap between expected revenues and collected revenues (the Compliance Gap). The milestones included developing a method to calculate the Gap (the IWG created, documented, and solidified the methodology in consultation with McKenzie representatives), while the second milestone included gathering all data needed to calculate and analyze the Gap. The team is using data from the Green River Basin in Wyoming as a pilot to compute the Compliance Gap for this area. The team also drafted a survey to gather additional information from ONRR managers and supervisors who work directly with companies, including questions about "company behavior" and the most common issues ONRR managers' experience. The team will send the survey to a target group of managers and supervisors in Asset and Compliance Management, the Appeals Division, the State and Indian Coordination group, and the Office of Enforcement. The team is coordinating efforts with the Data Mining Enhancement IWG and met with the upcoming Compliance Risk Tool Enhancement IWG (to be established in FY 2012) to prevent any duplication of efforts. The Company Analytics team will present initial recommendations to the QSC on June 29, 2011.

The Improve Internal/External Communication IWG Conducts Two-day Meeting (New): The Internal Communications working group met June 8-9, 2011, in Denver to finalize milestones, deliverables, and plans for an Employee Expo "CommuniQuest" and open house scheduled for June 29, 2011, in the Building 85 Auditorium. The expo will be available in the field offices as gallery walks. The expo will highlight all seven Implementation Work Groups and the Implementation Support Team created as part of ONRR's Strategic Review process. The purpose of the expo is to gather comments and ideas from all ONRR employees on how best to implement changes within our organization that will lead to more efficient and effective operations and help foster a culture of continuous improvement. The expo will include one 2-hour session in the morning and one 2-hour session in the afternoon to accommodate employee schedules. Each IWG and the IST will have a table at the expo.

Cooperative Agreement Reviews (Ongoing): Staff from the State and Tribal Support office conducts Cooperative Agreement Reviews to enhance our partnership with the States and Tribes and comply with Section H 10 of the 202/205 Agreements and CFR Title 30, Part 227 (Delegation to States) and Part 228 (Cooperative Agreements with Indian Tribes). On a cyclical basis, ONRR is required to conduct attestations to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the Delegations/Agreements. The main areas reviewed include the audit work done under the Agreement, contract costs incurred under the Agreement, special provisions for safeguarding and maintaining work papers, records developed under the Agreement, and equipment.

- Ute Mountain Ute review on June 28-29, 2011

Outreach with Individual Indian Mineral Owners (Ongoing): ONRR continues its outreach with individual Indian mineral owners. These meetings enable us to listen to concerns and suggestions for royalty accounting improvement, answer questions, and identify and resolve mineral-related problems in partnership with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Office of the Special Trustee. ONRR's goal is to enhance our trust responsibility and foster a positive working relationship with the Indian community. Outreach sessions will take place with mineral owners including:

Northern Ute Pow-wow, Ft. Duchesne, UT on July 1-2, 2011

Report to Congress: Analysis of RSFA Provisions and Adjustments to Royalty Payments (Updated): OCL is reviewing ONRR's report to Congress that was requested in GAO-08-893R, *Mineral Revenues: Data Management Problems and Reliance on Self-Reported Data for Compliance Efforts Put MMS Royalty Calculations at Risk*. The report examines the six-year time period during which companies may adjust their Federal royalty data without ONRR approval and ONRR's seven year time period for issuing monetary demands. The report notes that the majority of company adjustments occur within the first three years of the six-year period.

Indian Oil Negotiated Rulemaking (No Change): ONRR is in the process of forming a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee (Committee) to address the valuation of crude oil produced from Indian leases. ONRR is working with the Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution and the Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to obtain a third party neutral to serve as facilitator for the Committee. In addition, ONRR has submitted the proposed nominees to the White House liaison for vetting. Once the White House liaison approves the members, the Department will publish *Federal Register* notices announcing the members and establishing the Committee. Additionally, the Secretary will need to sign the charter for filing with Congress. The estimated timeframe for holding the first meeting of the Committee is September 2011.

From:	Kemkar, Neal
To:	Neal Kemkar (CEQ) (nkemkar@ceq.eop.gov)
Subject:	FW: bureau reports 7.29.11
Date:	Friday, July 29, 2011 2:14:18 PM
Attachments:	bureaus report 7.29.11.doc Reports awaiting management response as of July 29 2011 (2).xls

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From: Lewis, Courtenay
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2011 2:14:59 PM
To: DOI_Politicals
Subject: bureau reports 7.29.11
Auto forwarded by a Rule

Good afternoon!

Your bureau reports are attached. Thank you for the timely submissions!

Courtenay Lewis
Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior

Attorney Client Communication – Confidential & Privileged

SOL Weekly Bureau Report for the Week Beginning August 1, 2011

Deepwater Horizon Matters

BOP Examination

(b) (5)

Multi-District Litigation (MDL) Depositions

(b) (5)

Other Matters:

CEQ NEPA Guidance on Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Global Climate Change

(b) (5)

Desert Sunlight Project Record of Decision

(b) (5)

Western Watersheds Project v. Salazar (BLM sage-grouse habitat management)

(b) (5)

Swanson Group Mfg. v. Salazar (D.D.C.)

(b) (5)

Douglas Timber Operators v. Salazar (D.D.C.) ("DTO") and Pacific Rivers Council v. Shepard (D. Ore.) ("PRC")

(b) (5)

Grand Canyon Trust v. U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
THREE WEEK OUT REPORT
July 29, 2011

WEEK AHEAD

National Capital Parks East – Rally to Honor Dr. Carter Woodson. On July 30, 2011, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. is holding a rally to honor Dr. Carter G. Woodson and to gain public support to help the NPS with the preservation and restoration of Dr. Woodson's home. The goal is to have the public donate money through the African American Experience Fund for the Woodson Home restoration project. The rally will stop at the Woodson Home en route to Howard University.

Great Basin National Park and Lake Mead National Recreation Area (NV) – Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) Pipeline EIS. The BLM is the lead agency for the development of an EIS for a 236-mile pipeline utility corridor project, which would allow Southern Nevada Water Authority to tap water in rural Nevada. Great Basin and Lake Mead National Parks are located within the targeted aquifer systems and NPS is concerned that the magnitude and location of pumping potentially threatens to deplete groundwater flows to streams and springs, adversely affecting resources and injuring senior water rights. NPS, FWS, BIA and BOR are cooperating agencies on the EIS. A draft EIS (5,000 + pages) for the SNWA pipeline is currently out for a 90-day public review. Public review has just been extended for an additional 30 days until October 11. The EIS does not have a preferred alternative. Staff from the NPS, BLM and solicitors met on July 29 to discuss the path forward.

George Washington Memorial Parkway (VA) – Illegal Bicycling. The park and the U.S. Park Police (USPP) are stepping up efforts to address the increasing number of bicyclists illegally using the southern portion of the George Washington Memorial Parkway. Because it is a major safety hazard for bicyclists and motorists, the current Superintendent's Compendium prohibits cyclists travelling on the Clara Barton Parkway and the George Washington Memorial Parkway. Efforts will focus on increasing public contacts and information to alert bicyclists to the dangers of using the GWM Parkway instead of the Mount Vernon Trail; installing new "no bicycling" signage; and increasing USPP enforcement efforts with citations for infractions. It is anticipated that the bicycling community will have an immediate adverse response to the increased enforcement. The park and the USPP will work with major bicycling groups and organizations to convey why this action to increase safety for bicyclists and motorists is necessary.

ON THE HORIZON

Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area (WA) – Vacation Cabin Special Use Permits. The park recently completed an environmental assessment to analyze the impacts of continuing to issue permits for private vacation cabins along the shoreline of Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area. After careful review, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was issued on the decision to allow the continued use of special permitting for private vacation cabins in the Sherman Creek and Rickey Point areas of the park. The alternative contains a range of actions

intended to protect the shoreline environment and minimize the appearance of private ownership of beaches while allowing the continued enjoyment of the privately-owned cabins.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area (CA) – 34th America's Cup (AC34). The City and County of San Francisco (City) in concert with AC34 Race Management Authority, propose to hold the AC34 races in San Francisco Bay for 12 days during the summer and fall of 2012 and 45 days between July and September of 2013. It is expected that 100-300 thousand additional people will visit parts of Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GOGA) each race day over the course of two years. The NPS is negotiating with the City and Race Management Authority the terms of a Special Park Use permit. In order to determine the conditions of the permit, the park, in collaboration with US Coast Guard and the Army Corps of Engineers, is conducting a federal agency review process according to NEPA. Public Scoping is scheduled to begin August 2011. AC34 Race Management Authority may seek exceptions to proposed conditions of the permit, including the prohibition of the use of jet skis within the ¼ mile marine boundaries of GOGA, and the exclusion of boats from within the Wildlife Protection Area off of Crissy Field in accordance with current NPS regulations and contrary to protecting nesting bird populations.

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park (WV) and Monocacy National Battlefield (MD) – Records of Decision for General Management Plans. The National Capital Region will soon announce Records of Decisions of the Final Environmental Impact Statements for General Management Plans (FEIS/GMP) for Harpers Ferry National Historical Park and Monocacy National Battlefield. A Notice of Availability for each document has been published in the Federal Register.

Blue Ridge Parkway (VA, NC) – General Management Plan (GMP) Clearance to Release Public Draft. The park's Draft General Management Plan will be releases for public review. The NPS preferred alternative emphasizes the original parkway design and traditional driving experience, while enhancing outdoor recreational opportunities and regional natural resource connectivity, and providing modest improvements to visitor services. The parkway seeks to protect a biologically diverse natural environment by focusing more on ecosystem approaches.

Week Ahead Report
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
July 25, 2011

Draft Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines: FWS will follow-up the Wind Turbine Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) meeting held July 20-21, 2011, with a 2-week public comment period and discussions regarding the most significant issues remaining. Further discussion with the FAC may be warranted to better understand and address remaining concerns. Further discussions with the Department of the Interior are also likely. The revised draft is available through FWS' Wind Energy website. The targeted release of the final guidelines is the end of October 2011. An additional FAC meeting is being scheduled in September. This is likely to be controversial and has the attention of several Senators.

OMB Examiner Visits FWS Energy and Partners Project Sites, and FWS Facilities: During the weel of July 25, FWS staff will accompany Office of Management and Budget Examiner Tomer Hasson, on a tour of project sites in Colorado, Wyoming and Montana, including energy facilities (wind, oil and gas, coal and uranium), Partners for Fish and Wildlife projects, and FWS facilities, such as the Ennis National Fish Hatchery and the Elk National Wildlife Refuge. The tour begins in Denver, CO, July 25, 2011, and ends in Bozeman, MT, July 30, 2011.

Miami blue butterfly: FWS will list the Miami blue butterfly as endangered under the Endangered Species Act's emergency provisions. The action immediately protects the butterfly for 240 days. At the same time, the Service is publishing a proposed rule inviting public comment for 60 days on a proposed rule to permanently list the Miami blue. Under the ESA, the Service also is emergency-listing the cassius blue butterfly, the ceraunus blue butterfly, and the nickerbean blue butterfly as threatened in the State of Florida due to their similarity of appearance to the Miami blue. The target date for submitting the action to the *Federal Register* is July 30, 2011.

O'ahu Species: FWS is proposing to add 23 species found on the island of O'ahu to the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife, as well as proposing to designate critical habitat for these 23 species, to designate critical habitat for 2 plant species that are already listed as endangered, and revise critical habitat for 99 plant species already listed as endangered or threatened. The 23 species – found only on the island of O'ahu – include 20 plants and 3 Hawaiian damselfly species. The proposal utilizes the application of an ecosystem-based approach to species conservation. The action will publish in the *Federal Register* on August 2, 2011.

Lake Erie Watersnake: FWS will announce that it will remove the Lake Erie watersnake from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. The species inhabits offshore islands in western Lake Erie in Ohio and Ontario. The Lake Erie watersnake has responded well to measures aimed at restoring its population and eliminating or reducing threats to the snake. Recovery efforts included protecting the snake's habitat and conducting outreach to island residents and visitors about the snake. The target date for submitting the action to the *Federal Register* is July 29, 2011.

Direct Final Rule to Reinstate ESA Protections for the Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse: Under the terms of a July 7, 2011, court order from the U.S District Court for the District of Colorado, the FWS must publish a Federal Register notice reinstating the May 13, 1998, final rule listing the Preble's meadow jumping mouse as threatened throughout its range, effective August 6, 2011. This direct final rule reinstates the ESA listing in Wyoming, and also reinstates the special rule under Section 4(d) of the ESA. *Potential Issues:* The State of Wyoming opposed the FWS motion for voluntary remand and vacatur of the 2008 ESA delsiting. The current action, even with the 4(d) rule reinstatement, is likely not their preferred outcome. Target for submitting to the Federal Register is August 5, 2011.

Six Eurasian Birds: FWS will issue a final rule to list the Cantabrian capercaillie, Marquesan imperial pigeon, the Eiao Marquesas reed-warbler, greater adjutant, Jerdon's courser, and slender-billed curlew as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. These birds are found on islands in French Polynesia and in Europe, Southeast Asia and Africa. Populations of each of these species are small, fragmented, and declining, making them particularly vulnerable to genetic threats associated with small populations and extinction. This listing is not considered controversial.

Polar Bear and Walrus Takings: The FWS anticipates announcing in the next week its final rule authorizing the incidental take (e.g., relocations) of Pacific walrus and polar bear in the Beaufort Sea, off the north coast of Alaska, which may occur during the course of oil and gas industry activities for a 5-year period. The existing incidental take regulations regarding these species and this activity expire on August 2, 2011. Some environmental opposition to the draft new rule is expected.

Tennessee Purple Coneflower De-Listing: The FWS is scheduled to announce a draft rule to de-list the Tennessee purple coneflower from the Endangered Species list. The coneflower was one of the first plants to be proposed for listing under the ESA (in 1976) and is only the fifth plant to be delisted due to recovery. Its recovery is due in large part to successful partnership efforts over three decades that resulted in the establishment of 21 introduced colonies in addition to the 15 naturally occurring ones. The draft rule is expected to be sent to the *Federal Register* by July 29.

Willow Flycatcher Habitat Designation: The FWS is scheduled, per court-ordered deadline, to announce a proposed revision of critical habitat for the Southwestern willow flycatcher, a bird dependent upon riparian habitats in the Southwest US (CA, NV, UT, CO, AZ and NM) by July 29. Critical habitat has been designated twice previously for this species, in 1997 and 2005. Both times the designation was challenged, leading to a subsequent revision. The proposed designation, if made final, would increase the amount of critical habitat nearly three-fold, from approximately 737 stream miles to approximately 2,150 stream miles. Because of the substantial public land within the range of the flycatcher, the expanded critical habitat designation may most significantly affect grazing that takes place within riparian areas.

Notice of Availability (NOA) of the final revised Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for Selawik National Wildlife Refuge: FWS Alaska reports that the NOA for the final revised CCP for Selawik National Wildlife Refuge will be submitted to the Department for approval

within the next two weeks. The Alaska Regional Director signed the finding of no significant impact for the EA that accompanied the draft revised CCP on May 23, 2011. The revised CCP will provide management direction for the refuge for the next 15 years. The CCP planning team included representatives of local tribal and borough government and the State of Alaska. There is strong local support for the plan including from tribal governments and other Alaska Native interests.

Federal Subsistence Board restricts subsistence moose harvest limit on Kenai Peninsula Federal public lands: The Federal Subsistence Board took emergency action on July 19 to restrict the subsistence moose harvest limit to 1 antlered bull with 50-inch antlers or 4 or more brow tines for the Aug 10 – Sept 20 season in Units 7– remainder, 15A– remainder, 15B and 15C. This action of the Board is temporary (lasting 60 days or less); however, two similar proposals will be considered at the Board's January 2012 meeting as part of the normal regulatory review cycle. The Board took this emergency action to address conservation concerns for moose on the Kenai Peninsula. The State of Alaska recently took similar action.

Public Comments Requested on Revised Coastal Barrier Resources System Map in Alabama: A *Federal Register* notice surname package announcing a 60-day public comment period for a draft revised Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) map in Alabama will be available for public review in September 2011. The proposed additions to the CBRS on the draft revised map may be controversial with property owners and local officials, because those lands would be made ineligible for Federal subsidies that encourage development.

National Status and Trends Report Briefing for Office of Management and Budget, Council on Environment Quality, and other Agencies: FWS has completed Department-level briefings to prepare for the release of the National Wetlands Inventory's *Status and Trends of Wetlands in the Conterminous United States, 2004 to 2009.* The report has been transmitted to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for internal and administration review, which we anticipate will occur the week of July 25. We expect the cover memo will be signed by the Secretary of the Interior and the report released for public dissemination shortly after OMB review. We expect some controversy.

Pelly Petition to certify Iceland: In late December 2010, the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of the Interior received a petition from a coalition of 19 non-governmental organizations urging the United States to certify Iceland pursuant to the Pelly Amendment to the Fisherman's Protective Act (Pelly Amendment) for expanding its commercial whaling activities and engaging in international commercial trade in whale meat and products. The petition asserts that these actions of Icelandic nationals are undermining the effectiveness of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (ICRW), which established the International Whaling Commission (IWC), and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). On July 20, 2011, U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke certified to President Obama that Iceland's commercial whaling and international trade in fin whale products is diminishing the effectiveness of the IWC. This certification recommends a number of diplomatic actions aimed at urging the Government of Iceland to cease permitting commercial whaling. The Department of the Interior is continuing to review the petition but has not yet made a determination because of the need to verify the information contained in the petition

through consultation with the countries involved, analyze the responses, and determine whether Iceland has acted in a way that undermines CITES.

Poplar Island tour for DOI executives: FWS staff will join USGS and other partners on July 29 to take DOI and agency officials on a tour of the Poplar Island Environmental Restoration Project in Chesapeake Bay. The tour has been planned in response to a request from Eileen Sobeck, Deputy Assistant Secretary - Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. The itinerary will highlight collaboration among DOI agencies in implementing fish, wildlife, and habitat actions under the Chesapeake Bay Executive Order, and offer leaders an opportunity to see firsthand the challenges facing the estuary.

LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT
July 31 – August 6, 2011

SENIOR OFFICIALS' ACTIVITIES

ASLM Lewis – (b) (6) Attending a conflict resolution seminar on Aug. 2.
In the office Aug. 3-5.
DAS Baca – In the office all week.
DAS Farquhar – In the office Monday and Tuesday. (b) (6)

HOT TOPICS

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Renewable Energy

- ***New*: BLM-WY Gateway West:** *The Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Gateway West 230/500 kV Transmission Line Project and Prospective Land Use Plan Amendments will publish in the* Federal Register *on July 29, initiating a 90-day public comment period. The 1,100 mile project is located in Idaho, Nevada, and Wyoming.*

- ***Update:* BLM-CA Calico and Imperial Valley Solar Projects:** *K Road Power and AES Solar, two companies whose BLM approvals for solar projects in Southern California were threatened due to changing solar technologies, have now submitted new right-of-way applications and revised Plans of Development for their respective projects. Both projects have been added to the 2012 Priority Projects list, which is under development. K Road Power will develop the 850-MW Calico Solar project in San Bernardino County and AES Solar will develop the 709-MW Imperial Valley Solar project in Imperial County.*

Land Exchanges

- ***New:* Montana Minerals Conveyance Act:** *BLM-Montana/Dakotas will meet with Great Northern Properties, L.P. (GNP) on Aug. 2 regarding H.R. 1158, the Montana Minerals Conveyance Act, which provides that if GNP conveys its mineral interests under Northern Cheyenne Indian tribal lands to the Tribe, the DOI will convey certain unleased Federal tracts outside of the Tribe's reservation . Meeting topics will cover coal reserve data associated with GNP's on-reservation tracts and the unleased Federal tracts proposed for conveyance to GNP. Representatives from the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, Signal Peak Energy, and Norwest, (an international energy and mining consulting firm are also expected to attend.) On Aug. 3, BLM Director Bob Abbey is scheduled to testify before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests regarding this legislation.*

Wild Horse and Burro Program

- ***New*: Temporary Restraining Order for BLM-OR Gather:** *On July 20, Craig Downer, a board member of the Cloud Foundation, filed a temporary restraining order (TRO) in the Pendleton Division, Oregon District Court, requesting that the BLM return all of the rounded up and removed wild horses from the Kiger and Riddle Herd Management Areas (HMAs) back to the HMA lands from which they had been taken. Mr. Downer's original TRO was denied and the new amended complaint now includes the Cloud Foundation as a plaintiff and requests immediate repair of the genetic and ecological damage to the herds caused by the recent removal.*

- ***Update:* BLM-NV Triple B Gather:** *After a two-week delay due to litigation, the BLM-NV Triple B Gather began July 20. The BLM plans to gather 1,700 horses and permanently remove 1,600 from the range. As of July 26, the BLM had gathered 265 horses. One 7-year-old mare was euthanized after it broke its leg in the holding facility. The litigation that originally delayed the gather is still pending; final briefs are due Sept. 23, 2011. The basis of the lawsuit filed by The Cloud Foundation, Craig Downer, and Lorna Moffat is that the BLM's gathers violate the Wild Free-Roaming WHB Act by failing to make a determination that the thriving natural ecological balance on the Triple B, Maverick-Medicine and Antelope Valley Herd Management Areas ("Triple B HMAs") is not being maintained as well as failing to manage the areas principally for wild horse and burros.*

- ***New:* BLM-OR Jackies Butte Gather:** *The BLM-OR Jackies Butte Gather is expected to begin Aug. 2. Located in the Vale Field Office, the Jackies Butte HMA has an estimated population of 210 horses. The gather will round up the entire herd, before returning 45 males and 30 females to the range to meet an AML of 75. None of the mares will be treated with PZP. The remaining 135 gathered horses will be transported to the Burns Wild Horse Corrals and placed in the BLM adoption program.*

Oil and Gas

- ***New*: BLM-WO Bucksin Mine Hay Creek II Coal Lease:** *The NOA of the Buckskin Mine Hay Creek II Coal Lease-by-Application Final EIS will publish in the* Federal Register *July 29, initiating a 30-day public comment period. Located 12 miles north of Gillette, WY, the tract consists of 1,567 acres and is thought to contain 277 million tons of in-place coal.*

Miscellaneous

- ***New*: BLM-CO Over The River Project Final EIS:** *The final EIS for the Over the River project was published in the* Federal Register *on July 29, initiating a 30-day public comment period. The applicant's proposed alternative consists of eight panel segments totaling 5.9 miles within a 42-mile stretch along the Arkansas River corridor between Cañon City and Salida, CO.*

- ***New:* Researchers Look for Climate Change Clues on BLM-WY Lands:** *Researchers from the University of New Hampshire (UNH) will be searching for climate*

change clues on public lands in Wyoming's Bighorn Basin this summer. As part of a partnership between the BLM-WY Cody and Worland Field Offices and the UNH Bighorn Basin Coring Project, pairs of cores will be drilled at three sites in early August to help understand the earth's long-term carbon cycle.

- ***New*: NPR-A Call for Nominations:** *The comment period for the Call for Nominations and Comments for the upcoming NPR-A Oil and Gas lease sale closed July 21.. The BLM-AK received comments from the State of AK, the North Slope Borough, industry and the conservation communities. The BLM-AKa also received nominations for the upcoming sale in areas of high oil potential. The BLM-AK is consolidating the comments and nominations and will provide a more detailed report of the comments and nominations as soon as available.*

- ***New*: BLM-ID Court Modifies Grazing Injunction*:** *On July 25, Judge Winmill issued a Memorandum Decision and Order to modify an injunction in favor of the BLM to allow grazing on land administered by the BLM-ID Jarbridge Field Office. In March 2011, attorneys representing permittees on 17 grazing allotments in the BLM-ID Jarbidge Field Office filed a motion asking the Idaho District Court to lift an injunction prohibiting grazing on those allotments. The injunction was first imposed in 2005, and then suspended when the parties entered into a stipulated settlement agreement (SSA) that addressed grazing. On February 28, 2011, the Court re-imposed the injunction, concluding that the interim grazing management plans in the SSA had lapsed.*

- ***New*: BLM-MT Oil Well Blowout:** *On July 24, BLM-MT experienced an oil well blowout in Billings County, North Dakota, located approximately 22 miles northeast of Beach, ND. About 800 barrels of oil and the rig were consumed in a fire and three people were injured. The well is located on State surface. Currently, all fluids are contained on location and going into the reserve pit. The State of North Dakota is acting as the lead agency on the incident with the BLM continuing to provide support.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEMRE)

- ***Update:* Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) Grant Applications:** *One new grant was awarded for AL (bringing total number of awards to date to 36). One new grant was awarded for AK (bringing total number of awards to date to 50). One new grant was awarded for TX (bringing total number of awards to date to 61). One new amendment for funds was awarded for TX (bringing total number of amendments to date to 2).*

- ***Update:* 8(g) Revenue Disbursement Adjustments:** *Representatives from ONRR, the Office of the SOL, and BOEMRE Leasing Division met with representatives of LA, MS, AL, and TX to discuss issues surrounding 8(g) reimbursement adjustments. Letters from ONRR to AL and LA describing options for repayment have cleared SOL review and are expected to be sent this month. The LA Attorney General Office has notified the SOL that LA doesn't agree with the DOI legal interpretation and will not release any funds from the*

LA Treasury. LA also demands a return of withheld monies. A "Notice" has been drafted for publication in the Federal Register announcing the availability of a revised OCS Official Protraction Diagram (OPD), two Lease Maps, and 25 Supplemental Official Block Diagrams (SOBDs) for the Gulf of Mexico. SOBDs for lease blocks that experienced revenue adjustments now include one or more notes identifying the specific action taken towards resolving revenue disbursement errors.

- ***Update:*** **Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection Project – Miami-Dade County, FL:** *On Jul. 10, 2009, Miami-Dade County, FL, requested a negotiated agreement for approximately 500,000 cubic yards of beach compatible sand from a borrow site in Miami-Dade South of Government Cut-Extension. The sand will be used to restore several critically eroded segments of beach in Miami-Dade County.*

- ***Update:*** **"Smart from the Start" (RI and MA):** *The Notice of Intent to prepare the environmental document and the Call for Information are in surnaming. Letters to the three Federally-recognized tribes regarding government-to-government consultations on future wind energy development offshore RI and MA were mailed on May 23, 2011. Tribal consultations were held in June and July.*

- ***Update:*** **Carone Carpintera Field Redevelopment Project Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS):** *Carone Petroleum Corporation (Carone) has submitted a proposal to the State of CA to develop their three State leases that encompass a portion of the Carpinteria Offshore Field using extended-reach wells from OCS Platform Hogan. The Carpinteria Offshore Field includes State and Federal leases. BOEMRE's Pacific OCS Region (POCSR) is developing an EIS schedule and a Memorandum of Understanding with the State of CA.*

- ***New:*** **Anadarko and ExxonMobil Unitization Agreement for Development of Lucius and Hadrian Discoveries:** *On Jul. 18, 2011, Anadarko Petroleum Corp. announced the finalization of a unitization agreement with Exxon Mobil Corp. and co-owners to develop the Lucius and Hadrian discoveries in Keathley Canyon located approximately 240 statute miles off the LA coastline south of Lafayette, Louisiana in approximately 7,000 feet of water. Anadarko and co-owners anticipate [sanctioning] the project later this year, with first production expected in 2014. BOEMRE has not yet approved the proposed Lucius-Hadrian unit and has not yet received a formal unitization request from Anadarko for Lucius-Hadrian discoveries.*

- ***New:*** **DOI Tribal Consultation Team (TCT) Federal Team Meeting**: *BOEMRE's Federal Preservation Officer (FPO) is part of the DOI TCT Federal Team. This team consists of staff from DOI agencies involved in the development of the DOI Tribal Consultation Policy. The purpose of the TCT Federal Team Meetings is to open up lines of communication, hear from federal TCT members on what can be improved upon and to ensure that their voices are being heard. The signing ceremony will be scheduled based on the Secretary's availability in early to mid-September.*

- ***New:*** **BOEMRE Participated in Department of Energy (DOE) Hosted Bilateral Energy Meeting with the Government of Israel:** *On July 25, DOE hosted a bilateral Energy Meeting at the request of Israel's Ministry of National Infrastructures (MNI), to discuss renewable energy technologies, energy infrastructure protection, and energy security. BOEMRE discussed its policy agenda and industry technology developments.*

- ***Update:*** **National Resource Assessment:** *BOEMRE Resource Evaluation Division (RED) staff met with Regional Resource Evaluation staff on Jul. 19 to work on the content and format for preparing the formal National Assessment publication. RED staff have also generated GOM and AK Region Undiscovered Pool Size Distributions in response to an Economics Division request and forthcoming data request from the Energy Information Administration.*

- ***Update:*** **U.S. - Mexico Transboundary Issues:** *BOEMRE and the State Department (DOS) have developed a draft U.S. counter-proposal, which was given to Mexican officials on Jun. 24 for review and comment. A schedule for formal negotiations has been developed. Both countries seek to have a mutually agreeable final document by the end of 2011.*

- ***Update:*** **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for Gulf of Mexico Region (GOMR) Plan Submittals:** *BOEMRE continues to review and approve non-Deepwater drilling plans and all pipeline applications under Categorical Exclusion Reviews (CERs). As with the work conducted on geological and geophysical survey Site-Specific Environmental Assessments (SSEAs), BOEMRE GOMR is now using the format of the S-7445 Deepwater SSEA (SSEA-D) for subsequent Deepwater Eastern Planning Area (i.e., drilling using Subsea/Floater Blowout Preventers) and Flower Garden Bank plans. A prioritized list of the 52 pending SSEAs is being used to ensure that the plans related to the ENSCO litigation and those with pending "regulatory due-dates" will have their reviewing work completed and the respective documents prepared first. GOMR was working with the Office of the Solicitor to resolve issues related to the new archeology mitigation prior to approval of additional SSEAs. With an SSEA completed/FONSI signed for N-9520 (see below), no further plans remain related to the ENSCO litigation.*

- ***Update:*** **Next 5-Year OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program:** *The next major steps in the 5-year program preparation process are development of the Draft EIS and the Proposed Program, which should be ready for publication early in Nov. 2011. The planning areas to be analyzed include the Western and Central Gulf of Mexico, the portion of the Eastern Gulf of Mexico not under moratorium, and the Beaufort Sea, Chukchi Sea, and Cook Inlet, AK. .*

- ***Update:*** **Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for the 2012-2017 5-Year Oil and Gas Leasing Program:** *The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, State of AK, and the North Slope Borough are cooperating agencies on the PEIS. Comments on the draft scoping report from cooperating agencies were received on June 14 and the scoping report was finalized earlier this month. A sole source procurement with IEc is being pursued to discuss the factors contributing to the*

risk of a very large oil spill and other factors contributing to the consequences of such a spill. The Draft PEIS delivery date has been delayed; the draft is expected to be published in Nov. 2011.

- ***Update:*** **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Geological and Geophysical (G&G) and Drilling Activities in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas:** *This EIS will cover all G&G and drilling activities in the Beaufort and Chukchi seas and will be used to support requests for "take" authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act. NOAA and BOEMRE are working jointly on this document with NOAA serving as the primary agency. BOEMRE Headquarters and AK Region are currently assisting in the revisions to Chapter 2.*

- ***Update:*** **Shell's Beaufort Sea Exploration Plan (EP):** *On May 4, 2011, Shell submitted a revision to its OCS Camden Bay Beaufort Sea Exploration Plan (EP). The EP was deemed submitted and BOEMRE is preparing an Environmental Assessment for the EP. The deadline for completion is Aug. 4, 2011.*

- ***Update:*** **Sale 193 Revised Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS):** *The revised Sale 193 SEIS public comment period closed on Jul. 11, 2011. Approximately 360,000 comments were received. The Court issued an order requiring BOEMRE to complete the Final SEIS and sign a Record of Decision by Oct. 3, 2011.*

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

- ***Update:*** **Oklahoma Delegation Letter Regarding SPR and Directives:** *In response to a letter that was published from members of the OK delegation in the Tulsa World newspaper, Director Pizarchik sent a letter to the editors of the newspaper outlining how the OK delegation cited inaccurate information in making its claims, and also denying the claim that the proposed Stream Protection Rule being developed would cost Oklahoma mining jobs.*

- ***Update:*** **Imminent Danger Citizen Complaint on Kentucky Mine:** *Inspectors from OSM's Lexington Field Office met with a citizen on July 18 and 19, in response to a written complaint filed by the citizen alleging that Nally and Hamilton Enterprises' Wolf Pen 1 mine and Brushy Mountain mine are creating an imminent danger to the health, safety, and welfare of the people of Kay Jay, Kentucky. The complaint cites a lack of sediment pond maintenance at the Wolf Pen 1 mine as the cause of the imminent danger. The Kentucky Department of Natural Resources (KYDNR) has issued several notices of non-compliance and an Imminent Danger Cessation Order. The companies are removing sediment and debris from the sediment control structures. OSM is monitoring the work.*

- ***New:*** **OSM to Give Award to WV Watershed Association to Address Acid Mine Drainage:** *On July 29, OSM will award a $100,000 watershed cooperative agreement to Friends of Deckers Creek Watershed Association, based in Dellslow, West Virginia. This project is expected to significantly improve water quality in Kanes Creek and help eliminate some of the serious problems in the Deckers Creek mainstream.*

WEEK AHEAD – July 31 to August 6, 2011

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Tuesday, August 2:

- **No Change: BLM-WY Oil and Gas Lease Sale:** BLM-WY will offer 74 parcels totaling 83,038 acres at a competitive oil and gas lease sale. The parcels are located throughout northern WY. Three protests were received from Biodiversity Conservation Alliance, WY Outdoor Council, and the Western Resource Advocates. The protests concerned wilderness characteristics, water and air resources, and sage grouse and endangered species habitat. The protests have not been resolved. BLM-WY is conducting the sale in compliance with the recently implemented oil and gas leasing reform.

Wednesday, August 3:

- ***New*: Senate Legislative Hearing:** *Director Abbey is schedule to testify before the Senate Energy Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests will hear BLM testimony on three bills: 1) S. 1024, Organ Mountains – Doña Ana County Conservation and Protection Act (Sen. Bingaman, D-NM), which would designate two National Conservation Areas and eight wilderness areas in Doña Ana County, NM.; 2) S. 1149, Geothermal Production Expansion Act of 2011 (Sen. Wyden, D-OR), which would facilitate geothermal energy development by providing for non-competitive leasing of areas adjoining existing geothermal leases; and 3) S. 1144, Soda Ash Competition Act (Sen. Wyden, D-OR), which would amend the Soda Ash Royalty Reduction Act of 2006 to extend the reduced royalty rate for soda ash for an additional five years.*

Friday, August 5:

- ***New*: Inaugural Meeting of the Rio Grande Natural Area Commission:** *The first meeting of the Rio Grande Natural Area Commission (NAC) will be held in Alamosa, CO. The Rio Grande NAC is a nine-member federal advisory committee (two officials of the Department of the Interior, two officials of the State of Colorado, one representative of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District, and four individuals representing the general public) tasked to develop a non-binding management plan for the private lands that fall within the boundaries of the Rio Grande Natural Area. The management plan will further the mission of the Act to conserve, restore, and protect the natural, historic, cultural, scientific, scenic, wildlife, and recreational resources of the Natural Area. The planned agenda topics include: commission member introductions; Resource Advisory Committee/FACA orientation; ethics training for Resource Advisory Committee/FACA Members; overview of the Rio Grande Natural Area Act and Commission Charter; election of Commission chairperson; formation of Commission subcommittees; public comment; and scheduling future Commission meetings. This meeting is open to the public*

and there will be a public comment period at the end of the meeting. The Rio Grande Natural Area in southern Colorado was designated by Congress in 2006. It covers approximately 33 miles of the Rio Grande River, 5,900 acres of private land, and 2,900 acres of BLM-managed lands.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEMRE)

Monday, August 1:

- ***Update:*** **Western Planning Area Sale 218 (Dec. 2011**): *A briefing on the Sale documents is scheduled for ASLM on Aug. 1. The slippage of the Critical Action Dates (CADs) for the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) issues have been briefed to management and a new plan for achieving the target date has been worked out. The NOA for the Proposed Notice of Sale is being circulated for approval to publish in the Federal Register by Aug. 17. The target sale date is Dec. 14, 2011.*

- ***New:*** **BOEMRE/OR OCS Renewable Energy Task Force Meeting**: *The second OR Task Force meeting will be held on Aug. 1, in Portland, Oregon. Agenda items include an update on the OR Territorial Sea Plan, an overview of the Multipurpose Marine Cadastre, and siting issues offshore OR.*

WEEKS AHEAD

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Thursday, August 11:

- **No Change: BLM-CO Oil and Gas Lease Sale:** BLM-CO will offer five parcels totaling 5,281 acres at a competitive oil and gas lease sale. The parcels are located in northwest CO. Two protests were received concerning sage-grouse and trout habitat. The protests are under review and will be resolved before the sale. BLM-CO is conducting the sale in compliance with the recently implemented oil and gas leasing reform.

Wednesday, August 17:

- ***New*****: BLM Deputy Director Marcilynn Burke and Senior Advisor Neil Kornze Visit Alaska:** *From Aug. 17-25, Acting ASLM Marcilynn Burke and Senior Advisor Neil Kornze will visit Anchorage, Fairbanks, and the North Slope. While there, they will receive briefings on major issues facing BLM-AK, meet with representatives of the North Slope Borough, and fly over various sites, including the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, ANWR, and the South NPR-A.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEMRE)

Wednesday, August 31:

- ***Update: Mid-Atlantic Sand Management Working Group:*** *BOEMRE's Marine Minerals Program is sponsoring the Mid-Atlantic Sand Management Working Group meeting on*

Aug. 31, at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Coastal Marine Services Center in Charleston, SC. The agenda includes a demonstration of the Multipurpose Marine Cadastre.

Weekly Report
July 29, 2011

Memorandum

To: Meghan Conklin
Associate Deputy Secretary

From: Anne J. Castle
Assistant Secretary for Water and Science

Subject: Weekly Meeting Issues

Senior Officials' Activities August 1-5:
Anne J. Castle – Aug 1-5 in DC.
Lori Caramanian – Aug 1-3, traveling to Hypoxia Task Force Meeting; Aug 4-5 in DC.
John Tubbs - Aug 1-4 in DC; (b) (6)
Marcia McNutt – August 1-11, vacation.
Mike Connor – August 1-3, touring the Upper Colorado River Basin with delegation from International Boundary and Water Commission; Aug. 4, in DC attending various meetings; (b) (6)

Reclamation

Excess Capacity Revenue, Fry-Ark Project (Colorado)
Reclamation's Eastern Colorado Area office has scheduled public meetings August 10-11 in Pueblo and Glenwood Springs to allow public comment on the allocation of revenue from excess capacity contracts on the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project. Congressional interest has been noted.

UC Region to Host Delegation from the International Boundary and Water Commission
On August 1, Upper Colorado Regional Director will host a delegation from the International Boundary and Water Commission (including U.S. Commissioner Drusina and Mexico Commissioner Salmon) on a two-and-a half-day tour of key Colorado River Storage Project facilities and participating projects. The trip will include a combination of on-site visits and aerial tours of Glen Canyon Dam, Flaming Gorge Dam, Aspinall Unit dams, Navajo Dam, and participating project reservoirs, as well as the Navajo Indian Irrigation Project and future site of the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project. Throughout the tour, the delegation will receive briefings on reservoir operations, Upper and Lower basin coordination, and the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program.

WaterSMART Funding Awarded for the Republican River (Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado)
Secretary Salazar announced that Reclamation is providing $2.7 million in funding for four basin studies and three basin plans of study, including the Republican River in Kansas and Nebraska.

Funding for the Republican River plan of study is contingent upon the three states participating together. These plans of study will define the outcomes and set the scope and focus for future basin study application opportunities. The Republican River Basin drains approximately 23,300 square miles of Colorado, Kansas, and Nebraska. Approximately 40 percent of the drainage basin lies in Kansas. The Republican River supplies water for municipalities, industry, surface water irrigation, groundwater irrigation, recreation, and wildlife. The basin is subject to an interstate compact, the Republican River Compact, which was ratified in 1943.

Plan for Coordinated Operation of Central Valley Project and State Water Project for Fall X2 Compliance (California)

On July 21, Reclamation transmitted a memo to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service outlining the plan for coordinated operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project to comply with the requirements of the Fall X2 component of the Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (RPA) from the 2008 Biological Opinion on Delta Smelt this year. The Fall X2 component of the RPA is intended to increase suitable physical habitat and improve habitat conditions for delta smelt in the fall of years when the preceding winter and spring precipitation was wet or above normal. The memo includes forecasted and estimated Delta inflows and outflows and export reductions that are expected to occur in September, October and November 2011, as a result of modifying operations to comply with the RPA. On July 22, the Service responded via a memo to Reclamation accepting the plan.

Judge Wanger is hearing is hearing evidence on the federal and state water contractors' motion to enjoin the Fall X2 action in the Eastern District Court currently (July 26-29).

Flood Control in the Missouri River Basin

Although flood conditions on the Missouri River mainstem are improving slightly, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers continues to coordinate with the Great Plains Region on flood control operations in the upper Missouri River basin reservoirs located upstream of Gavins Point. The main reservoirs with flood control storage providing flood control relief are Clark Canyon, Canyon Ferry, Lake Elwell, Boysen, and Bighorn Lake. While Buffalo Bill Reservoir does not have flood control storage, it has also provided significant relief by being operated to regulate high inflows. The Platte River enters the Missouri River below the Corps MainStem Reservoir System, but has also experienced near record flood runoff. All together about 1,000,000 acre-feet of exclusive flood control space was used to prevent downstream flooding and assist the Corps of Engineers with their mainstem operations.

Thunderstorm Causes U.S. Forest Service Dam to Overtop and Damage Central Utah Project Facilities (Utah)

In early July, a severe thunderstorm in the southern Uintah Mountains appears to have caused the overtopping of a U.S. Forest Service dam located two miles above the Hades Creek Diversion. The ensuing debris flow (including a massive amount of rock) plugged the diversion and filled the channel, forcing the water to create a new channel bypassing the diversion. Repair estimates range from $200,000 to $1 million. The Hades Diversion is part of the Central Utah Project, Bonneville Unit, and one of five facilities that diverts flows into the Strawberry Aqueduct and

Collection System.

Failure of a Portion of the Government Highline Canal (Colorado)
On July 11, a portion of the Government Highline Canal failed in an area north of Grand Junction due to failure of a cross drain under the canal. The Grand Valley Water Users Association (GVWUA) immediately reduced flows in the canal. Runoff from strong thunderstorm activity later that evening intersected the canal approximately 1.5 miles upstream from the break. Inadequate capacity of the cross drain to accommodate the runoff resulted in overtopping of the north embankment and water re-entering the previously drained canal. There were no injuries, but minor property and infrastructure damage occurred downstream in the form of mudded yards and parking lots, eroded road shoulders, and plugged culverts and bridges. The GVWUA has been backfilling the canal break and repairs are nearing completion. The GVWUA has begun to charge the upper end of the canal to allow irrigators access to water as soon as possible and expects the canal and associated laterals to be fully operational within a few days.

Fires in New Mexico Lead to Sediment and Debris Flows (Nambe Reservoir) – Reclamation to Provide Assistance (New Mexico)
Reclamation's Albuquerque Area Office has mobilized its Socorro Field Division to begin construction of a basin to catch sediment and debris from being washed into Nambe Reservoir north of Santa Fe. A large portion of the Nambe watershed burned in the Pacheco fire earlier this summer causing concern that summer rains would result in flooding as burned debris and sediment may be washed into the reservoir. Nambe is a Reclamation reservoir and Reclamation is working closely with Nambe Pueblo and the Pojoaque Valley Irrigation District to address the situation. Reclamation's assistance is also being sought on the Las Conchas Fire that burned between Los Alamos and Cochiti Pueblo. This burn area could cause flooding and debris to enter Cochiti Reservoir. Reclamation is coordinating with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for this work as Cochiti is a USACE facility.

Bearings on Pump Turbine Fail – Hyrum Dam (Utah)
Early last week, bearings on the turbine side of the pump turbine at Hyrum Dam (in northern Utah) failed. The failure makes it impossible to provide water to the Wellsville Canal. Reclamation is working with the South Cache Water Users Association (the operation and maintenance entity for the project) to install a 200 horsepower motor to operate the pump.

Animas-La Plata Project Farmington Reach of the Navajo Nation Municipal Pipeline Completed (Colorado)
The City of Farmington completed the Farmington Reach portion of the Navajo Nation Municipal Pipeline. Completion of this reach consisted of construction of a two-million gallon storage tank and approximately 2.25 miles of pipeline extending through Farmington, NM, to a point on the northeast bank of the San Juan River.

State Hearings on Middle Rio Grande Biological Assessment (BA) and Rio Grande Operating Agreement (New Mexico)
On August 1, Reclamation's Albuquerque Area Office Manager Mike Hamman and El Paso Field Division Manager Bert Cortez will give presentations at field hearings of the Water and Natural Resources Committee of the New Mexico State Legislature in Silver City, New Mexico

(the field hearings are set for August 1-2). The presentations will provide an update on the BA and the Rio Grande Operating Agreement. The Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (District) and New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission (NMISC) will make presentations on these same topics. The purpose of the hearing is to gather more information since both the District and NMISC are seeking funding for activities associated with the BA. In addition, the NMISC has expressed concerns regarding some of the details of Rio Grande Operating Agreement.

Reclamation Awards Contract for Pole Hill Canal Relining (Colorado)
Commissioner Connor announced the award of a $5,612,780 contract to Lillard and Clark Construction Company, Inc. of Denver for the canal lining replacement of the Pole Hill Canal on the Colorado-Big Thompson Project. The work site is located approximately 12 miles west-southwest of Loveland in Larimer County.

Regional Director to Speak at Washington State Water Resources Association Meeting (Washington)
Pacific Northwest Regional Director Karl Wirkus will speak at the Washington State Water Resources Association (WSWRA) luncheon on August 1 in Pasco. He will speak about Reclamation's ongoing role in Western water issues. Rep. Doc Hastings (R-WA), House Natural Resources Committee Chairman, will also address the group. WSWRA is the coordinating agency for the irrigation districts in Washington State, representing 35 irrigation district members covering 1.1 million acres of irrigated land.

U.S. Geological Survey

USGS scientists attend US-Russia Emergency Management Cooperation Meeting: The 2nd Annual Meeting of the Bilateral Presidential Commission Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Management took place July 18-19 in Boston. This group is the reincarnation by Presidents Obama and Medvedev of a bilateral working group led by FEMA and the Russian counterpart, EMERCOM that has convened annually for 15 years to discuss areas of mutual interest in emergency management. The USGS provided an overview of the USGS role in natural hazards, including earthquakes, volcanoes, and floods, both national and international.

USGS Co-Sponsoring Earthquake Loss Reduction Summit in California: The USGS is co-sponsoring the upcoming California "Earthquake Loss Reduction Summit" scheduled for October 13 at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, CA. The summit is being built as a partnership among FEMA (NEHRP/QuakeSmart), the California Emergency Management Agency, the Earthquake Country Alliance, the Southern California Earthquake Center, the California Institute of Technology, and the Structural Engineers Association of Southern California (SEAOSC). The goal for this event is to increase the awareness of seismic risk and importance of seismic risk mitigation, while highlighting the role of the structural engineer as well as other organizations. The Loss Reduction Summit is a precursor to the third Great California ShakeOut public preparedness drill event that will be held on October 20.

International Climate Change Workshop to be Held at USGS Headquarters: A workshop for the Pliocene Model Inter-comparison Project (PlioMIP) will be held at the USGS in Reston,

Virginia, the week of August 1. Scientists from 11 countries will meet to discuss and analyze the Pliocene climate model ensemble which utilizes the USGS PRISM digital paleoclimate reconstruction. This is part of the lead-up to inclusion of the USGS and PlioMIP work in the upcoming Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fifth Assessment Report.

USGS Provides Training to Klamath Basin Tribes: USGS will provide training on streamflow measurement through the Technical Training in Support of Native American Relations program to the Klamath, Yurok, and Karuk Tribes on August 1-5, 2011, in Klamath Falls and Chiloquin, Oregon.

Precipitation Gages to be Installed on Santa Clara Pueblo: The USGS, members of the Santa Clara Pueblo, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers met on July 15 to discuss the installation and operation of 2 real-time precipitation gages on Santa Clara Pueblo. A signal from the gages is proposed to connect to an early-warning system of the Bureau of Indian Affairs that is currently operating for dam safety at four ponds on Santa Clara Pueblo.

A New Understanding of Nitrate in the Mississippi River Basin: Little consistent progress has been made in reducing nitrates at 8 mainstem/large tributary sites in the Mississippi River basin since 1980, according to a new USGS report. This study uses a new method that takes floods and droughts into consideration when evaluating nitrate concentration and transport over time. Excessive nutrients like nitrate in the Mississippi River Basin contribute to hypoxia in the Gulf of Mexico. States and Federal partners serving on the Mississippi River Gulf of Mexico Watershed Nutrient Task Force are striving to reduce nutrients transported to the Gulf to reduce the size of hypoxic zone to less than 5,000 square kilometers by 2015. The results from this study reflect the cumulative changes over time in nutrient sources and conservation practices throughout the Mississippi, Missouri and Ohio River watersheds. Nitrate concentrations increased about 75 percent at two sites that showed low concentrations in the 1980s. Additionally, nitrate concentrations remained the same or increased to a smaller extent at 6 other sites, including those where concentrations were relatively high in 1980. Overall nitrate transport to the Gulf of Mexico increased about 10 percent from 1980-2008, due in large part to the upstream increases in transport from the Missouri River basin and the Mississippi River basin above Clinton, Iowa. The full report will be available in the journal *Environmental Science and Technology* in mid or late August. A press release is planned in conjunction with the journal publication.

USGS to Publish Report on Alabama Superfund Site: Within the next few weeks, the USGS will publish a Scientific Investigations Report that presents research on groundwater quality issues at the Capital City Plume (CCP) Site in Montgomery, Alabama---the CCP Site was proposed for listing on the National Priorities List in 2000. The research was done at the request of EPA, Region 4. The issue has already been reported in the *Montgomery Advertiser*, with the EPA having identified the Alabama Department of Education and the *Montgomery Advertiser* as two entities that may have contributed to the groundwater contamination.

Congressional Activities

- **Great Lakes Congressional Tour to be Co-Hosted by USGS:** The USGS Great Lakes Science Center and the Great Lakes Fishery Commission will co-host a Congressional Tour of Hammond Bay Biological Station and Cheboygan Vessel Base on August 10. Participants will receive a guided tour of the station, learn about cutting-edge research, and have the chance to hold a live sea lamprey. Participants will also have the opportunity to set nets during an off-shore cruise on the USGS R/V Grayling.
- **Hearing: Tentative Senate Hearing on Nutrients in the Nation's Waters:** The Senate Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife are tentatively planning a hearing on Sept. 13 to address the issue of nutrients in the Nation's waters. The USGS is working with Senator Cardin's staff to prepare for the hearing.
- **Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment Tentatively Plans Hearing:** The USGS has responded to congressional staff requests for information in preparation for a tentative hearing on flow dynamics of the Yellowstone River as related to the July 1, 2011, Exxon oil spill at Laurel, Montana. Staff from the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, requested information on stream velocity and a general characterization of bed material in the Yellowstone River. In addition, staff from the Office of Senator Baucus (MT) requested information on stream velocities needed to mobilize bed material in the Yellowstone River.

Media: Press Release to Highlight USGS Contributions to FEWSNet: The USGS will issue a news release the week of August 1 to highlight USGS contributions to USAID's Famine Early-Warning Systems Network (FEWSNet), which is supported through the USGS's Earth Resources Observation Center. The UN-declared famine in Somalia represents the most serious food insecurity situation in the world today, in terms of both scale and severity.

Media: Sea Technology Requests Article by Dr. McNutt for January 2012 Edition: The editors of *Sea Technology* have requested an article by Director Marcia McNutt for the January 2012 edition (due early October). *Sea Technology* is a monthly publication distributed to 110 countries worldwide and highlights information about the marine/ocean industry for its various audiences.

USGS Scientist to Receive NSF Award: Ian Ridley will be awarded the National Science Foundation's Directors Award for Collaboration and Integration. Dr. Ridley has spent the last two years "on loan" to NSF as Program Director for the Ocean Drilling Program.

Lassen Volcanic National Park Events: To publicize the release of a new Geologic Map of Lassen Volcanic National Park, the USGS has planned several activities including a news release, op-ed article for local newspaper, science briefings for local Park and emergency managers, public lecture at the Park, & Science Feature. Details are still tentative as of this posting.

Media: *Detroit Free Press* Interviews USGS on Asian Carp: On July 17, "The Truth About Asian Carp", the first in a six-part news documentary series by Tina Lam of the *Detroit Free Press* was released. These online multimedia articles feature invasive species research and public

sentiment on the Asian carp. Part of the articles focus on the USGS Columbia Environmental Research Center and fisheries scientist, Duane Chapman and colleagues. In addition to these articles, Chapman was also featured in an online web chat with the *Detroit Free Press* on July 20, in the format of a Q&A interview on invasive carp issues and the Great Lakes.

Media: *Science Magazine* Interviews USGS on Mekong River Research: Asia News Editor Richard Stone with *Science Magazine* contacted the USGS on July 13, 2011, concerning an article he is developing on the ecology of the Mekong River. He requested updated information about the Delta Research and Global Observation Network partnership and Forecast Mekong. Phil Turnipseed, Director, USGS National Wetlands Research Center, Lafayette, LA, will provide an interview and images for the article.

Memorandum

To: Chief of Staff

From: Chief of Staff, Indian Affairs

Subject: Indian Affairs Weekly Look Ahead Update

FOCUS FOR THE WEEK OF July 29, 2011

INDIAN AFFAIRS

Government to Government

Office of Federal Acknowledgment (OFA): OFA's four teams are currently working on the following petitions.

- Proposed finding for Piro-Manso-Tiwa Indian Tribe, NM (Petitioner #5) – The regulations were waived which extended the review of the recommended proposed finding. The proposed finding was due on or before July 18, 2011. With a 90-day extension, the new deadline is Monday, October 17, 2011.
- Comment period on Proposed finding of Central Band of Cherokee, TN (Petitioner #227) extended to August 15, 2011.
- Proposed finding for the Meherrin Tribe, NC (Petitioner #119b) – due on or before November 1, 2011.
- Proposed finding for Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation, CA (Petitioner #82) – due on or before November 1, 2011.
- Comment period on Proposed finding of Tolowa Nation, CA (Petitioner #85) extended to November 11, 2011.

Health and Safe Communities

- *Homeland Security*:
  - *Missouri River Flooding Tribal Issues***:** Many levee breeches and over toppings reported but none reported to affect tribes. No "Un-Met Needs" for Tribes, or BIA/BIE Regions have been reported to the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (OHSES). OHSES and BIA Regional Offices are monitoring and maintaining situational awareness of the Tribes' needs.

    Over 20 Tribes/Reservations are impacted by the flooding and are in Recovery Phase operations, pending additional Emergency/Response Phase operations due to additional rain, and flooding. Many roads and facilities on many reservations have been damaged.

Tribes, BIA, Corps' contractors, States, and other agencies are working to accomplish repairs between rainstorms and as floodwaters recede. Several tribal casinos reportedly remain closed (Omaha, Winnebago, Tunica) and pose a great economic hardship on the Tribes and hundreds of employees. Some Tribes are expressing concern about mosquito born disease as waters recede, and with the possibility of losing both this and next year's crops due to the onset of winter before the fields can be prepared for spring planting. Assessment continues on the flood-related petroleum pipeline release in the Yellowstone River. Cleanup operations have begun near the release site. The Crow Tribe and the BIA Region are maintaining situational awareness, coordinating with all involved agencies and ExxonMobil, the RP, and keeping ASIA-OHSES informed.

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- *Physical Security:* On July 20th, Physical Security Inspection Programs Pre-Assessment Checklist (PAC) Survey's results were presented to the Director of BIE and the Chief of Staff for their review and comment. A following meeting is scheduled for July 27 to discuss how the survey program may be able to assist BIE in meeting other reporting requirements. A meeting with Senior Management is being planned.

- *Presidential Policy Directive #8 (PPD #8):* The July 20, 2011 meeting was focused on the recovery portion of PPD as it relates to the National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF) which is currently in the process of reviewing and adjudicating comments from the recent DRG level review of the most current draft. OHSES has provided significant input to the NDRF draft and has advocated along with DOI and DHA for formal consultations prior to final publication. Additional meeting on the other elements of PPD #8 are being conducted Monday with the FEMA lead for National Preparedness to provide insight and advocacy for tribal communities in the development of the frameworks. This will have significant impact on how tribes prepare for respond and recover from natural and man-made disasters.

  The national preparedness system will include a series of integrated national planning frameworks, covering prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery. The frameworks will be built upon scalable, flexible, and adaptable coordinating structures to align key roles and responsibilities to deliver the necessary capabilities. The frameworks will be coordinated under a unified system with a common terminology and approach, built around basic plans that support the all-hazards approach to preparedness and functional or incident annexes to describe any unique requirements for particular threats or scenarios, as needed. Each framework will describe how actions taken in the framework are coordinated with relevant actions described in the other frameworks across the preparedness spectrum.

- *HPPG:* The BIA Office of Justice Services has achieved a combined reduction of 30% in violent crime on the HPPG during the third quarter reporting period. The reduction has been a combined effort in increased staffing, training, coordination and community oriented policing strategies. BIA will be updating these statistics for the third quarter.

- *Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA): Long Term Detention:* In accordance with the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 (TLOA), the Departments of the Interior and Justice are required to submit to Congress a report on Indian Country detention. DOI and DOJ have been working on the report for the past year. This will be provided to the Senate Committee Indian Affairs-SCIA and the Hill on July 29 in compliance with SCIA. The draft Tribal Justice Plan (TJP) was released last Friday for public comment. The plan is located at: www.bja.gov/grant/tloa.htm and http://tloa.ncai.org. Comments were accepted from interested parties until July 22, 2011.

- *Substance Abuse MOA:* The Indian Affairs review team comprised of IA, BIA and the SOL have made the initial review of the draft MOA. These comments will be provided to TLOA workgroup for revisions. Section 241 of TLOA amends the 1986 Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse Treatment Program. This amendment specifically directs the Secretaries of DOI, HHS and the AG to develop a Memorandum of Agreement by July 29, 2011. The draft MOA is currently being reviewed by the BIA, SOL and IA to meet the statutory deadline.

Organizational Improvement

- *Administration Assessment*: In the area of administration assessment, a Dear Tribal Leaders letter was transmitted this past week to share with Tribal Leaders the purpose and activities of the administrative assessment study. In addition, in support of the President's accountability and transparency messages, Indian Affairs has added a webpage to its Internet site dedicated to the assessment effort which includes the mechanism for input by interested parties on the on-going effort. Interviews by the contractor, Bronner, are continuing throughout Indian Affairs and the Department of the Interior. The contractor was on-site at the Albuquerque Management Symposium session and met with a multitude of employees who were there to attend the Symposium. A lot of input was garnered from BIE employees for the assessment. For the future, prior to each Symposium (three remaining), Bronner will hold a session the day before the training to meet with BIE employees and any other employees interested in taking the opportunity to share their views. The next step almost ready to go is the release of the surveys to Indian Affairs employees by Bronner. This effort will maximize the input we can receive from employees. In addition, Indian Affairs has scheduled two meetings (Scottsdale, AZ and Hinckley, MN) in conjunction with on-going meetings with Tribal leaders to obtain Tribal input on the assessment.

- *Administrative Backlogs*: Continuing the effort to complete a goal in the Indian Affairs Corrective Action Plan for OIG Backlog Reports, Indian Affairs held the second of five Management Symposiums this past week in Albuquerque, NM. Almost 400 managers and supervisors attended the training. Remaining sessions are scheduled in August for Tacoma, WA, Washington, DC, and Catoosa, OK.

Education

- Elementary and Secondary Education
  - Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

    South and Eastern States Line Officer will present the current MOU between BIE and the State of Florida on behalf of the Ahfachkee Day School to the Miccosukee Indian School.

This is significant because over the past several years, the Miccosukee Tribe requested a waiver of and the development of an alternative assessment for AYP.

- *Let's Move! in Indian Country*

  BIE hosted a meeting with AIHEC, the White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges, and USDA on July 19,2011 to discuss engaging Tribal Colleges and Universities in the Let's Move! in Indian Country initiative. We planned many next steps and follow up activities.

  The BIE's lead staff person on *LMIC* Brandi Sweet participated in a White House meeting on metrics/evaluation on July 19th. She is coordinating a recording session with Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs Larry Echo Hawk for the LMIC's call to action. In addition, she is developing LMIC metrics and policy on making a healthier learning environment in our BIE schools. Ms. Sweet also met with USDA several times this past week to plan webinars and outreach to BIE schools concerning *LMIC* health and wellness activities.

- School Improvement

  The ADD, East and her staff met with the Flandreau Indian School Board on July 20 to provide an overview of BIE's role and responsibility as well as challenging them to have a working knowledge of the research, program, and the leadership team's work using NATIVE Star. It appeared to be a very positive meeting

- School Safety/Facilities

  Flandreau Indian School is planning to utilize the boys' dormitory in September when students return. They are busy with ensuring repairs are made before students arrive for school. The damage is the result of the tornado that passed through the campus in late June.

  Maine Indian Education is still waiting for the Certificate of Occupancy, and the Operations and Maintenance funds for the Administration Building in Calais, Maine.

  There was a small fire at the Cheyenne-Eagle Butte School summer recreation concession stand. No injuries were reported.

  Tiospaye Topa is still without an adequate cooling system. The school start will continue to be impacted due to the recent heat wave.

- Post Secondary Education

  BIE continues to process payments under FY 2011 funds for Tribal Colleges and Universities with BIA Contracting and BIA Finance offices.

  A technical review of the proposal to administer the Special Higher Education Program (SHEP) was completed by Alicia Henson. The American Indian Graduate Center located in Albuquerque, New Mexico was the only applicant. The review and requisition for 2011 SHEP funds was transmitted to BIA Contracting to issue a new contract. The $2

million in BIE funds will provide fellowships for eligible graduate students and a Loan For Service program for student loans.

- Haskell

  President Chris Redman attended the Summer AIHEC Director's and President's meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Joint sessions were held with the American Indian College Fund and National Indian Education Association. Widmeyer Communications provided professional media training for the Tribal College and Universities Presidents.

- Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

  President Sherry Allison participated in the Summer American Indian Higher Education Consortium Board of Directors meeting in Santa Fe, NM, July 20-24, 2011.

  The New Mexico Higher Education Department, Adult Basic Education Program made a site visit on Friday, July 22, 2011.

  SIPI is pleased to report that SIPI is a grant recipient of the American Indian College Fund's Wakanyeja "Sacred Little Ones" Early Childhood Education Initiative. This historic grant strengthens Indian communities by providing resources to support early childhood education programs at tribal colleges. The grant initiative is funded by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation. SIPI will receive $800K beginning July 15, 2011 and ending July 15, 2015. The other tribal colleges selected for the initiative are the College of Menominee Nation, Ilisagivk College, and the Northwest Indian College.

  The Accreditation Steering Committee met on Wednesday, July 20, 2011. The committee reviewed and discussed the Higher Learning Commission's new criteria revision. The committee also re-organized the membership of the criterion work groups.

  - The Accreditation Steering Committee and the Criterion Subcommittees will meet once a month during the remainder of the year to familiarize themselves with the criteria, to identify data needs and to solidify outlines for the self-study report; and, beginning in January 2012, the Committees will meet more frequently as they begin collecting, analyzing, interpreting data and making recommendations to further strengthen key processes at SIPI.

Restoration of Tribal Homelands

- *Handbook:* The Fee to Trust Handbook was released to the field on July 13, 2011. The handbook will be implemented for use by BIA field staff.

- *Fee to Trust Applications:* The BIA on behalf of the Department has accepted 31,349 acres into trust for the benefit of Tribal Nations during the 2011 calendar year. The restoration initiative was prioritized and supported by the Secretary

and Assistant Secretary to further self-determination and tribal sovereignty. The BIA's collective efforts have translated into 541 applications processed and accepted 122,213 acres in total for the initiative under the Obama Administration.

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Outreach

- Planned Events:

Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs:

August 1 – 2, 2011, multi-agency Suicide Prevention Conference, Scottsdale, AZ.

August 2-3, 2011, Quarterly meeting of the Tribal Interior Budget Committee, Bar Harbor, Maine.

August 2-3, 2011, 3rd Indian Affairs Management Symposium, Tacoma, WA.

August 3 – 6, 2011, the Pathways to Leadership Graduation Ceremony, Albuquerque, NM.

August 9-10, 2011, 4th Indian Affairs Management Symposium, Washington, DC.

August 16-17, 2011, 5th Indian Affairs Management Symposium, Catoosa, OK.

August 17 – 19, 2011, Cobell Tribal Consultation meeting, Minneapolis, MN.

August 21 – 28, 2011, tour of Tribal homelands in Oklahoma and South Dakota with House Appropriations Committee Members, Congressman Tom Cole (R-Oklahoma) and Congressman Michael K. Simpson (R-Idaho).

August 29 – 30, 2011, scheduled to attend the Cobell Tribal Consultation meeting, Phoenix, AZ.

Bureau of Indian Education
August 1 – 4, 2011, BIA/SAMSHA/IHS/BIE Suicide Conference, Scottsdale, AZ

July 16-19, 2011, Council of Chief State School Officers Summer Institute in Stowe, Vermont.

July 19 – 21, 2011, a site visit is scheduled to the Shoshone Bannock School on July 19-21, 2011. The site visit team will be comprised of staff from the Division of Performance and Accountability, Administration, and the Billings Line Office. The focus of the site visit will be all IDEA Part B funds, and specifically the 3-5 years of age portion.

September 25-27, 2011, 8th annual South Dakota Indian Education Summit, Cedar Shores Resort in Chamberlain, SD. The theme of the Summit is "Supporting Culture, Building Expectations and Creating Partnerships."

September, 2011, Special Education Academy in Tampa, FL.

CONFIDENTIAL

July 29, 2011

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
Attn: Courtenay Lewis, Special Assistant

From: Ray Joseph, Principal Deputy Special Trustee

Re: Assistant Secretary Report for August 1 to August 7, 2011

Office of the Special Trustee (OST)
Assistant Secretary Weekly Report

August 1, 2011

Schedule and Activities
Principal Deputy Special Trustee Ray Joseph

- Management meetings in Washington (8/1, 8/4-5)
- Travel and Tribal/Interior Budget Council meeting in Bar Harbor, Maine (8/1-3)

Review – July 25 to July 29

- **New:** Chairman Michael Finley and council members Ferdinand Louie and Brian Gunn of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation met with the Principal Deputy Special Trustee and OST staff members on July 27. They discussed OST support to complete appraisals and update land titles and records in order to be ready when Cobell settlement land consolidation funds are available. They also asked how they might arrange financial skills training for tribal youth who reach the age of majority and are eligible to receive lump sums of money. OST personnel will work with them on all three issues.

- **New:** Principal Deputy Special Trustee Ray Joseph spoke with Treasury's Financial Management Services (FMS) Commissioner David Lebryk on July 27 to explore the processes FMS uses to disburse and collect funds. OST would like to leverage FMS's expertise and scale of operations for check printing, lockbox activities, and other financial processes that OST currently performs.

- **Update:** The *Status Report to the Court Number Forty-Five* is for the period March 1 through June 30, 2011. The purpose of the report is to inform the Court of actions taken since the issuance of the preceding quarterly report, including delays in and obstacles to trust reform activities. BIA, BLM, BOEMRE, OCIO, OHTA and OST

program managers submit reports on the status of their respective Indian trust activities and attorneys from SOL and DOJ and senior OST managers interview them about content. On July 26, the final draft of the report was submitted to the Executive Secretariat for the Secretary's review and signature of the transmittal letter to DOJ. The report was submitted to DOJ on July 28 for them to file with the Court on August 1.

Week Ahead – August 1 to August 5

- **New:** Principal Deputy Special Trustee Ray Joseph will address the Tribal/Interior Budget Council meeting in Bar Harbor, Maine, the morning of August 3.

- **No Change:** OST continues to work directly with the Cobell Implementation Team, the Garden City Group and SOL on communication challenges as they arise.

On the Horizon

- **Update:** OST's Field Operations schedules outreach events, training seminars and meetings at powwows, schools and other venues. In July, more than a dozen activities were held. Several activities are planned for August.

- **No Change:** On July 14, DOJ met with SOL and OST to request Expedited Settlement Evaluation Method (ESEM) reports on 117 tribal litigations. These include litigation for SPOA (64 cases) and other litigating tribes, the 16 cases being handled by Brian Leinbach and tribal cases that have been settled. The purpose is to compare future and past settlements and estimate global settlement costs. The due date is September 30.

- **No Change:** OST is working with Treasury to launch Pay.gov this summer. This will provide lease holders the option to pay invoices online.

Week Ahead Report to the Secretary

Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas

July 27, 2011

"Creative Engagement with Pacific Island Nations" – The AS-IN accepted an invitation to join the roundtable discussion at Main State. The primary objectives will focus on demonstrating the strategic importance of the relationship with Pacific Island nations, identify ways to broaden consensus in the USG on the need to reconnect and reenergize the commitment to the relationship, identify concrete steps to move the relationships forward and identify new bilateral relationships that can serve as hubs for engagement.

Reception for Secretary Gary Locke – AS-IN was invited to attend the farewell reception for The Honorable Gary Locke at the U.S. Department of Commerce.

U N I T E D S T A T E S

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

July 29, 2011

Memorandum

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
c/o Courtenay Lewis, Special Assistant

From: Rhea Suh, Assistant Secretary-Policy, Management and Budget

Subject: July 29, 2011, Policy and Other Issues

This provides major policy and other issues that fall under the purview of the Assistant Secretary – PMB.

POLICY

DEEPWATER HORIZON Oil Spill Response. The Gulf Coast Incident Management Team (GCIMT) based in New Orleans is targeting an end of phase 3 and 4 operations by the end of this hurricane season, and an end to response operations by late November.

DOI bureaus and offices have received Pollution Funding Removal Authorizations (PRFAs) totaling $91.7 million in reimbursable budget authority. So far, DOI has submitted cost documentation packages totaling $48.96 Million (revised due to repackaging of July, August, and September 2010 bills) and the US Coast Guard has processed and reimbursed in full a total of $12.24 Million.

Silvertip Pipeline Oil Spill, Yellowstone River Montana. An EPA On-Scene Coordinator has been directing and overseeing cleanup activities. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and EPA personnel have conducted aerial assessments and reported seeing bank deposits and small pooling of oil in backwaters and slow water at intermittent points along both the north and south banks of the Yellowstone River. Personnel are walking the shores and are deploying absorbent booms along the river banks to absorb oil that collected in slow water along the shoreline. Shoreline assessment is ongoing to determine effective strategies for recovering the oil.

The EPA issued an administrative order to ExxonMobil instructing them to provide information on the circumstances of the spill, conduct appropriate recovery and remediation actions, and perform ongoing environmental sampling. The order required ExxonMobil to provide a Work Plan. Those documents are now being reviewed by EPA, the State of Montana, and other agency partners. A final decision on the Work Plan should be made early this week.

The FWS is participating in wildlife meetings regarding the potential impacts on area wildlife. The three species of turtles that could potentially still lay eggs this summer are of special concern. Data from a spiny softshell turtle study that commenced last year will assist in determining potential breeding locations in the affected area.

Seven cultural specialists from the Crow Nation will join the shoreline cleanup and assessment technique teams (SCAT). The cultural specialists will review SCAT team operations to ensure no negative impacts occur on the Crow traditional or cultural sites.

The OEPC/Denver Regional Environmental Officer is continuing to coordinate DOI assistance to the Federal On-Scene Coordinator and has facilitated Pollution Removal Funding Agreements (PRFAs) for FWS and BLM.

Youth: Office of the Secretary Fellows. The Secretary met with our 24 OS summer interns this week to talk about their experience here at DOI. They enjoyed meeting the Secretary and have all been huge assets to their offices, helping DOI on critical initiatives like AGO, urban water, renewable energy and Indian Affairs. We will be sad to see them go.

National Service Website Consolidation. Take Pride In America is working with the Federal Interagency Team on Volunteerism and the Corporation for National and Community Service to identify redundancy and duplication among National Service websites. A list of Federal websites will be compiled and submitted to the AGO Council and Andrew Jackson to discuss next steps in website consolidation.

MANAGEMENT

Marijuana Eradication/Investigation in Northern California. There will be a large media event on Friday July 29 regarding Operation Full Court Press; Congressional representatives and/or their staffs are scheduled to participate. The Operation is a multi-agency project to address the illegal growing of marijuana, as well as associated violence in the Mendocino National Forest and surrounding public lands located in Northwest California, including approximately 12 to 15 sites on BLM managed lands. Operation Full Court Press encompasses the investigation of illegal marijuana cultivation, the eradication of marijuana, the identification/interdiction of violators in the area, and reclaiming of the public lands. Bureau law enforcement personnel are key players in the Operation. DAS Thorsen has notified appropriate staffs within Interior.

BUDGET

2012 Energy & Water Appropriations. After nearly a week of debate and numerous amendments, the House passed the Energy and Water Development appropriations bill (HR 2354) on July 15 by a vote of 219 to 196. Amendments were mostly focused on the Department of Energy and the Corps of Engineers. No date has been set for Senate action on this bill.

2012 Interior Appropriations. On Tuesday, July 12, the House Appropriations Committee approved the Fiscal Year 2012 Interior and Environment Appropriations bill by a vote of 28 to 18. In total, the bill includes $9.9 billion in spending for DOI programs, a reduction in net discretionary of $704.9 million (6.7%) below the FY 2011 enacted level and $1.2 billion below the President's budget request. OMB has issued a Statement of Administration policy on the measure that states: "If the President is presented with a bill that undermines ongoing conservation, public health, and environmental protection efforts through funding limits or restrictions, his senior advisors would recommend he veto the bill."

House floor action began on Monday, July 25 with passage of the rule by a vote of 205 to 131. With over 200 amendments filed, the House began work on Monday, July 25 and continues to

consider, debate and vote on amendments as of today, July 28. Action is expected to continue for another couple of days.

Details of both bills can be found at: http://www.doi.gov/budget/

Feds Feed Families. A Feds Feed Families "Fill the Boxes Week" ran from July 20-26. The first delivery to the Capital Area Food Bank will be on Thursday, July 28 and the total contributions for June and July will be reported in early August. On Tuesday, July 26, singer songwriter Cindilee Turpin-Thomas from the Office of Hearings and Appeals performed in the Bison Bistro as part of the Featured Artist Series. More information can be found on the OneInterior website.

IG/GAO Reports. The list of current reports and their status is attached.

Attachments:

PMB Office Reports

cc: Deputy Assistant Secretaries—Policy, Management and Budget

POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

New: DOI Response Plan for Alaska Training Held: Annual training was held by the OEPC Alaska Office's Regional Environmental Officer on July 28, 2011, for Anchorage-based employees who serve as DOI Bureau Initial Responders in the plan's Anchorage Earthquake Annex. The training includes an overview of the plan and each of its four annexes; describes the natural disaster risks in Alaska; and summarizes the major elements of the Anchorage Earthquake Annex, including initial responders' disaster duties. Approximately one-half of the 3,000 DOI employees in Alaska are based in the Anchorage area. The OEPC Anchorage Office is the lead for the Alaska-based DOI disaster preparedness and response program.

New: Memorandum of Understanding and Charter on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898. The Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice's (EJ IWG) final MOU and Charter were forwarded to participating Federal agencies by the EPA. The OEPC has prepared a Decision Memorandum for the Secretary outlining the events and efforts that have led to the development of this reaffirming document. The Decision Memorandum is recommending that the Secretary sign the document as presented by the EPA. The Decision Memorandum along with the MOU and Charter was routed to the Heads of Bureaus and Offices. The Heads of Bureaus and Offices have surnamed the package without changes or objections. The EPA is requesting the Secretary's signature by July 27, 2011. The OEPC is working with the Office of the Executive Secretariat to finalize the signing of the MOU and Charter.

Update: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Quarterly meetings. The OEPC has scheduled the first quarterly meeting with the EPA's Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office for Wednesday, August 31 in order to work together more effectively on cleanup issues. These meetings will address various cleanup issues, as well as begin planning for the Federal Facility Cleanup Dialogue with stakeholders and various federal agencies currently scheduled for September 21 and 22.

Office of Policy Analysis

New: Brown Treesnake Technical Committee Meeting. The National Invasive Species Council (NISC) staff will participate in the Brown Treesnake (BTS) Technical Committee meetings on Guam, August 3-5. Of particular importance will be discussions to prevent a

shutdown of the BTS interdiction program at the end of this fiscal year due to funding shortfalls. Due to Guam's geographic isolation and high level of endemism, the Brown Treesnake has extirpated 10 of 12 indigenous forest bird species from the island and caused a variety of other serious problems. Over the past 17 years, the interdiction program has been remarkably successful at preventing the snake from invading other islands, such as Hawaii.

New: Development of Micronesia Biosecurity Plan. The NISC continues to lead the multi-departmental effort to develop the Department of Defense-funded Micronesia Biosecurity Plan (MBP). The plan will provide a science-based blueprint to prevent additional invasive species damages to the entire region of Micronesia associated with the military build-up on Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The NISC staff will meet with regional partners the week of August 1-5, to brief them on the current status of scientific reports and discuss development of an MBP Strategic Implementation Plan.

Update: Council on Environmental Quality Climate Change Adaptation Task Force. Policy Analysis is participating on Interior's Climate Change Working Group and will assist in developing the response to the Council on Environmental Quality's call for: a preliminary high-level vulnerability analysis; and a set of priority FY 2012 agency climate adaptation actions by September 30, 2011. Policy Analysis is preparing draft responses which will be provided to the Group and circulated for bureau review.

Ongoing: Office of Surface Mining Stream Protection Rule. On July 20, Policy Analysis participated in a conference call with Office of Surface Mining staff and the contractor preparing the regulatory impact analysis for the stream protection rule to provide feedback on the outline and the data collection plan for the analysis.

Ongoing: Arctic. On July 27, Policy Analysis hosted the internal DOI Arctic Coordination Group meeting and on July 28 represented Interior at the State Department Arctic Policy Group meeting. Policy Analysis is also assisting in the Departmental representation on the newly formed interagency working group on Alaska oil and gas permitting, which will be led by Deputy Secretary David Hayes. Policy Analysis continues to work on implementation of the outcomes of the Arctic Council Nuuk Declaration, as well as supporting DOI contributions to the National Ocean Policy Arctic Strategic Action Plan and the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee.

Ongoing: Klamath Survey. On July 11, OMB approved implementation of the non-use valuation survey to inform the Klamath River dam removal Secretarial determination. The survey went into the field the week of July 25 and survey data collection efforts are expected to continue for several weeks.

Ongoing: Economic Report. Over the coming weeks, Policy Analysis will hold several meetings with bureau staff to discuss various technical issues related to preparation of the third economic report. This report will cover FY 2011. A conference call with bureau staff will be held on August 4 to discuss the next report and rough timeline for completion.

Office of Native Hawaiian Relations

Update: ONHR Honolulu Office Relocation - The Office of Native Hawaiian Relations (ONHR) has completed its office relocation in Honolulu. The office is now situated within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS) Pacific and Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge Complex office. The office is configured with two workstations to accommodate the Policy Analyst, volunteers and student interns/externs who may work out of the office on a temporary basis. The ONHR is obtaining a complete computer set-up for the intern/extern workstation from the FWS's excess inventory.

New: BOEMRE Hawai'i OCS Renewable Energy Task Force and Native Hawaiian Consultation – The ONHR was contacted by the Regional Historic Preservation Officer for the Pacific Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE), operating out of Camarillo, California, with an inquiry about Native Hawaiian consultation. The Governor of the State of Hawai'i requested, and the Secretary of the Interior accepted, that BOEMRE and the State of Hawai'i form a Federal-State OCS Renewable Energy Task Force. The BOEMRE is authorized to invite "any affected State Governor, representative of an affected Indian tribe, and affected local government executive" to join in establishing such a task force. Because Native Hawaiians do not have an elected official of a federally recognized Native Hawaiian governing entity, no representative will be invited to join the task force. However, BOEMRE plans to conduct parallel consultation with Native Hawaiian organizations pursuant to the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act. The BOEMRE anticipates including ONHR on the task force, especially because this will be their first endeavor involving Native Hawaiians.

New: Proposed Native Coastal Vegetation at the James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge – The ONHR will provide guidance to the Project Leader regarding consultation with Native Hawaiian organizations as required pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)

and Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). Thus far, the Project Leader has initiated NHPA Section 106 consultation with the State Historic Preservation Division, the Oʻahu Island Burial Council, and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. The NHPA and NAGPRA also require consultation with Hui Mālama I Nā Kūpuna O Hawaiʻi Nei and other Native Hawaiian organizations. The initial consultation letter acknowledges "a high probability for the presence of native Hawaiian cultural sites and burials."

Office of International Affairs

New: Discussion with International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) on Big Bend Cooperation: Last week, OIA staff briefed IBWC's Washington liaison on US/Mexico cooperation on conservation in the Big Bend region and a proposed study (funded by the Commission on Environmental Cooperation for North America) of the relation between timing of water flows in the Rio Grande and environmental values in the region. That discussion led to arrangements for a meeting on those issues on July 27 with BOR Commissioner Connor Commissioner Drusina of the IBWC, and Commissioner Salmon of CILA, the Mexican counterpart to the IBWC. Working with BOR and NPS, OIA is developing briefing materials and will attend that meeting.

New: Follow up on Secretary's Brazil Visit: On July 22, OIA delivered a paper to National Security Staff (NSS) at NSS's request which discussed DOI's work with Brazil on offshore oil and gas development and regulation, particularly in the context of the Strategic Energy Dialogue which the Presidents of the two countries launched when they met in March. The OIA worked with BOEMRE to develop the paper, which focuses on BOEMRE's plans to help DOE with a workshop that DOE will convene in Rio in October on deepwater offshore oil and gas development and regulation.

New: Arctic Terrestrial Expert Monitoring Group. The OIA staff participated in the inaugural conference call of the Arctic Council's Terrestrial Ecosystem Expert Monitoring Group. The Arctic Council – through the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna working group – has resolved to establish a number of networks and expert groups to support and synchronize ongoing monitoring in the region. A marine ecosystem monitoring plan is already in place; the next one to begin is this terrestrial component. A number of DOI experts are participating, include the co-chair (John Payne, on detail from BLM and working at the North Slope Science Initiative). The expert group will develop a terrestrial monitoring plan over the next two years.

New: Meeting with USGS on Review of International Agreements: The OIA director and staff met with the new acting director of international programs for USGS to discuss progress on streamlining of DOI processing of international agreements, in particular to prepare for a batch of approximately 13-15 new Landsat agreements expected in the next several months.

New: Presentation to State. The DOI-ITAP staff will be presenting on projects in Morocco and Oman at the State Department's Morocco and Oman Environmental Cooperation Work Program Technical Meeting. The meeting is an opportunity to establish linkages and cooperative efforts among federal agencies working in these countries with State Department funding.

New: Meeting with U.S. Ambassador to Guatemala. DOI-ITAP staff will be meeting with the incoming U.S. Ambassador to Guatemala to brief him on past and current DOI-ITAP initiatives in Guatemala – including State Department funded activities under the Central America-Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement, USAID activities in Guatemala's Mayan Biosphere Reserve, and new activities funded under the State Department's Pathways to Prosperity initiative.

New: Young Rangers in Jordan. The U.S. Charge d'Affaires (Acting Ambassador) in Jordan will attend the graduation of young rangers from a youth education program patterned after the NPS Junior Rangers program. The DOI-ITAP in-country coordinator has provided talking points that highlight DOI-ITAP involvement in the project and in other assistance provided by DOI-ITAP in Jordan funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

New: Visit from Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS): Over the past two weeks, OIA staff has worked with State Department, NPS, FWS and USGS to help coordinate meetings for a visiting delegation of leaders and experts from KWS interested in USG policy on the sharing of benefits from biodiversity, including the NPS policy on permitting of research in the national parks. On July 25-26, OIA staff will join meetings hosted by State and NPS with our Kenyan visitors.

Update: Emergency Management Agreement: The OIA staff participated in a July 21 interagency meeting hosted by State and DHS to further discuss the "Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Mexican States on Emergency Management Cooperation in Cases of Natural Disasters and Accidents," also known as the Emergency Management Agreement (EMA). The EMA was signed in 2008 but just came into force on March 20, 2011. The agreement covers bilateral cooperation in cases of natural disasters and accidents and includes the full geographical area of both countries,

including the border region. The OIA, at the request of State and DHS, recently drafted a white paper that details DOI's current emergency management engagement with Mexico. A summary of the white paper will be included as part of a compendium that will be shared with the Government of Mexico.

Update: Arctic Council Oil Spill Task Force Preparation. The Arctic Council is creating a task force to produce an oil spill response agreement between the Arctic nations. The USG has begun an interagency process – led by USCG and DOS – to prepare a straw-man agreement for international consideration. The BOEMRE will be the DOI lead on this effort. To support DOI participation in the next round of interagency discussion on Friday, July 22, OIA staff summarized the results of recent internal DOI discussions as well as several existing international agreements that could inform the USG effort.

Update: Coordination with Brazil and CITES Secretariat: The DOI-ITAP coordinated with Brazil (IBAMA) and the CITES Secretariat to organize a Central America regional workshop on electronic permits for CITES. As a result of the workshop, IBAMA committed to working with the governments in the region to transfer their permitting technology. The workshop also resulted in benefits to the FWS CITES Division of Management Authority; based on DOI's role in the workshop, a CITES Secretariat e-permits expert will hold half-day consultations with FWS in Washington on September 14, 2011 to update them on developments in e-permitting.

Update: Rio + 20: During the week of July 18, OIA collected and integrated interagency comments on the paper on land use as it relates to sustainable development which OIA developed with bureaus at State's request. During the week of July 25, OIA will represent DOI in another round of State-led interagency meetings on the Rio+20 themes, including green economy, international framework, and measuring progress.

Update: Transpacific Trade Negotiations and Invasive Species: After consultation with other conservation-oriented agencies, OIA and NISC staff attended an interagency meeting at the State Department where they made the case for including text supporting action to prevent introduction of invasive species in the Transpacific Economic Partnership free trade agreement currently being negotiated. Previously, several economic-oriented agencies had expressed reluctance to include such language in the US proposal, but the meeting appeared to produce agreement on principles that all agencies could accept. At USTR's request, OIA and NISC subsequently helped draft revised text for interagency clearance.

Office of Restoration and Damage Assessment

Update: Tribal Natural Resources Damages, Assessment and Restoration Conference, July 19-21, 2011, Mt. Pleasant, MI. The Conference was co-sponsored and funded by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Saginaw/Chippewa tribe to assist tribes involved in CERCLA/OPA cases to build tribal capacity and expertise in their responsibilities as natural resource Trustees. Members from 24 tribes attended the conference. The ORDA staff presented papers on: the Damage Assessment process; the annual case funding application process; the structure and function of the DOI Restoration Fund; Trustee Council organization and function; Pre-spill planning; and the relationship of natural resource services to cultural resources. This is the first national tribal training conference for NRDAR and will likely serve as a model for similar training efforts in the future.

YOUTH, PARTNERSHIPS AND SERVICE

New: FY2013 Budget Priorities. The Office of Youth drafted budget guidance for youth employment recommendations highlighted in the AGO Report.

New: FY2012 and FY2013 Youth HPPG. The Office of Youth is working with performance management and planning to develop language for FY2012 and FY2013 Youth HPPG. Internal and OMB reporting will focus on the following key areas: maintain the 45% increase over 2009 baseline, track conversion data internally to determine effectiveness of pathway programs, and track youth impact/outcomes to determine effectiveness of program implementation.

New: Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs (IWGYP)—Developing a Strategic Plan for Federal Youth Policy Meeting. Maria Arnold participated in an interagency meeting to engage in an ongoing strategic planning process. Planning includes articulating a vision for youth, and developing and prioritizing an initial set of strategies for the goals.

Ongoing: AGO Education Work Group. Maria Arnold continued supporting DOI-EPA Work Group leads in preparing a progress report due to CEQ August 15. Activities included leading a

subcommittee on service and place-based learning and assisting with the draft Work Group report.

21CSC FACA Selection Process. The Office of Youth is working with CADR to develop a strong selection process. Nominations to serve on the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps Advisory Committee will be accepted through August 1, 2011.

Ongoing: DOI Secretary's Partners in Conservation Awards. A Selection Panel comprised of leadership from the Office of the Secretary & ASPMB selected 18 partnerships as finalists for the 2011 award, representing nearly 400 partners. Over 35 nominations were received to recognize external and internal individuals and organizations that have produced outstanding conservation achievements to foster collaboration and partnerships to further the mission of the Department. An awards ceremony has been scheduled for the week of September 19, and the Secretary has been requested to present the keynote address.

Ongoing: DOI Partnerships Website. Migration of old ASPMB Partnerships website to be converted to DOI.Gov by early August. Partnerships Coordinator trained by Figleaf contractor with PMB staff to convert website and train other Bureau Partnership Coordinators on how to edit and manage site. New Partnerships website will have fewer pages and less content as requested for all government websites by the Administration.

TECHNOLOGY, INFORMATION AND BUSINESS SERVICES

Office of Hearings and Appeals

Update: Indian Probate Rule. The final Indian probate rule was sent to the Federal Register and is expected to be published this week. It confirms changes to the BIA and OHA probate regulations that were made in an interim final rule published in February.

Update: Hydropower Licensing Rule. NOAA commented on the latest draft of the revised interim final rule, stating that it disagrees with DOI's policy position on implementing Section 33 of the Federal Power Act. Following internal discussion, DOI will agree to NOAA's proposed position, which will preserve flexibility for DOI but allow for a coordinated approach by the three affected agencies.

Update: GAO Review of Attorney Fee Claims. The GAO review team provided OHA with a list of the specific data they would like to have on all administrative attorney fee claims against the Department during FY 2000-2010. OHA is compiling the data.

Office of the Chief Information Officer

New: IT Transformation Information Sharing Session - The OCIO organization is planning the next IT Transformation information sharing sessions scheduled to begin in August. Sessions will provide more detailed information regarding the plan, DOI's Information Technology Service Methodology (ITSM), quick wins, and accomplishments.

Update: Industry Day - The OCIO hosted its 1st Industry Day at the FOSE conference and Exhibition held at the Washington Convention Center. Lawrence (Larry) Gross, DOI's Deputy CIO and Mark Oliver, DOI's Director of the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, were the keynote speakers. The event drew a crowd of 60 individuals from the public and private sectors.

Update: Data Center Consolidation Initiative (DCCI) - The DCCI team met with Office of Management Budget (OMB) to reconcile the information, review OMB's savings model, and conduct a final review of the list of Federal Data Centers planned for closing under the Federal Data Center Consolidation Initiative before the end of calendar year 2012. OMB plans to release this list of data center closures to the press.

New: KPMG Technical Security Scanning - KPMG attempted to conduct technical security scanning at USGS as part of annual FISMA and Financial Audits. When DOI and USGS expressed concern about providing access in the manner requested by KPMG, the CIO and DAS-

TIBS meet with OIG on short notice to define controls necessary to reduce the risk to DOI and Bureau operations while scanning was underway.

Update: Mid-Year Internal Control Reviews and Assurance Statements for Financial Systems - PFM requires a mid-year and year-end assurance statement addressing financial management information system compliance with OMB A-123 and FMFIA. The CIO distributed guidance to ADIRs for completion of this task and all statements have been received by Bureaus with financial systems.

Update: Audit Activity Status - The Q3 FY 2011 status of remediating OCIO IT-related deficiencies tracked by PFM was provided on July 21st by the CIO. The Q3 FY 2011 status update on OCIO IT-related deficiencies tracked by the Office of Emergency Management was issued by the DCIO on July 20th, ahead of the July 22nd due date. The OCIO plans to conduct a quarterly meeting with PFM.

Office of Valuation Services

New: OVS Continues to Fill Critical Positions. Selections have been made for four review appraiser positions.

Geospatial Information Officer

Ongoing: Federal Geographic Data Committee. The monthly meeting of the FGDC Executive Committee will be held this week. Primary topics include status and plans for the Geospatial Platform and the upcoming meetings of the Steering Committee (chaired by Assistant Secretary Anne Castle) and the National Geospatial Advisory Committee.

National Business Center

New: NBC Strategic Assessment launch. NBC launched its strategic assessment with McKinsey & Company, who will serve as the management consultant and lead a strategic review of the organization including: current performance, services offerings , and ways to improve service delivery, efficiency, effectiveness, and customer and employee satisfaction.

New: AMD Bureau Collaboration with USGS. AMD's Western Regional Office recently provided the USGS BRD (Biological Research Division) a seaplane pilot for conducting a survey of marine mammals (primarily sea otters) within Prince William Sound and North Central Gulf Coast of Alaska. This survey has been conducted annually, and flown by the same AMD pilot since 1992. The resulting data will be used by the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council (EVOS) in determining the level of recovery within these waters. Government scientific and legal staff will also use this data this year to determine punitive actions in the $100,000,000 reopener clause of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill settlement.

New: AQD makes significant progress in FBMS data cleansing. AQD has cleansed 13,686 actions since February 2011 after identifying 16,800 contact actions with potential compatibility errors that needed to be reviewed and repaired prior to FBMS conversion.

Update: Fish and Wildlife financial services. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service signed an agreement with NBC to handle its consolidated payment processes when it converts to the new Financial and Business Management System, scheduled for November 2012.

Update: Oracle Customer Forum. National Business Center Director Joe Ward met with chief financial officers and executives of our Oracle Federal Financials customer agencies as part of the day-long Customer Forum held July 19th. In addition to the executive session on implementation and funding issues, technical sessions covered Office of Management and Budget requirements, upgrades and security.

New: Financial system testing. The National Business Center conducted a successful disaster recovery test for Interior's Financial and Business Management System with client participation. Testing completes the design and development phases for implementing the new system. Full implementation is scheduled for August 2012.

New: Travel services for the Office of Natural Resources Revenue. NBC is coordinating with the Department's Office of Financial Management on support for the Office of Natural Resources Revenue travel services. NBC and PFM are working out roles and responsibilities for both the GovTrip conversion and for continued operations and maintenance support as ONRR transitions from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement to the Office of the Secretary.

Update: Implementation of the Capital BikeShare program. Staff prepared a LAN message announcing the program and are developing an online form to facilitate enrollment by employees. DOI will be the second agency to become a partner in the program.

HUMAN CAPITAL AND DIVERSITY

Office of Human Resources

Update: Employee Assistance Program (EAP). The first meeting of the Department of the Interior (DOI) EAP working group is scheduled for August 10, 2011. At this meeting the working group will adopt a charter and begin working on the acquisition strategy for consolidating EAP Memorandum of Understandings/contracts.

Update: Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Regulation and Enforcement's (BOEMRE) Delegated Examining Unit (DEU) Accountability Audit. With the assistance of a representative from the Human Resources Staff, members of the Accountability team will conduct an audit of the BOEMRE-DEU on July 27-28, 2011. This review is being done to ensure compliance with the Department's Interagency Delegated Examining Agreement (DOI-1) with the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). DOI-1 requires that annual audits be conducted of each DEU by staff outside of the unit to ensure that the unit is operating in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations and policy. Part of the review consists of surveys for selecting officials and employees selected through the DEU to assess their satisfaction with the DE process. The Accountability team issued these surveys during the week of June 18, 2011.

Update: The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) Accountability Review, Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Accountability team participated on an accountability review with the BIA-BIE in Albuquerque, New Mexico during the week of June 18, 2011. This review covers only the Title V workforce within the Education Line Office and General Administration. Haskell Indian Nations University, the Southwestern Polytechnic Institute and other schools will be reviewed in 2012.

Update: Accountability Review- National Park Service (NPS) of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Recreation Area in Three Rivers, California. The Accountability team participated on an accountability review with the NPS of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Recreation Area in Three Rivers, California during the week of June 18, 2011. This is one of only two NPS reviews being conducted in FY 2011. NPS requested that three of their schedule reviews be postponed to allow them to focus on the SHRO consolidation which will be completed by September 30, 2011.

Update: Upcoming Accountability Reviews. The accountability team will be participating in the following reviews scheduled over the next several months:

- NPS Washington Office, Washington, DC, September 12 – 16, 2011
- BLM National Interagency Fire Center, Boise, Idaho, August 19 – 23, 2011
- Fish and Wildlife Service Region 5, Hadley, MA, September 26 – 29, 2011
- BOR Upper Colorado Region, Salt Lake City, Utah, October 3 – 7, 2011
- BIA Center for Recruitment, Anadarko, OK, October 16 – 21, 2011

Office of Civil Rights

Completed: Federally Employed Women National Training Program (FEW NTP). On July 18, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights, in partnership with the Office of Surface Mining and the Bureau of Ocean Energy, Management, Regulation and Enforcement, sponsored a Pre-conference Training Forum at the FEW NTP, at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, in Philadelphia, PA. The training, entitled "Marketing Yourself for Success," focused on women in the workforce. DOI managers and supervisors who attended the training forum received credit towards meeting the annual requirement of 4 hours EEO training.

Completed: Office of Civil Rights, Accessible Technology Center Provides Training to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. On July 20, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights' Accessible Technology Center conducted a workshop at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in Arlington, VA. The training covered assistive technology, ergonomics, and the DOI/DOD Computer Electronics Accommodations Program. The training targeted managers and supervisors and was designed to enhance awareness of and provide skills to address reasonable accommodation and accessibility issues in the workplace.

Completed: White House Initiatives Office on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. On July 18, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights participated in a meeting of the White House Initiatives Office-HBCU at the Department of Energy, in Washington, D.C. The purpose of the meeting was to preview Energy's HBCU data collection and reporting system and identify ways in which to more effectively and efficiently capture HBCU data.

Office of Strategic Employee and Organizational Development

New: Executive Office of the President. On July 28-29, 2011, the Office of Strategic Employee and Organizational Development (OSEOD) will be hosting the Executive Office of the President, Office of Administration for a team building seminar for about 12-15 participants..

New: Mentoring Programs.

- During the week of July 25, 2011, OSEOD will launch flash mentoring sessions for different groups of DOI employees. There are five sessions scheduled for a diverse group of employees.
- In September of 2011, OSEOD will be launching a year-long mentoring program for Policy, Management, and Budget employees.

Update: Upcoming Forums.

- On July 27, 2011, the Government-wide Senior Executive Service Forum will feature Dr. Kathleen M. Sutcliffe, author of *Managing the Unexpected: Resilient Performance in an Age of Uncertainty*. The SES forum will be held in the National Transportation Safety Board Conference Center in Washington, DC. This forum will not be available via Webinar, however, it will be recorded on DVD.

Office of Occupational Safety and Health

New: Evaluation of Mold Exposures. The Office of Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) conducted an evaluation of mold exposures at Joshua Tree National Park.

New: Employee Message on Heat Wave. OSH staff provided information for an all employees message on the heat wave that was occurring across the Midwest and Eastern parts of the country.

LAW ENFORCEMENT, SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Immediate Office of the DAS

New: BP Hill, Southern California. A Remote Video Surveillance System (surveillance) tower in a location known as "BP Hill" near San Diego was damaged by an earthquake and needs to be repaired and/or maintained. When installed the permitting allowing access on BLM lands did not allow for vehicular access. Over the years the tower has been in place an unpermitted, primitive road developed. In order to assess whether the site is suitable (from an engineering standpoint) for rehab or reconstruction of the tower a tracked vehicle needs to access the site. BLM (Desert District) is evaluating the permit application to address vehicular access which will likely be needed over the long term.

New: Surf Fence Project Approval. Fish and Wildlife Service provided the go ahead for work on replacement of the "Surf Fence" which extends into the Pacific Ocean between the U.S. and Mexico. This will allow CBP to construct the improvements on schedule. Actual work was delayed until the completion of the Snowy Plover nesting season and is expected to begin in September.

Update: Fire IT Project. The report providing options for implementing the National Wildland Fire Enterprise Architecture was completed and submitted to the requestors (DAS Kim Thorsen and USFS Deputy Chief Jim Hubbard). The report was distributed to stakeholders the week of July 18 and will be discussed with fire directors and agency leadership the week of July 25 after which a decision memorandum will be prepared and issued.

Update: Short-term Access to Government Computers for Emergency Response. Interagency/interdisciplinary meeting with DOI and USDA/Forest staff was held on July 20. The group agreed upon a multi-year, risk management strategy that will be developed and presented to the Chief Information Officers in both Departments for review and concurrence.

Update: Ajo-Douglas Forward Operating Base (FOB). Customs and Border Protection (CBP) meetings with National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service on July 19 and 20 went well. These meetings were to discuss progress and plans for the Biological Assessment and NEPA documentation. A schedule has been developed by the Tucson office of FWS that leads to issuance of the draft EA by August 1st and completion of a revised Biological Opinion and NEPA documentation by mid September. This project is being funded with FY 2010 dollars that must be obligated this FY. Construction of the new, expanded facility will likely be at the currently approved tower site now occupied by a temporary camp which was relocated from the Bates Wells area. BP Agents (approximately 10 agents) are now operating at the site in temporary facilities-the new facility will be able to support as many as 32 agents. Coordination will continue on a daily basis until this project funding is obligated.

It was learned at the bi-weekly coordination meeting today that there is a second FOB being planned for Douglas that is also subject to obligation of funds which expire at the end of this FY. The site is on state of Arizona lands and there do not appear to be any issues with threatened or endangered species.

Update: CBP to Prepare NEPA documents for Maintenance of Tactical Infrastructure Along the Southwest Border. Draft NEPA documents are nearly completed and it is expected they will be released for public comment in August. Prior to their release CBP will conduct coordination calls with field managers the first week of August. This will be followed by a public release of the documents followed by a 30 day comment period and eventual finalization with a FONSI , if appropriate, in October. A letter describing efforts to date and the plan for preparing NEPA documents for “non-waived” tactical infrastructure was sent to land managers and permitting offices. The scope of the analysis also includes “new” construction and routine operational maintenance of constructed projects, e.g., roads and fencing. TIMR contracts for other border maintenance work will be finalized this summer. CBP has identified a list of Project Managers

for TIMR. These managers will work closely with the Public Lands Liaison Agent to identify and address maintenance needs.

Update: Interagency Agreement with Customs and Border Protection. FY 09 and 10 dollars that had been set aside in support of this agreement were lost in the final budget resolution for FY 11. CBP is evaluating other options to support the agreement with end of year funds. Discussions on the amendments to the existing Interagency Agreement are continuing so that when funding becomes available the approved projects in the amendment can be executed. The amendments under consideration would provide justification for as much as 22 million dollars to purchase lands to mitigate for the impacts of waived border infrastructure projects in California (San Diego NWR) and Texas (South Texas Refuge Complex). Borderlands Coordinator Andrew met with FWS to discuss the final mitigation proposal for Texas on July 22nd. The region is reviewing the rationale and will provide comments by August 15. The revision would then be reviewed by CBP and the Project Description Worksheets will be revised. Resolution of the final mitigation justifications is expected in the next month. The IAA will not be revised until funding becomes available.

Update: Integrated Fixed Towers - OTIA (Office of Innovation, Technology and Acquisition) Program Development (formerly known as SBInet. Previously proposed sites on Cabeza Prieta NWR were reviewed with refuge staff the week on July 20th. Work is not expected to occur on Cabeza Prieta for several years – this would be an initial review to include Refuge and endangered species staff. The meeting went well but there is additional discussion planned to see if alternative sites can be selected. Additional meetings in the field are planned for August 15-19 in Cabeza Prieta NWR to review tower sites to be used by the Wellton office of BP.

Update: Northern Border EIS Being Prepared by CBP. CBP has completed its final internal review of the PEIS and the contractor is now revising the document for printing. CBP will be preparing a single document for the entire border. DOI has cooperating agency status for this document. The current schedule is for the release of a draft PEIS to DOI and DOA in late August. Public release would follow shortly thereafter in September. It is hoped a Record of Decision can be signed in the fall of this year. Public meetings will be held in September or October and a 45-60 day comment period is planned. Documents (now 1300 pages without Appendices) will be placed on the DOI Sharepoint site for review.

Update: Environmental and Cultural Stewardship Training Module. Customs and Border Protection, USDA, and DOI Bureaus have developed a two hour, on line, mandatory course to be used to orient CBP personnel to DOI and USDA Forest Service lands and resources. Comments

on the Alpha version of the module were sent to CBP on June 20th. The module is now being reviewed by the BP Union (required review) and a pilot test with 10 Border Patrol Agents will take place in August with full deployment expected in September or October of this year. The objective of this module is to educate and thus reduce unnecessary impacts on natural resources and the environment.

Update: Northern Border Operations/Access and Possible Impacts on Endangered Species. A cooperative effort led by Lincoln County, Montana with partners from Montana Game and Fish, private groups, the Flathead District of the US Forest Service and the U.S. Border Patrol is seeking to provide funds to assess grizzly bear populations in the region. The information is badly needed to provide a better understanding of bear status and facilitate decision making on CBP access to areas occupied by bears.

Update: New Legislation Proposed in House/Senate. On July 8th DAS Thorsen testified before the House Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands on H.R. 1505 which would provide expansive authorities to the Department of Homeland Security with regard to border security. DOI opposed the legislation in testimony. No follow-up questions have been received from the committee but briefing materials will be developed in anticipation of questions and a separate letter to Mr. Gosar will be prepared in response to his question on timeframes required for environmental compliance.

No Change: Work Load and Staffing Needs. Fish and Wildlife Service staff continue to express concerns about keeping pace with the work load associated with environmental compliance needs related to border security. Coordination with Region 2 (Southwest Region) has resulted in the region developing a summary of their needs which will be transmitted to the Borderlands Coordinator for consideration by CBP. This will be discussed at the July 22 meeting in ABQ. Most work is related to Endangered Species Act compliance but NEPA and cultural and historic resource concerns are also significant. These concerns have been expressed to CBP with a request for transfer funding, addition of CBP environmental staff or a clear expression of priority needs for CBP projects.

No Change: Forage Enhancement Plot and Drag Road on Luke Air Force Base. Forage enhancement plots are sometimes used to provide additional food for the endangered Sonoran pronghorn. The region is experiencing a prolonged drought and this program of irrigating a large area provides a supplement to naturally available forage. Illegal activities have resulted in the need for CBP to have access to drag a road in proximity to the FEP. The concern is that regular dragging of this road is disturbing the pronghorn and rendering the FEP ineffective. Discussions

are continuing in an effort to resolve this through relocation of the FEP to a more northerly location away from the Vidrios drag.

No Change: Update of Department of the Interior Borderlands Strategy. The last borderlands strategy dealing with security and environmental issues was completed in 2003. DOI Borderlands Coordinator Jon Andrew has initiated internal scoping for a revised document. Scoping comments will be received until June 3 and a draft document will be prepared and circulated internally for review. A final version of the strategy is expected to move forward in late summer for approval by the Secretary.

No Change: Mitigation Project on Lower Colorado River. BLM and CBP had negotiated an agreement to offset impacts of CBP activities through restoration of riparian habitat. After substantial planning and design work BOR noted that the proposed project was located on a site planned for dredge spoil deposition. BLM and BOR are discussing at the regional level and seeking solutions which will allow the planned project to move forward. The field meeting originally scheduled for early March is now scheduled for May 18. Alternative sites have been identified for mitigation and will be evaluated on this field trip.

No Change: Radio Transformation. Project planning and organizing continue. OCIO has initiated a procurement action for a senior level project manager to develop a detailed project plan, including resource requirements. This will be an approximate 5 month level of effort.

No Change: Gulf Coast Response Staffing. The DOI Level 4 staffing plan has been approved by the Coast Guard.

No Change: Interagency Interoperability. The Interagency Interoperability Oversight Group met on May 26 to discuss a Secretarial level charter and to re-configuration of the group to make it more agile and strategic. Two major sets of initiatives are underway. First is interconnectivity of networks and cross-recognition of credentials. A large interagency conference call took place this week among USDA, FS, and DOI CIO offices, with LESEM, to coordinate and prioritize a number of activities in this area. This work also involves the DOI and USDA Identity, Credential, and Access Management (ICAM) program offices. The second initiative is radio program improvement including interoperability, infrastructure consolidation, and use of new technologies. This initiative is being handled through the DOI Radio Transformation Project in partnership with USDA and Forest Service.

No Change: Civil Applications Committee Coordination. The chair of the CAC (USGS Deputy Director Suzette Kimball) and the Interior CAC representative (Deputy Assistant Secretary – Water and Science) briefed the Deputies Operating Group in March on the mission and purpose of the CAC and solicited bureau input on improving coordination within Interior.

No Change: Interagency Dispatch Improvement. All bureaus/agencies have signed the charter. Plans for a meeting or conference call of the Steering Committee are underway.

No Change: Wildland Fire Accident Investigation Procedures. The protocols and procedures for conducting safety investigations after serious accidents differ between the Interior Department and the Forest Service (and somewhat within Interior) with respect to such issues as the role of law enforcement, sharing of information, and release/use of results. In December 2009 a "summit meeting" of wildland fire, safety, and law enforcement was held to discuss these issues and develop solutions. On January 27 the chair of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group briefed the Deputy Assistant Secretary – Law Enforcement, Security, and Emergency management on the results of their efforts to develop a common approach within the wildland fire community. That work now needs to be discussed with safety and law enforcement program managers to determine how to agree on a common approach to these investigations.

Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES)

New: National Guard Environmental Training. OLES personnel provided environmental training to new National Guard personnel deployed to the southwest border. Training was provided to personnel last year during the initial phases of the operation and due to the extension of the operation, additional personnel have been trained.

New: Annual Counter-Terrorism (CT) Spending Being Collected by the National Counter Terrorism Center (NCTC). OLES, working with NCTC and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, are participating in a US government-wide effort to collect CT spending data for strategic planning purposes.

No Change: IMARS Version 1.0 delivered to Technology Division. The version of IMARS that contains the DOI-specific configuration changes has been delivered to the Technology Division. This new version is called IMARS 1.0. The Technology Division has started installing and testing IMARS 1.0. Following testing by the Technology Division, the IMARS Governance Council will begin testing. The Bureaus anticipate that IMARS 1.0 will increase user acceptance.

No Change: The IMARS Cloud Computing Statement of Work (SOW). The SOW has been drafted and is being reviewed by the CIO's office. It will be forwarded to the Solicitor and the contracting office after the CIO's review is completed.

No Change: OLES Departmental Security and Intelligence Workshop. This workshop provides required in-service training that satisfies part of the required 40 hour annual training for DOI security and law enforcement personnel. The security portion of the workshop will highlight the team effort between the Golden Gate Bridge Authority, National Park Service, United States Park Police, California Highway Patrol, San Francisco Police Department and the U.S. Coast Guard in supporting the security program at one of the Nation's most iconic structures, the Golden Gate Bridge. The intelligence portion of the workshop will focus on topics that have a direct nexus to the Department, with attendees being able to leave with "tools" they can readily use upon returning to their duty stations. A tour will be given of the Northern California Regional Intelligence Center and the Joint Terrorism Task Force. Agendas have been completed, the appropriate contracts are in draft, and logistics are being developed.

No Change: Main Interior Building (MIB) Security. The MIB is currently undergoing the following security upgrades:

- **Electric Bollards:** The A and C ramp bollard installation is complete and the ramps are open. Work has started on the G ramp bollards and is scheduled for completion at the end of July.
- **Exterior Guard Booths:** The A and C ramp guard booths have been installed and are operational. Installation has started on the G ramp guard booths.
- **Physical Access Control System (PACS):** The PACS solicitation has been posted on the GSA schedule and approximately 25 manufactures attended a "walk through" on April 14. The Request for Quotes (RFQ) has been received and is pending a full review.
- **OPM/GSA Campus Initiative:** Internal Security continues to download OPM/GSA personnel files to allow unfettered access for GSA and OPM employees into MIB.
- **Intrusion Detection System (IDS) and Camera Rehabilitation:** Significant progress has been made on the IDS. Work should be completed within the next month.

- **MIB Child Care Center:** OLES Director and DAS briefed on the estimated ($472,095) security upgrade costs associated with this initiative. A talking points paper was submitted for follow-up.
- **MIB Entrance Re-design**: DAS Andrew Jackson commissioned a study to redesign the C and E street entrances into the MIB. OLES has reviewed and commented on this plan. A conceptual drawing (from a security prospective) has been submitted to the GSA for additional review and comments.

Final: OLES Provided Intelligence Community with Comprehensive Intelligence Requirement Listing of Departmental Informational Needs. OLES, in consultation with the members of the DOI Intelligence Advisory Working Group, developed and presented to the Intelligence Community a comprehensive listing of intelligence needs for the Department which will provide the Intelligence Community with a thorough understanding of the Department's broad responsibilities and diverse equities.

Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

Update: Emergency Response Activities. The Interior Operations Center (IOC) monitored the following activities during the past week:

- *Flooding in the Missouri River Basin:* Conditions in the Missouri River Basin continue to improve, with water levels and flow rates slowly receding. The Souris River at Minot, North Dakota remained below flood stage all last week, but high water levels are expected to continue through mid-August. Nine BOR dams continue to be monitored at a heightened alert level. FWS continues to supply two Law Enforcement officers near Dakota Dunes to patrol flooded areas and will be reimbursed for expenses through a FEMA mission assignment. OEPC continues to work on a Natural and Cultural Historic Properties mission assignment from FEMA in Billings, MT.
- *Wyoming receives Major Disaster Declaration for Severe Storms and Flooding*: Wind River Indian Reservation has been designated for assistance. In addition, the Montana major disaster declaration was amended to include the Blackfeet Reservation. The Montana declaration had already designated the Crow, Fort Belknap, Northern Cheyenne, and Rocky Boys Indian Reservations.
- *Crude Oil Spill in the Yellowstone River*: EPA, BLM, BIA and USFWS continue to cleanup and mitigate wildlife impacts from a 42,000 (est.) gallon crude oil spill in the Yellowstone River. Oiled wildlife has been cleaned and released when possible.
- *Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Response*: Fifty-one DOI personnel continued to work full-time on Deepwater Horizon cleanup planning and operations. Last week, heat and high

waves hampered cleanup efforts. Cleanup is expected to continue through November (after hurricane season).

- *Wildfires:* The National Wildfire Preparedness Level is at Level 2. There are currently 3 large wildland fires burning on DOI lands in Georgia, Louisiana, and Alaska. These fires are impacting facilities under the control of FWS and BLM. Currently there are 796 DOI personnel who are actively involved in the interagency wildland firefighting efforts. The Las Conchas Fire in now 85% contained. The Honey Prairie Fire in the Okefenokee NWR in GA is 70% contained.

Update: Exercise Eagle Horizon-2011 (EH-11). OEM will participate in the Interagency After-Action conference for EH-11 on July 26. DOI, NARA and VA have been asked to present short briefings to highlight examples of successful exercise execution at the conference. OEM has begun compiling the action items and lessons learned from the exercise for analysis during the DOI After-Action conference on August 19 at Site C. The after action report will be finalized by September and will provide a framework for EH-12 planning.

Update: National Preparedness Directive / Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8): The issuance of PPD-8 significantly refined the shape of the Nation's preparedness activities related to mitigation, response and recovery from emergencies and disasters. PPD-8 also outlines enhanced capabilities for the prevention and protection against terrorist acts. OEM participated in the PPD-8 National Preparedness teleconference for the Critical Infrastructure Sectors on July 22. OEM has the lead for response, is partnering with OEPC on recovery, and partnering with USGS on mitigation; OLES has the lead for prevention and protection.

Update: Secure Video Teleconference (SVTC). Departmental headquarters maintains SVTC capabilities to coordinate interagency response during continuity events and other emergencies. Equipment now being used is becoming outdated and is not operating reliably. An initiative is underway to identify new solutions to improve reliability and provide 24/7 turnkey support. Two solutions have been identified and a business case is being prepared by each to address costs for the alternative system; it is anticipated that start-up costs will be offset by reducing the manpower now required to keep the system operational.

Update: Multipoint Video Teleconferencing (VTC). OEM and NBC are coordinating the installation of a multipoint VTC capability in the IOC Conference Room. Vendor and technical personnel have been identified and confirmed to begin the implementation on August 1. This capability will provide for internet (IP) and ISDN video teleconferencing in the IOC conference room and at other VTC locations in the Main Interior Building, with no incremental costs for departmental offices using the system

Update: Occupant Emergency Planning (OEP). OEM hosted the first in a series of OEP "brown bag" seminars on July 22 in the in the Rachel Carson Room to update MIB/SIB employees on emergency procedures. Two more sessions are scheduled for August 24 and September 27 to better prepare employees for building related emergencies. The August session will focus on needs of persons with disabilities during building emergencies, and the session in September will address "shelter-in-place" activities.

Update: Indian Affairs Emergency Management Expert Study. Final comments on the draft Indian Affairs Emergency Management Expert Study have been consolidated into the report by the contractor. Review of the final document by OEM will conclude this week. When completed at the end of July, this study will provide analysis of the current status of emergency management within Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Country, and will provide recommendations on how to improve programmatic shortfalls within the Department.

Update: Interagency Emergency Health Policy. LCDR Elaine Wolff, U.S. Public Health Service Officer detailed to OEM, participated in the Emerging Pandemic Threats (EPT) sub-IPC on Monday, and the EPT's zoonotics working group meeting on Friday. In addition, LCDR Wolff also participated in the National Biosurveillance Information Center's (NBIC) weekly teleconference on Wednesday to gain situational awareness of various disease outbreaks NBIC is tracking. The outbreak discussed in length is occurring in Peru and poses no threat or impact to the U.S. at this time.

Update: Corrective Action Program. Input of all new Corrective Action Program (CAP) items and status updates for all open CAP items in the DOI Emergency Management Corrective Actions Management System (CAMS) will continue this week. New items emanate from the Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill, the NLE-11 catastrophic earthquake exercise, interagency exercise Dark Zephyr which explored readiness for an anthrax emergency, and lesson learned which were compiled for the National Security Staff exploring DOI emergency planning shortfalls should the U.S. suffer an event similar to the tsunami and nuclear power plant emergency in Japan.

Update: Enterprise-level Emergency Management Applications. OEM and OCIO continue to make progress on completing the enterprise-level Contact Management System (CMS). OCIO continues to investigate identified issues moving e-mail addresses from CMS and to e-mail address books and refining programming of required reports. OEM will be testing some approaches to temporarily remedy the email address issue with contacts from BOEMRE as OCIO works toward a permanent solution. The CMS project has streamlined the process of

managing lists of DOI emergency personnel thereby ensuring alerts are properly delivered and received during emergency situations, and that rosters, e-mail group lists, and telephone alerts all use a common database.

Update: Upgrade of Viewer for Interior Geospatial Emergency Management System (IGEMS). OEM and our collaborators at USGS will be upgrading the on-line geospatial map viewer for IGEMS. USGS has incorporated enhanced weather widget and is working with vendor to enhance the analysis tool in the viewer. The new viewer will allow end-users to quickly display customized GIS information without requiring additional programming. Enhanced functions include dynamic legends and additional data point analysis

No Change: All-Hazards Positions and Qualifications Guide. On Monday, with concurrence from Assistant Secretary – PMB, OEM issued *Emergency Management Policy Bulletin (EMPB) 2011-1: Department of the Interior All-Hazards Incident Staffing*. The policy, which was coordinated through the Emergency Management Council (EMC), implements recommendations of the Deputies Operating Group to implement a "single-point" ordering system for resources needed in all-hazard emergencies. Under this policy bulletin, the EMC will issue qualification requirements for training and experience of response workers in the *DOI Positions and Qualifications Guide;* tracking of qualifications and dispatch of personnel will be integrated into systems used by the wildland fire program.

No Change: National Recovery Tabletop Exercise (NRTTX): The NRTTX will be conducted September 27 – 29 in the DC area as the final event in NLE-11 recovery series. It will focus on key recovery considerations of a catastrophic earthquake event, utilizing a structured format of plenary and breakout sessions. The NRTTX objectives include: assess overall requirements and limitations of the national recovery effort in the aftermath of a NMSZ catastrophic earthquake; identify potential solutions and/or means to solutions for identified critical recovery issues; and assess the application of the NDRF process to a catastrophic earthquake scenario. OEM will coordinate participation with OEPC, USGS and other bureaus/offices through the Emergency Management Council.

No Change: Continuity of Operations (COOP) Plan Update. OEM has begun the editing process for the FY 2011 update of the DOI COOP Plan. The finalized COOP team configuration will be included in plan, along with new references, updated essential functions, and lessons learned from our COOP exercises. Revision of the plan will be completed prior to the end of the fiscal year.

No Change: National Level Exercise (NLE) 11. The final draft NLE-11 National Response TTX After Action Report has been completed and is under review. A National Recovery Seminar (NRS) will be conducted on Tuesday, July 19 to focus on recovery considerations of a catastrophic earthquake event and develop a summary report of key discussion points.

Office of Wildland Fire Coordination (OWFC)

New: National Fire News. (July 22 at 9 am) The National Preparedness Level is at PL 2 (on a scale from1 to 5). Nationally, wildland fire activity was light (174 new fires). There are currently 4 uncontained large fires with 5,253 interagency personnel assigned. Scattered wet and dry thunderstorms will develop across the southern and south central Rockies and the central Plains. Scattered showers and wet thunderstorms will again form across the Southeast. Chance of some isolated afternoon wet and dry thunderstorms in the northern Rockies and adjacent High Plains. Windy weather is projected for the central and northern High Plains, with continued very hot conditions over the central Plains and the Midwest.

New: Interior Fire Executive Council (IFEC). The IFEC is holding its quarterly meeting this week (July 26-28) in Boise, ID. Topics include the following: Budget & Priorities, Veterans Green Corps., National Wildland Fire Management Cohesive Strategy, Hazardous Fuels Prioritization and Allocation System, Authorization for Home-to-Work Transportation, Boot Policy, Serious Accident Investigation, Risk Assessment, Inter-departmental Collaboration (DOI and Forest Service), IT Portfolio, and DM 112 and 212.

New: Emergency Management Coordination. The National Incident Management System (NIMS) Incident Management Working Group (IMWG) met and worked on updating the NIMS All Hazards Qualification Guide. This guide has been awaiting FEMA publication but is now in need of revision. Revisions will include the addition of the proposed Type 1 and Type 2 Command and General Staff Position Task Books as well as the "Endorsement Process" for specific hazard qualification need. This policy will allow an individual to become qualified in a variety of specific hazards operations. Ratification of the NIMS All Hazards Qualifications Guide will affect the current DOI All Hazard Qualifications Guide.

Update: Hazardous Fuels Reduction: The web-based data collection tool for the Project Priority System (PPS) continues to be successfully populated by the bureau's field units. The cutoff date for final data entry was July 22. However, 22 projects still need to be populated in PPS. Project scores for FY 2012 DOI Hazardous Fuels Reduction (HFR) proposed projects are still expected to be available on approximately August 12.

Once PPS scores are finalized, PPS results will be integrated with the Ecosystem Management Decision Support (EMDS) analysis results to determine an overall project priority. PPS identifies the high priority projects while EMDS helps to identify the high priority places for treatment currently based on Fire Planning Units (FPUs).

Update: National Wildland Fire Management Cohesive Strategy - Phase II. The Cohesive Strategy effort is an all-lands, all-hands approach to addressing wildland fire and reducing risk. Each cohesive strategy region – West, Northeast and Southeast – continues to make progress in developing a qualitative report of the region's values, goals, objectives, and actions and activities. Each region is garnering input and feedback for the reports through field and virtual forums, web-based comment forms, and/or individual interactions with stakeholders and groups. The West Region has completed two field forums and four virtual forums. The West Region also has an active website to collect feedback via comment form. The Southeast Region has completed two combination field and virtual forums and also has a comment form posted to the region's website. The Northeast region has opened a comment period on an initial draft of the qualitative report, a web survey posted, and has four virtual forums planned over the next 3 weeks. Each Regional Assessment and Report will be submitted to the Wildland Fire Executive Council on September 30, 2011. The National Science and Analysis Team (NSAT) continues their work to develop a process and protocol for a quantitative risk trade-off analysis in Phase III. Their proposal will be delivered by September 30, 2011.

Update: Las Conchas Burn Area Emergency Response (July 22, 2011). Approximately 23 percent (28,470 acres) of the fire burned with high severity and 25 percent (39,910 acres) burned with moderate severity. Combined, the high and moderate severity accounted for 48 percent (68,380 acres) of the burned area. Las Conchas Fire Acres Burned by Jurisdiction:

Indian Trust Land: 21,650	**NPS**: Bandelier National Park 20,809	**State:** 1,719
• Jemez Pueblo 4, 771	**USFS**: Santa Fe National Forest 78,904	**Private**: 3,375
• Santa Clara Pueblo 16,611	**DOE**: Las Alamos National Laboratory 133	
• Santo Domingo Pueblo 268	**OFA**: Valles Caldera National Preserve 30,003	

Treatments proposed to minimize values at risk include:

- removing culverts and installing structures to protect culverts or road segments;
- clearing stream channels;
- addressing flooding issues associated with toilets at the Las Conchas Picnic Recreation Area;
- installing hazard warning signs about potential flood and debris flow danger;
- seeding and mulching around the Pajarito Nordic Ski Trails;
- protecting cultural sites with tree removal and mulching;

- installing gates to close the forest within the burn perimeter;
- repairing or replacing the Abrigo repeater on VCNP;
- removing hazard trees and rocks from roads and other treatment areas;
- notifying local government officials about the post-fire flood risk through certified letters;
- removing the recreation bridge on Peralta Creek;
- stabilizing recreation trails in order to minimize erosion from post-fire runoff;
- seeding in two watersheds with considerable amounts of high and moderate burn severity; and
- mulching in high and moderate burn severity within Bland Canyon.

Final: Authorization for Home-to-Work Transportation. A need exists for home-to-work transportation authority for abnormal conditions during the wildland fire season for the purpose of establishing command and control and providing fireline leadership during an emerging incident. OWFC and Bureau Fire Directors are developing a draft Authorization for Use of Government Passenger Carrier(s) for Home-to-Work Transportation of Those Employees Essential for the Safe and Efficient Performance Wildland Fire Response Duties. The recommended authorization guidance will be discussed at the July 26-28 quarterly Interior Fire Executive Council (IFEC) Meeting in Boise.

Final: Wildland Fire Boots. OWFC and Bureau Fire Directors are developing a Department-wide policy covering wildland fire boots. The NWCG Risk Management Committee was tasked to complete documentation addressing the appropriateness of NWCG's boot standard for the wildland fire environment. Deliverables are due to the NWCG Chair on July 25, 2011. This topic is on the quarterly Interior Fire Executive Council (IFEC) agenda which is scheduled for July 26-28 in Boise, ID.

Final: Fire Program Analysis (FPA). The FPA Business Process and Technical Review. The Technical Proposal Evaluation Committee (TPEC) has evaluated the responses against identified selection criteria. Based upon the response to the request for additional information, selection and award of contract is planned for mid-July 2011. An interim report has been requested by the FPA Oversight Group and GAO by August 19, 2011, with the final report completed by November 15, 2011.

Final: LANDFIRE 2010 – Data Contribution Opportunity. The Department of the Interior (DOI), with the USDA Forest Service, is providing data stewards and land management leaders an opportunity to contribute data to the LANDFIRE Program. The date of November 15 has been established as the annual cutoff date for data submissions along with drawing available data from national/regional authoritative data sources. Data submitted after November 15 will be considered in future LANDFIRE update cycles.

The focus for this update is on disturbance and management activities from 2008-2010. These products will bring various map layers up to a 2010 condition, and therefore will be labeled as LANDFIRE 2010 products. Given data gathering, compiling, processing, production timelines, program scope, and funding; it takes LANDFIRE 2 to 3 years to produce an updated data set for the multiple LANDFIRE data layers. The LANDFIRE 2010 update is planned to be delivered in the 2012/2013 time period. More information on this data contribution / data draw opportunity is now available at: http://www.landfire.gov/participate_refdata.php

Final: National Wildland Fire Management Cohesive Strategy - Phase II. The Cohesive Strategy effort is an all-lands, all-hands approach to addressing wildland fire and reducing risk. Each cohesive strategy region – West, Northeast and Southeast – continues to make progress in developing a qualitative report of the region's values, goals, objectives, and actions and activities. Each region is garnering input and feedback for the reports through field and virtual forums, web-based comment forms, and/or individual interactions with stakeholders and groups. The West Region has completed two field forums and has planned two virtual forums for each of the region's six focus areas in July and August. The West Region also has an active website to collect feedback via comment form. The Southeast Region has two field forums planned in July and also has a comment form posted to the region's website. The Northeast region has an initial draft of the qualitative report and plans to have three virtual forums and a web-based comment form in the coming weeks. The National Science and Analysis Team (NSAT) continues their work to develop a process and protocol for a quantitative risk trade-off analysis in Phase III. Their proposal will be delivered by September 30, 2011.

BUDGET, FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND ACQUISITION

Office of Acquisition and Property Management

New: DOI Suspension and Debarment Program – Recent Actions. On July 20, 2011, Notices of Proposed Debarment were issued for the following individuals:

- Dane Paul Henry, based on conviction for weapons theft while an employee of the NPS;
- Angelita Marie Headdress, based on conviction for theft from an Indian Tribal organization;
- Emery Paul Nault, based on conviction for theft from an Indian Tribal organization; and
- Florence A. White Eagle, a former BIA Superintendent of the Fort Peck Agency in Montana, based on conviction of Conspiracy to Convert Proceeds by Federal Employees; Theft and Conversion from an Indian Tribal Organization and aiding and abetting;

Bribery; Concealment of Public Corruption; Public Acts Affecting a Personal Financial Interest; and Misprision of a Felony. The criminal conduct occurred between 2007 and 2008 during the course of employment by the Bureau of Indian Affairs as the Superintendent at the Fort Peck Agency in Poplar, Montana.

On July 20, DOI debarred, for three years each, Evadna M. Running Bear; Paul James Bemer; Shelly Devonne Pipe; Connie Jean Smith; and Dolly Diane Crowe. Debarment is based upon the fact of the conviction of the individuals for their participation in a scheme to steal Indian tribal funds at the Fort Peck Tribal Credit Department in Poplar, Montana.

New: Comments on Draft GAO Report. The DOI Suspension and Debarment Program Manager, acting in the capacity as the Chair, Interagency Suspension and Debarment Committee (ISDC), prepared comments on the Draft GAO Report "Suspension and Debarment: Some Agency Programs Need Greater Attention and Governmentwide Oversight;" and following OMB coordination, submitted them to GAO together with comments received from other ISDC members. The GAO report follows a year-long review of selected FAR debarment programs (which did not include DOI). The comments seek to assist GAO in clearly understanding how the debarment and suspension remedy works and the effect of the remedy.

Office of Budget

No Change: 2013 Budget Formulation. It is likely that OMB will not issue guidance on 2013 budget formulation until August. On July 5, PMB briefed the POG on the 2013 process and strategic issues. The Office of Budget is reviewing bureau and office budget submissions for 2013 budget scenarios and preparing recommendations to leadership.

No Change: Deepwater Horizon Litigation. On May 13, the Department of Justice submitted a letter of demand to BP seeking reimbursement for $694.6 million in Federal Government expenditures on activities beyond those funded through the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (via PRFAs with the U.S. Coast Guard). The portion of those expenditures attributed to DOI ($13.2 million) was provided by bureau financial systems and submitted to DOJ by the Office of Budget. DOJ has since asked for backup documentation on several specific activities included in those costs. POB, in consultation with PFM, is working with bureaus/offices to assemble the necessary materials. The personnel and resources used in this effort will be supported by Supplemental funds set aside for this purpose.

Update: Upcoming Congressional and OMB Travel.

- Week of July 25 – OMB Examiner Tomer Hasson will travel to FWS Region 6 Mountain-Prairie from July 25 to July 30. The trip will cover a number of FWS-related issues, including wolves, sage grouse, wind energy, fisheries, and oil and gas development. POB Analyst Willy Gilmore will accompany him.
- Week of August 8 – Senators Reed and Murkowski of the Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee will visit DOI sites in Alaska, along with Committee staff. Pam Haze, DAS-BFPA, will join the Congressional delegation.
- August 16-19 – OMB Examiner Jodi Barringer, who works on Superfund and Federal Facilities, is planning a visit to the Red Devil Mine Site in Alaska in August. The Red Devil Mine is a BLM site. BLM is working with the Central Hazardous Materials Fund (CHF) on the Red Devil Mine site. Bill Lodder with the CHF program will accompany her.
- August 22-September 2 – OMB Examiner Ben Turpin will travel to Denver, CO, to review Departmental offices there, including the Office of Valuation Services and the Natural Resource Damage Assessment Program's Restoration Support Unit.
- Week of August 22 – A Congressional delegation will be visiting Indian Affairs sites in Oklahoma and South Dakota. The trip will include Congressman Mike Simpson, Congressman Tom Cole, Congresswoman Betty McCollum, and Congressman Maurice Hinchey (all on the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee), as well as Committee staff as they visit tribal and Indian Affairs sites in Oklahoma and South Dakota. Larry Echo Hawk, the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, will join the delegation.

Office of Financial Management

Update: GAO and OIG Entrance Conferences. PFM attended the GAO entrance conference regarding the review of *Programs for Transportation-Disadvantaged Persons* (542187), and the OIG entrance conference regarding the verification review on *Evaluation of DOI's Challenge Cost Share Programs.*

Office of Planning and Performance Management

Update: FY 2010-2011 Priority Performance Goals. Quarterly status reviews for results as of the close of the 3rd quarter FY 2011 are being conducted this week with the Deputy Secretary.

Initial versions of six Priority Goals for FY 2012 and FY 2013 are presently under review by OMB.

Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization

Complete: Minnesota and Nebraska Small Business Workshops. The OSDBU represented the Department at small business workshops with the Procurement Technical Assistance Centers in Brooklyn Park, MN, on July, 13 and Omaha, NE, on July 15. More than 50 small businesses attended each event.

New Item: National Veterans Small Business Conference and Expo. The Department of Veterans Affairs is holding the event from August 15-18 in New Orleans, LA. This is the largest nationwide conference of its kind, and it allows veteran-owned and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses the opportunity to learn, network and market their businesses. The Department plans to attend this event.

New Item: First Puerto Rico Federal Contracting Week and Expo. The Department has the lead for federal agencies in the coordination process pertaining to the first Puerto Rico Federal Contracting Week and Expo to be presented by the Puerto Rico Industrial Development Company Federal Contracting Center. The Expo will be held August 30-September 1 in San Juan, PR.

No Change: New Mexico Outreach Event. The Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture will host a joint small business outreach effort in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The event is scheduled for September 15 and will be held at the Albuquerque Convention Center. Senior officials from both agencies will attend this event that is expected to include over 500 small businesses.

FBMS Program Management Office (PMO)

New: FBMS Deployment 6 Cycle 2 Integration Testing: Integration Testing began on July 11, 2011. Subject matter experts from Departmental Offices, FWS, USGS, BLM, BOEM, and

OSM are participating at sites in Herndon, Virginia and Denver, Colorado. Testing will include business process functions and changes to existing FBMS functionality. Testing is scheduled to be completed on August 19, 2011. User Acceptance Testing is scheduled to begin on August 22, 2011 and be completed on September 9, 2011.

Departmental Offices FBMS Implementation Office (OS IMO)

Update: FBMS Knowledge Transfer. On Friday, July 22 the first Knowledge Transfer Session was held for the Office of the Secretary staff to learn from knowledgeable subject matter experts. This first session focused on Introduction to Funds Management. Subsequent sessions will be held every Friday for the duration of the blueprinting phase which is currently scheduled to end September 15.

No change: Training Workshops. FBMS Training Preparation workshops are scheduled for August 10-11, September 6-7 and September 27. These workshops are designed to prepare FBMS co-trainers and coaches to support the user community after Go-Live. Locations for the August 10-11 training will be at the Stewart L. Udall Main Interior Building and Denver Federal Center.

Update: FBMS D6 Cycle 2 Integration testing – July 11th–August 19th D6 Cycle 2 Integration testing continues and to date the Office of the Secretary (OS) testers have successfully completed 85 out of 235 test cases. Overall, 23 test cases representing 11 functional areas are currently in progress.

OFFICE OF NATURAL RESOURCES REVENUE

Office of Natural Resources Revenue

Report to Congress: Analysis of RSFA Provisions and Adjustments to Royalty Payments (No Change): ONRR prepared a report to Congress as requested in GAO-08-893R, *Mineral*

Revenues: Data Management Problems and Reliance on Self-Reported Data for Compliance Efforts Put MMS Royalty Calculations at Risk. The report examines the six-year time period during which companies may adjust their Federal royalty data without ONRR approval and ONRR's seven-year time period for issuing monetary demands. The report notes that the majority of company adjustments occur within the first three years of the six-year period. The Office of Congressional Liaison is working with OMB on a review of the report's legislative proposals.

Indian Oil Negotiated Rulemaking (No Change): ONRR is forming a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee (Committee) to address the valuation of crude oil produced from Indian leases. ONRR is working with the Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution and the Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to obtain a third party neutral to serve as facilitator for the Committee. The White House liaison approved the nominees for Committee membership. The Department will now publish a Second Notice of Intent in the *Federal Register* to establish the Committee and propose the membership. The notice will provide a 30-day comment period. Additionally, the Secretary will need to sign the charter for filing with Congress. The target date for the first meeting of the Committee is September 2011.

ONRR web pages evaluated in GSA First Friday Program (New): The ONRR Chief of Staff office and the ONRR Information Technology Center Web Team are participating in the GSA First Friday Program on August 5. The MMS web pages will be evaluated in a usability test conducted by GSA subject matter experts, with resulting recommendations for web page improvements. Anticipated to assist ONRR with the test are Ben Turpen from the Office of Management and Budget, Cathy Gramp from the Congressional Budget Office, and Jen Spencer from the Bureau of Land Management.

Strategic Review Update: Continue Successful Collaboration with BOEMRE Implementation Work Group (IWG) (New): The Continue Successful Collaboration with BOEMRE IWG presented their update to the Quality Steering Committee (QSC) on July 14, 2011. The team's milestones were: Ensure ONRR establishes and maintains representation on appropriate governance boards and committees; establish a Points of Contact list; and improve system training with ONRR and BOEMRE systems. The IWG has drafted charters for the Coordination, Offshore Renewable, and Offshore Leasing committees. These were presented to the QSC and will also be presented for comment at the BOEMRE/ONRR Coordination meeting on August 3, 2011.

'CommuniQuest' Video on Pipeline (New): A short video highlighting the recent CommuniQuest Expo and Open House was placed on the Pipeline for viewing by ONRR

employees, particularly field office employees who were not able to attend the event. An e-mail was sent to all employees with the link to the video.

ONRR and BLM Personnel to Visit Blundell Geothermal Power Plant (No Change): Employees from the ONRR Denver office and the BLM Utah office will visit the Blundell Geothermal power plant at Roosevelt Hot Springs, Utah, on August 18, 2011. The project is unusual for geothermal power plants on Federal lands in that PacifiCorp is the lessee, as well as the power plant owner, and the utility to which the geothermally-generated electricity is supplied. ONRR is currently working to issue new valuation guidance for this project. BLM is organizing the field trip and is interested in the new ONRR valuation guidance, which will help them determine what kind of additional metering may be required.

Cooperative Agreement Reviews (Ongoing): Staff from the State and Tribal Support office conducts Cooperative Agreement Reviews to enhance our partnership with the States and Tribes and comply with Section H 10 of the 202/205 Agreements and CFR Title 30, Part 227 (Delegation to States) and Part 228 (Cooperative Agreements with Indian Tribes). On a cyclical basis, ONRR is required to conduct attestations to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the Delegations/Agreements. The main areas reviewed include the audit work done under the Agreement, contract costs incurred under the Agreement, special provisions for safeguarding and maintaining work papers, records developed under the Agreement, and equipment. The Montana review is scheduled for August 16-17, 2011.

Outreach with Individual Indian Mineral Owners (Ongoing): ONRR continues its outreach with individual Indian mineral owners. These meetings enable us to listen to concerns and suggestions for royalty accounting improvement, answer questions, and identify and resolve mineral-related problems in partnership with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Office of the Special Trustee. ONRR's goal is to enhance our trust responsibility and foster a positive working relationship with the Indian community. Outreach sessions will take place at the 80th American Indian Exposition, Anadarko, Oklahoma, and at the Indian Health Clinic, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on August 5, 2011.

OIG - Reports Awaiting Management Response

July 27, 2011

Reports	Report Title	Bureau/ Office	Status	Response Due Date	Contact	Comments	PFM Action/Remarks
Draft C-EV-MOA-0010-2010	Portable Nuclear Gauges	IA, BLM, BOR & USGS	Extension	8/3/2011			
Final C-IS-FWS-0017-2010	Inspection - Status of Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge	FWS		8/22/2011			
Final K-CX-FWS-0002-2011	Costs Claimed by Singleton Enterprises for Modification No. 2 under Contract No. 60181RC004, with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	FWS		9/7/2011			
Final R-GR-FWS-0004-2011	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Grants Awarded to the State of Georgia, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, From July 1, 2008, Through June 30, 2010	FWS		10/6/2011			
Final R-GR-FWS-0005-2011	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Grants Awarded to the State of South Carolina, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, From July 1, 2008, Through June 30, 2010	FWS		9/26/2011			
Final R-GR-FWS-0014-2010	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Grants Awarded to the State of Delaware, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, From July 1, 2008, Through June 30, 2010	FWS		8/29/2011			
Final WR-CX-NPS-0009-2011	Audit of the KGCI, Inc. Settlement Proposal for Termination for Convenience of the Govt under Cont # 1443C2011100224 with the NPS	NPS		9/27/2011			
Final WR-EV-BIA-0001-2011	Advisory- Indian Land Consolidation: Mass Appraisals of Indian Lands	BIA		12/31/2011			
Final WR-EV-OST-0010-2011	Advisory - Indian Land Consolida ion: Need for an Appraisal Tracking System						

Early Alert - Coming up
Due - Due within 10 business days or less of the response due date.
Late - After the response due date.
Extension - Reports hat have been granted a response due date extension.
Completed - Response sent to OIG.

From:	Kemkar, Neal
To:	Neal Kemkar (CEQ) (nkemkar@ceq.eop.gov)
Subject:	FW: Bureau Reports
Date:	Wednesday, November 23, 2011 5:57:44 PM
Attachments:	Bureau Reports 2011.11.23.pdf Department-wide_Reports_awaiting_management_response_as_of_November_18_2011.xlsx

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From: Anderson, James E
Sent: Wednesday, November 23, 2011 5:52:40 PM
To: DOI_Politicals
Subject: Bureau Reports
Auto forwarded by a Rule

Good evening,

Attached are this week's bureau reports. The weekly report schedule will return to normal next week. Thanks to everyone for being flexible these last few weeks.

Have a great Thanksgiving!

Jamey

OIG - Reports Awaiting Management Response

November 18, 2011

Reports	Report Title	Bureau/ Office	Status	Response Due Date	Contact	Comments	PFM Action/Remarks
ER-IS-BIA-0010-2011	U.S. Department of the Interior Program Startup Inspection: Bureau of Indian Affairs Youth Initiative Program	IA	Due	12/14/2011	Patty Vendzules 703-390-6458		
ER-IS-BOR-0012-2011	U.S. Department of the Interior Program Startup Inspection: Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Grant Program	USBR	Due	12/14/2011	Elaine Ferrari 303-445-2788		
ER-IS-OSM-0011-2011	U.S. Department of the Interior Program Startup Inspection: Office of Surface Mining Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative	OSM	Due	12/14/2011	Towanna Thompson 202-208-2726		
Final R-GR-FWS-0004-2011	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Grants Awarded to the State of Georgia, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, From July 1, 2008, Through June 30, 2010	FWS	Complete	11/7/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		Response received by the OIG on 11/17/11.
Draft R-GR-FWS-0007-2011	Maryland Dept of Natural Resources	FWS	Extension	11/21/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0008-2011	Michigan Dept of Natural Resources & Environment	FWS	Extension	11/21/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0009-2011	Hawaii Dept of Land and Natural Resources	FWS	Extension	11/29/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0010-2011	Maine Dept of Marine Resources	FWS	Extension	11/21/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0011-2011	North Dakota Game and Fish	FWS	Complete	11/17/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		Response received by the OIG on 10/31/11.
Draft WR-EV-FWS-0003-2011	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Conservation Easement Monitoring and Enforcement	FWS	Complete	11/14/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		Response submitted to the OIG on 11/15/11.
Final WR-EV-OST-0010-2011	Indian Land Consolidation Advisory: Need for an Appraisal Tracking System	OST		12/31/2011	Ray Joseph 202-208-3947		

Early Alert - Coming up
Due - Due within 10 business days or less of the response due date.
Late - After the response due date.
Extension - Reports that have been granted a response due date extension.
Completed - Response sent to OIG.

Attorney Client Communication – Confidential & Privileged

Office of the Solicitor Weekly Report for the Week of November 28, 2011

Deepwater Horizon Matters

Multi District Litigation

(b) (5)

Renewable Energy Litigation Updates

Upcoming Renewable Energy Decisions (Rice Solar Project – connected action project)

(b) (5)

Defending Other Renewable Energy Projects

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Other Matters

Yellowstone Grizzly Distinct Population Segment

(b) (5)

Yellowstone Snowmobile Litigation

(b) (5)

Polar Bear Special 4(d) Rule

(b) (5)

Sonoran Desert Bald Eagle

(b) (5)

Challenge to the Grand Canyon Withdrawal Final Environmental Impact Statement -- Yount v. Salazar and BLM (D. Ariz.)

(b) (5)

Theodore Roosevelt Conservation P'ship v. Salazar (D.C. Cir.): Pinedale Anticline Project Area

(b) (5)

Native Village of Point Hope v. Salazar (D. Alaska)

(b) (5)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
THREE WEEK OUT REPORT
November 25, 2011

WEEK AHEAD

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area and Middle Delaware National Scenic River (PA/NJ) – Special Use Permit. On November 21, the Susquehanna to Roseland Line Right of Way (ROW) special use permit EIS package was published in the Federal Register; the 60-day public comment period will end January 31, 2012. The associated EPA Notice of Availability is not expected to appear in the Federal Register until December 2. Public meetings on the alternatives are scheduled to be held the week of January 23. The DEIS examines only the portions of the lines crossing the park and trail.

Roger Williams National Memorial (RI) – Special Use Permit. The park received special use permit applications proposing a First Amendment activity from a group calling themselves Occupy Providence. The park could not accommodate their initial request, as camping outside of designated sites or areas is prohibited, and there were no specific dates supplied for the proposed activity. Their second application was approved as it stated the proposed activity would be a "24/7 vigil to support Occupy Wall Street" and did not include any indication of camping and specified dates (November 15-29). The applicant could potentially apply for an unlimited number of sequential permits.

Point Reyes National Seashore (CA) – Extension of Public Comment Period for Draft EIS. Due to the release of the Marine Mammal Commission report regarding harbor seal ecology, the park extended the public comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company Special Use Permit to December 9.

Long Walk National Historic Trail Feasibility Study/Environmental Impact Statement Record of Decision. The NPS has completed the evaluation of the Long Walk for its feasibility and suitability as a National Historic Trail. The study finds that the Long Walk meets the criteria for National Historic Trail designation. However, the Navajo Tribal Council resolved not to support trail designation, and in subsequent consultations, the Nation favored no action on trail designation. The Mescalero Apache Tribe did not provide comments on the draft study to indicate any support for national historic trail designation. Therefore, the NPS respects the Navajo Nation's stated position and recommends a No-Action Alternative. Senator Tom Udall sponsored the passage of the study act in 2002. He is aware of the study's findings and has expressed an interest in seeking further consultation on his part with the Navajo to seek the Nation's support for National Historic Trail designation.

Canyon de Chelly National Monument (AZ) – NAGPRA Process Opposed by Navajo Nation. The initial consultation with Tribes for repatriation of human remains under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) began in June 2011. As all the land within the park is tribal trust land, the Navajo Nation Department of Justice recently sent a letter stating that the human remains are the Navajo Tribe's property, the NPS does not have the

legal authority to undertake the NAGPRA process, and the tribe may take the NPS to court if the park continues with the process. NPS and BIA solicitors have discussed this issue and have determined that the park must complete NAGPRA according to law and regulation. The NPS will be proceeding with the NAGPRA process unless the tribe files a court action.

Mammoth Cave National Park (KY) – Green River Crossing Rehabilitation Project. The Southeast Regional Director has signed the draft FONSI for the Green River Crossing Rehabilitation project. The project outlines improvements to be made to the infrastructure of the Green River Ferry Crossing within the park; however, a funding source has not yet been secured. Local residents supported construction of a bridge across Green River, which is not economically or environmentally feasible. A press release announcing the FONSI will be issued within two weeks.

Minute Man National Historical Park (MA) – Anticipated Appeal of Municipal Zoning Decision. The Town of Lincoln seeks to build a facility on a parcel landlocked by the NPS and the U.S. Air Force at Hanscom AFB; approval is anticipated at an upcoming zoning board meeting. Working with the solicitor's office, DOJ and the USAF JAG, the NPS plans to appeal the zoning approval to preserve park resources and maintain visitor safety.

ON THE HORIZON

Boston African American National Historic Site (MA) – Reopening of African Meeting House. The nation's oldest documented African American church building will reopen to the public on December 6, following a four-year overhaul that received $4 million in ARRA funding through NPS.

North Cascades National Park Complex (WA) – Release of Final Ross Lake National Recreation Area General Management Plan. The Ross Lake NRA GMP will be released on December 11. The key aspects are a name change, designating the portions of the Skagit River under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, converting a portion of potential Wilderness to Wilderness, and addressing seaplane use. The final GMP/EIS does not include expansion of the park's boundaries, a provision supported by some non-profit organization.

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park (AK) – Record of Decision for the Nabesna Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan and Final EIS. The Alaska Regional Director will sign a Record of Decision (ROD) in early December that will approve a management plan for Off-Road Vehicles and trails in the Nabesna District of the park and preserve. The NPS agreed to try to complete the EIS and decision by December 31, 2011, pursuant to a settlement agreement from a 2006 lawsuit by National Parks and Conservation Association, Alaska Center for the Environment, and the Wilderness Society. The ROD provides for improvement of nine trails in order to maintain one alignment and prevent resource impacts associated with degraded trails; permitting of recreational ORV use on improved trails in the National Preserve; continued allowance of subsistence ORV use in both the park and preserve; and a monitoring system that will prevent expansion of impacts associated with unimproved trails. The ROD also includes a proposal to re-classify eligible wilderness, which will result in a net gain of 16,929 acres of eligible

wilderness. The reclassification will result in motorized corridors that were in existence prior to 1986 being classified as ineligible, and a net gain in eligible acres. The Wilderness Eligibility Reclassification requires Director approval.

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park and Rock Creek Park (DC/MD/WV) – Non-motorized Boathouse Facilities. On December 13, a public meeting will be held regarding a feasibility study examining non-motorized boathouse facilities along the Georgetown waterfront in Washington, DC. The study will evaluate the structures and facilities that can be accommodated within this Non-Motorized Boathouse Zone. It will lay the groundwork for future decision-making regarding scenarios for improvement of NPS facilities or potential land exchanges for private development of boathouses, and compliance with NEPA and NHPA to implement the Non-Motorized Boathouse Zone.

WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument (HI) – Pearl Harbor Day 70th Anniversary Commemoration. On December 7, the park will hold its commemoration, the last one with a formal Pearl Harbor Survivors Association role as the organization folds on December 13. Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus, Senator Daniel Inouye, and Governor Abercrombie are scheduled to attend. The remains of a USS Arizona survivor will be interred at an NPS/US Navy ceremony in the afternoon.

Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site (MT) – General Management Plan Meeting. On December 14-15, a workshop will be held in Billings, Montana, to make the preliminary selection of the recommended preferred alternative for the park's GMP. Billings was selected as the site for the meeting to accommodate the needs of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, one of the park's four congressionally directed partners. All four of the park's tribal partners, plus the State of Colorado, and representatives of Kiowa County, are expected to be in attendance at the meeting.

Natchez Trace Parkway (MS/AL/TN) – Governor to Transfer Land to the NPS for Improved Native American Mound Access. The State of Mississippi is preparing to transfer an 86-acre corridor of land to the NPS for improved access to the Emerald Mound Native American Burial/Ceremonial Mound. The 56-acre site is currently managed by the NPS; however, access to the site requires visitors to take a poorly maintained county road. The exact date of the transfer has not been determined.

Joshua Tree National Park (CA) - Western Governors Association Meeting. The Western Governors Association (WGA) will hold its next regular meeting on December 7-8 in the Coachella Valley. The meeting will focus on two primary tracks: the recreation and tourism economy and greater interest and involvement in the outdoors by American youth. The role of national parks and their gateway communities in these two areas will be a specific focus of the meeting. As part of the meeting, the governors will visit the park and take part in a curriculum-based education program offered by park staff.

Week Ahead Report
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
November 21, 2011

Initiation of Public Scoping on Wolf Depredation Management Strategy for Western Oregon and Washington: In mid-December, FWS will issue a Notice of Intent to develop an Environmental Impact Statement for gray wolf management actions relating to wolf depredations on livestock in areas of Oregon and Washington where gray wolves are federally protected under the Endangered Species Act. This is similar in concept to what these states have done to prevent and address chronic depredation situations in the eastern parts of the states, where wolves are part of the recovered Northern Rocky Mountain population that is no longer listed. FWS will invite public input and hold public meetings in both states, probably in January. Controversial.

Proposed Rule to Revise Critical Habitat for the Lost River and Shortnose Suckers: FWS is revising proposed critical habitat for the Lost River sucker and shortnose sucker (fish) in two occupied units in Klamath and Lake Counties, Oregon; and Modoc County, California. Within the Upper Klamath Lake Unit, most of the acreage/miles occur on private lands whereas most of the acreage/miles in the Lost River Basin Unit are on Federal land (primarily FWS and Forest Service). This action is court-driven. The agricultural community is fearful that critical habitat may result in additional regulation and affect the economic viability of their operations. Because of potential controversy in the Klamath Basin, FWS has already begun contacting stakeholder groups and local government officials to explain and clarify the process, what it could mean to them, and the opportunity to comment when the proposed rule is published in the Federal Register. The target for submitting to the Federal Register is November 30, 2011.

Notice of 6-Month Extension of Final Determination and Reopening of Comment Period for the Proposed Listing of the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard as Endangered: The Service will publish in the Federal Register a notice of a 6-month extension of the final determination, and reopening of the comment period for 30 days, for the listing of the dunes sagebrush lizard under the ESA. Since the publication of the proposed rule, there has been substantial disagreement regarding the interpretation of the limited surveys used to determine the lizard's status and trends. This has led to a significant disagreement regarding the current conservation status of the species in New Mexico and Texas. In addition, there was sparse information on the lizard's presence in Texas, leading to substantial disagreement on the accuracy of our analysis of lizard habitat loss in Texas. Therefore, in consideration of the disagreements surrounding the lizard's population status and the loss of lizard habitat throughout the range, we are extending the timeframe for the final determination for up to 6 months in order to solicit information that will help to resolve these issues. This notice must publish in the Federal Register before December 15, 2011, in order to comply with the statutory deadlines of the Act.

FWS Smokey Canyon Superfund Site Report: Senator Barbara Boxer and the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee requested FWS to provide a technical review of the Smokey Canyon Superfund site report. The completed report has been sent to three outside reviewers. The FWS Director's office will be briefed in late November; all the reviewers' comments have been received and analyzed. FWS' report back to the committee is due December 1, 2011. FWS anticipates controversy.

2012 Update to the Federal Falconry Regulations: FWS will publish an update to the federal regulations governing falconry the week of November 21. Beginning January 1, 2012, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Tennessee, Virginia and Wyoming will operate under the revised federal regulations. Falconers in those states will no longer need federal permits to practice falconry. A number of small technical changes for clarification were also made to the regulations.

30-day comment period beginning on Draft Environmental Assessment for the Wildlife Ponds Project at Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Refuge in San Luis Obispo County, California: The FWS Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge Complex has issued a public notice that will appear in Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo (CA) newspapers Nov. 18, 2011, initiating a 30-day public comment period for the Wildlife Ponds Project EA. The EA proposes to create five to nine wildlife ponds occupying approximately 0.6 to 1.0 acres on the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Refuge. The primary purposes of the action are to benefit the federally threatened California red-legged frog, three federally endangered plants, and other wildlife species. This EA is not expected to be controversial.

Nisqually NWR Estuary Restoration award: On December 10 at Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge in Washington, the Coastal America Partnership will present awards to members of the Nisqually Estuary Restoration Team for its work on the largest estuary restoration in the Pacific Northwest. The team of state, federal, tribal, local and NGO representatives worked for more than 15 years to plan, fund and implement the restoration of over 900 acres of tidal habitat in the Nisqually Delta. Not controversial.

FWS concludes consultation on Boy Scout Reserve site: The FWS West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office has finalized the Boy Scout Reserve (Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve) ESA section 7 consultation and Corps of Engineers permitting process. The Scout Reserve is located in Fayette County, West Virginia. The construction crews will begin work on Monday, November 21; the national Boy Scout Jamboree is scheduled to occur on the site from July 15 to 24, 2013.

LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT
November 20 – December 3, 2011

SENIOR OFFICIALS' ACTIVITIES

Week of November 21, 2011
Acting ASLM Burke – In Houston Monday through Wednesday. Celebrating Thanksgiving on Thursday and (b) (6)
DAS Baca – In the office Monday through Wednesday afternoon. Celebrating Thanksgiving on Thursday. (b) (6)
DAS Farquhar – In the office all week, except on Thanksgiving.

Week of November 28, 2011
Acting ASLM Burke –(b) (6) In the office Tuesday through Thursday. On travel to Houston on Friday to participate in the State of the Gulf of Mexico Summit.
DAS Baca – In the office all week.
DAS Farquhar – In the office all week.

HOT TOPICS

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Renewable Energy

- ***Update:*** **RECO Workshop:** *On Nov. 15-17, the BLM held a Renewable Energy Coordination Office (RECO) Workshop in the Washington Office. The RECO Workshop agenda included discussions of renewable energy policies and issues, updates on current initiatives, interagency coordination discussions, and several joint sessions with a National Transmission Project Managers' Workshop also underway in the Washington Office. On Nov. 15, the Secretary met with the RECO leads and Project Managers in a joint session.*

- ***Update:*** **Solar Priority Projects:** *On Nov. 3, the BLM Washington Office received the decision package for the 150-MW Rice Solar project. The DOI Strike Team cleared the ROD package for 150-MW Rice Solar project on Nov. 9. The Department is awaiting State SHPO approval of the cultural resources MOA for the project. The Rice Solar project is a 2011 Priority Project.*

- ***Update:*** **24 Solar Energy Zone:** *The BLM is scheduled to publish an amended withdrawal petition/application for the Solar Energy Zones (SEZs) by Feb. 29, 2012, following the end of the public comment period on the Supplement to the Solar PEIS. The BLM anticipates that the number of SEZs will likely decrease from 24 SEZs (677,000 acres) to 17 SEZs (304,000 acres).*

Fluid Minerals

- ***New:*** **Utah Sale Raises $49.5 Million:** *BLM-UT generated $49.5 million in bonus bids from the sale of 11 parcels covering 8,271 acres in its Nov. 15 oil and gas auction. The BLM offered 13 parcels covering 9,606 acres in total. The high bid per acre was $12,100, and the high bid per parcel was approximately $18.6 million. Six of the parcels sold contain portions of six parcels previously offered in BLM-Utah's December 2008 oil and gas lease sale. In an Oct. 2009 report, the review team concluded that the portions included in the six parcels offered on Nov. 15 could be suitable for leasing and environmentally responsible oil and gas development. The BLM prepared two environmental assessments to evaluate the potential effects of leasing the proposed parcels and to provide opportunities for public input and comment. On Sept. 15, the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance filed a protest on the six parcels. A proposed decision to deny the protest was forwarded to the Utah State Director on Oct. 2, and is awaiting signature.*

- ***New:*** **GAO Review of Hydraulic Fracturing Regulations:** *On Nov. 14, the GAO notified DOI of an inquiry into the BLM's hydraulic fracturing rulemaking. Specifically, GAO will look into the federal and state requirements governing oil and gas development from unconventional reservoirs, as well as the regulatory gaps or challenges federal and state agencies face in overseeing oil and gas development from unconventional reservoirs. The GAO is conducting the inquiry at the request of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the House Committee on Natural Resources.*

Congressional

- ***New: Briefing on BLM Draft Shooting Policy:*** *On Nov. 21, the BLM will brief the staff of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Minority Committee Staff on the BLM's draft policy on shooting sports. The BLM is working with the FACA-chartered Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council to develop guidance to protect long-term access to recreational target shooting. Rep. Jeff Flake (R-AZ) introduced monuments/shooting legislation, which proposes to keep monuments open to shooting unless there's a scientifically demonstrated conflict with public safety, national security, or existing statute. This proposed bill would effectively prevent line managers from making decisions based on local input and resource conflicts that are not specifically addressed by law (i.e., Endangered species or cultural resources issues could prevail but other public land uses like recreationists would not).*

OSM/BLM Consolidation

- ***New:*** **BLM & OSM Consolidation*****:*** *Directors Pizarchik and Abbey have held employee meetings in Denver, CO; Pittsburg, PA; and Alton, IL. On Nov. 21, the Secretary addressed OSM and BLM employees, along with OSM Director Joe Pizarchik and BLM Director Bob Abbey, discussing the consolidation of OSM within BLM. Approximately 100 employees attended the meeting in person, with almost 150 participating via conference call, and many more participating via streaming video. The Secretary's visit was a follow-up to his October 26th employee meeting, when he first discussed the Secretarial Order with OSM and BLM employees. On Nov. 22, the*

bureaus submitted a scoping report to DAS Baca. The outreach efforts will now focus on stakeholder meetings, as well as continued internal dialogue and opportunities on the web for both employees and stakeholders to provide input.

Wild Horses and Burros

- ***New:*** **Tri-State Calico Complex Gather:** *As of Nov. 20, 51 horses were gathered. The BLM-NV Winnemucca District will gather approximately 1,300 wild horses and 140 wild burros, of which as many as 350 wild horses would be released back to the range following the gather. Of the wild horses released back to the range, approximately 85 to 115 mares would receive a 22-month a PZP vaccine treatment. The AML for the HMA is 572 to 952 wild horses and 39 to 65 wild burros.*

- ***Update:*** **Red Desert Gather:** *As of Nov. 21, 899 horses were gathered by the BLM-WY Wind River/Bighorn Basin District. There were two gather-related deaths. The BLM plans to gather 1,140 wild horses from both inside and outside the HMA and remove about 800 horses. The AML for the HMA is 480-724 horses.*

Timber Sales

- ***New:*** **Oregon Timber Sales:** *The BLM-OR Ashland Resource Area is reviewing five timber sales scheduled for Dec. Three of the sales (Rio Rumble, Rio Sag, and Rio Power) are covered by a single EA. These sales total 480 acres and an estimated 2.6 MBF from density management and mistletoe reduction prescription. The MC Thin sale totals 178 acres and approximately 1 MBF. The O'Lickety sale totals 120 acres and approximately 1.3 MBF.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

- **No Change: Next 5-Year OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program (2012-2017):** The Proposed Program was publicly announced on Nov. 8, and was published in the Federal Register on Nov. 10. The NOA of the Draft PEIS was also published in the Federal Register on Nov. 10. Public hearings for the PEIS will be held on Dec. 5 through Dec. 16 in Washington, D.C.; Houston, TX; Mobile, AL; New Orleans, LA; and in the following locations in Alaska: Wainwright, Nuiqsut, Kaktovik, Fairbanks, Anchorage, Kotzebue, Pt. Hope, Pt. Lay, and Barrow.

- ***Update*****: Western Gulf OCS Lease Sale 218:** *The Final Notice of Sale and the NOA of the ROD were published in the Federal Register on Nov. 14. The Lease Sale 218 is scheduled for Dec. 14. The BOEM has agreed to host a delegation from Uganda at the lease sale, as requested by the BSEE Office of International Programs.*

- ***Update:*** **Mid Atlantic Wind:** *The BOEM expects to finalize the EA and FONSI by the end of Nov. On Nov. 14, a revised draft Programmatic Agreement for Section 106 consultations was sent to consulting parties for a 30-day review.*

- ***Update:*** **Atlantic Wind Connect:** *The BOEM has prepared a Request for Competitive Interest for a right-of-way for transmission to support offshore wind in the mid-Atlantic. The Federal Register Notice is in surnaming within BOEM.*

- ***Update:*** **Alaska Chukchi Exploration Plan**: *The BOEM is preparing an EA of the EP. The BOEM now has 30 calendar days to analyze and evaluate the EP. The public comment period for the EA closes on Nov. 26. The comment period on the EP closes on Dec. 7.*

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

- ***Update:*** **Shell Requests Clarification on BSEE Standards for Well Containment System:** *Shell submitted a matrix delineating BSEE and U.S. Coast Guard authorities for its proposed well containment system for its proposed Beaufort and Chukchi Sea exploratory drilling programs. Shell is requesting confirmation of what the regulatory boundaries are and what design standards will apply to the system. On Nov. 17, the Regional Director and staff met with Shell to continue discussions on capping and containment systems, as well as well capping analysis.*

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

- ***New:*** **Senate Energy & Natural Resources Full Committee Hearing:** *Directors Pizarchik and Abbey accompanied the Deputy Secretary to the Senate Committee Hearing at the Nov. 17 hearing on "the Secretary's Order No. 3315 to Consolidate and Establish the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement within the Bureau of Land Management."*

- ***New:*** **BLM & OSM Consolidation:** *Directors Pizarchik and Abbey have held employee meetings in Denver, CO; Pittsburg, PA; and Alton, IL. On Nov. 21, the Secretary, addressed OSM and BLM employees, along with OSM Director Joe Pizarchik and BLM Director Bob Abbey, discussing the consolidation of OSM within BLM. Approximately 100 employees attended the meeting in person, with almost 150 participating via conference call, and many more participating via streaming video. The Secretary's visit was a follow-up to his October 26th employee meeting, when he first discussed the Secretarial Order with OSM and BLM employees. On Nov. 22, the bureaus submitted a scoping report to DAS Baca. The outreach efforts will now focus on stakeholder meetings, as well as continued internal dialogue and opportunities on the web for both employees and stakeholders to provide input.*

- ***New:*** **OIG Review of OSM Reforestation Program:** *On Nov. 10, the OIG issued a report entitled, "U.S. Department of the Interior Program Startup Inspection: Office of Surface Mining Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative Report." In its report the OIG recommended that OSM develop performance measures for its Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative program. The final response is due by Dec. 9.*

WEEK AHEAD – November 20 to December 3, 2011

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Tuesday, November 29:

- **No change: Public Meetings on Coal Lease:** The BLM-UT Kanab Field Office will hold public meetings on the Draft EIS for the Alton Coal Tract Lease by Auction (LBA). The LBA covers Federal coal on 3,581 acres of public and private land near Alton, UT.

Friday, December 2:

- ***New:*** **Taos, NM RMP Issued:** *The BLM-NM will release the proposed Taos RMP and Final EIS for a 30-day comment period. The proposed RMP covers about 595,100 surface acres and 1,517,850 acres of mineral estate.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

Tuesday, November 29:

- ***Update:*** **Visit with House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee Chair:** *Director Beaudreau is scheduled for a courtesy visit with House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee Chair Mike Simpson.*

Wednesday, November 30:

- ***New:*** **Shinnecock Tribal Meeting:** *Director Beaudreau will hold an initial government to government meeting with representatives of the Shinnecock Indian Nation. Discussion topics will include: program initiatives, ascertaining the programs and geographic areas in which the Tribe has interest, establishing tribal designees/points of contact for future consultation meetings, establishing BOEM designees/points of contact for future consultation meetings; and discussion of any other matters of interest or concern the Tribe has that are relevant to BOEM's renewable energy initiatives.*

Thursday, December 1:

- ***New:*** **Visit with House Energy & Mineral Resources Subcommittee Chair:** *Director Beaudreau is scheduled for a courtesy visit with House Energy & Mineral Resources Subcommittee Chair Lamborn.*

- ***New:*** **Visit with Senate Interior Appropriations Committee Chair:** *Director Beaudreau is scheduled for a courtesy visit with Senate Interior Appropriations Chair Reed.*

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

Wednesday, November 30:

- ***No change:*** **Clean Gulf Conference:** BSEE Oil Spill Response Division headquarters and regional staff will be attending the Clean Gulf Conference in San Antonio, TX. The Conference brings together regulators, operators, responders, and other companies working on the oil and chemical spills, maritime security, and marine salvage industry. It promotes the latest products, services, technologies, and best practices as well as reviews the latest trends and developments in the oil spill response industry. Staff will make presentations at the Mega Session and during the State/Federal Update.

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

- ***Update:*** **Stream Protection Rulemaking (SPR):** *The contractor is scheduled to submit completed drafts of the EIS chapter 4 and the RIA by mid-Dec. OSM will conduct Tribal consultations on the rule in Dec. 2011, and will meet with state cooperating agencies in Jan. to provide an update on the rule's development and to solicit state participation in the review process. OSM is on track to publish a proposed rule by Apr. 2012, and a final rule by Dec. 2012.*

WEEKS AHEAD

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Wednesday, December 7:

- **No change: Oil and Gas Lease Sale in Eastern States:** BLM-ES will auction 45 parcels covering 20,949 acres in OH, LA and MS. The protest period closed on Oct. 7. The BLM received 34 protests on five parcels in Ohio's Wayne National Forest. Issues identified in the protests include the impact of drilling on endangered species and the impact of hydraulic fracturing on water resources.

- **No change: National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A) Lease Sale:** BLM-AK will hold an oil and gas lease sale in the NPR-A. A total of 283 tracts (3,060,176 acres) will be offered. Of those tracts being offered, 178 tracts (1,817,186 acres) are located within the Northeast planning area, and 105 tracts (1,242,990 acres) are located within the Northwest planning area. These tracts are being offered on the same day as a State of Alaska oil and gas lease sale, at which the state will be offering both onshore and offshore parcels.

Thursday, December 8:

- ***New:*** **Meeting on Wilderness Activities in Utah:** *BLM-UT St. George Field Manager Jimmy Tyree will meet with the mayors of Hildale and Colorado City, UT to discuss acceptable activities within the Canaan Mountain Wilderness Area. This meeting was requested by the mayors' through the office of Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT).*

Thursday, December 15:

- ***New:*** **Sage-Grouse Meeting Hosted by Nevada Governor:** *The office of Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval and the Nevada Department of Wildlife are tentatively scheduled to host an open house on sage-grouse issues on Dec. 15. The meeting will be open to the public and key stakeholders will be encouraged to attend. The meeting will coincide with the planned publication of the BLM's National Sage-Grouse Planning NOI, as well as the release of the BLM's National Interim Policy and the National Technical Team report. On Nov. 14, the BLM-NV briefed the governor's staff on the greater sage-grouse timeline.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

Early December:

- **No Change: Offshore Renewable Energy Development Workshop**: The BOEM is planning a workshop to provide a forum to exchange information between offshore energy developers, both traditional and renewable, relating to engineering and operations in the ocean environment. The workshop is scheduled for early Dec. and will be held in Washington, D.C.

Thursday December 8:

- ***Update:*** **Wind Offshore Maine:** *The BOEM has scheduled a BOEM/Maine Intergovernmental Task Force meeting in Portland, ME. A primary point of discussion will be the unsolicited request from Statoil for a commercial wind energy lease.*

December 5-16:

- **No Change: 5-Year program:** Public hearings for the Draft PEIS for the Proposed OCS Leasing Program will be held on Dec. 5 through 16 in the following locations: Washington, D.C.; Houston, TX; Mobile, AL, New Orleans, LA, and in the following locations in Alaska: Wainwright, Nuiqsut, Kaktovik, Fairbanks, Anchorage, Kotzebue, Pt. Hope, Pt. Lay, and Barrow.

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

Monday-Wednesday, December 5-7:

- **No Change: Energy Governance and Capacity Initiative (EGCI):** BSEE staff will provide the second technical assistance workshop for the Government of Papua New Guinea (PNG). The workshop entitled, "Regulating Offshore Field Operations through Exploration and Production and Pipeline Management: The U.S. Model" will be held in the capital of Port Moresby. BSEE expects 30 regulatory officials from the Government of PNG to attend the workshop. The EGCI is under the auspices of the Department of State.

Tuesday, December 6:

- ***New*: First Planned Safety and Environmental Management Systems (SEMS) Audit:** *Pacific OCS Region Field Operations has received the first 30-day notification of a planned SEMS Audit for a platform in the Pacific OCS. The audit will be conducted by a company called "Dcor", which will begin its audit on Dec. 6 at its onshore office, and will then move offshore to Platform Gina on Dec. 7. Consistent with applicable SEMS regulations, BSEE staff intends to accompany Dcor to observe and participate in this audit.*

Wednesday-Friday, December 7-9:

- **No Change: Regional Oil Pollution Preparedness, Resp*onse, and Cooperation (OPRC) Seminar:*** *The International Maritime Organization (IMO) is facilitating a Seminar entitled, "Regional OPRC to Focus on Developing National Plans for Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response Related to Offshore Units and Regional Cooperation," Dec. 7-9, in Nassau, Bahamas. The following countries will participate in the OPRC: the Bahamas, Cuba, Jamaica, Mexico, and the United States. The U.S. delegation will include representatives from U.S. Coast Guard, BSEE, DOJ, the Department of State, NOAA, and EPA.*

Wednesday, December 14*:*

- ***No Change: Interagency Coordinating Committee for Oil Pollution Re*search (ICCOPR):** *BSEE Oil Spill Response Division staff will participate in a meeting of the ICCOPR in Washington, D.C. The committee is currently finalizing a revision to its charter, completing a biennial report to Congress on interagency oil spill research, and initiating the development of a new national research priorities list.*

December 2011:

- **No Change: BSEE Inspection of Saipem's Scarabeo 9 Ultra-Deepwater Drilling Rig:** *BSEE personnel from the Gulf of Mexico Region and Headquarters will review Repsol's application for a permit to drill a well offshore Cuba in the FL Straits between Cuba and Key West, FL. Additionally, BSEE staff are planning to perform an initial inspection of the new ultra-deepwater drilling rig Scarabeo 9 owned by Saipem Drilling before drilling begins off the shores of Cuba.*

- ***Update:* BSEE/Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):** *In Early Dec., BSEE staff will meet with EPA to discuss mutual compliance and enforcement programs. This meeting will include determining appropriate points of contact to re-initiate the MOU between BSEE and EPA.*

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

- ***New:*** **Publication of an Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Navajo Mine Significant Permit Revision*****:*** *On Feb. 15,2011, BHP Navajo Coal Company submitted an application for a significant permit revision for the Navajo Mine, located on the Navajo Reservation. This request proposes to expand mining operations to approximately 800 Acres of Area IV North. By Nov. 30, OSM will release the EA and an unsigned FONSI on OSM's Western Region web site for a 30-day public comment period. The Navajo Mine has generated considerable public interest in the past from the Sierra Club, Dine CARE, and San Juan Citizens Alliance.*

Weekly Report
November 22, 2011

Memorandum

To: Meghan Conklin
Associate Deputy Secretary

From: Anne J. Castle
Assistant Secretary for Water and Science

Subject: Weekly Meeting Issues

Senior Officials' Activities Nov 21-Dec 9:
Anne J. Castle - Nov 22 in DC; (b) (6) ; Nov 28–Dec 9 in DC.
John Tubbs - (b) (6) ; Nov 28–Dec 9 in DC.
Lori Caramanian - Nov 21 in DC; Nov 22 in Phoenix, AZ for Glen Canyon AMWG meetings; Nov 23-30 in DC; (b) (6) ; Dec 6-9 in DC.
Tanya Trujillo - Nov 22-23 in DC; (b) (6) Nov 28-Dec 9 in DC.
Marcia McNutt - Nov. 14-22, McMurdo and South Pole Stations, Antarctica, National Science Foundation Official Visitors Program, including the U.S. Antarctic Program and the Antarctic Center at McMurdo Station; (b) (6) .
Mike Connor - Nov. 21-22 in DC; (b) (6)

Reclamation

Reclamation – Shasta Lake Water Resources Investigation, Release of Draft Feasibility Report and Preliminary Draft EIS for Public Review (California)
The Mid-Pacific Region is planning to release the Shasta Enlargement Draft Feasibility Report and Preliminary Draft EIS by November 30 for a 90-day public comment period. These documents discuss the results of the engineering, environmental, economic, and financial studies to date, and will inform interested agencies, organizations, and individuals as Reclamation continues to refine and assess the potential benefits and impacts of alternative plans. A Draft EIS incorporating comments received on the Preliminary Draft EIS and updated water project operations studies will be prepared in the spring/summer of 2012.

Reclamation Phasing Out Private Boat Dock Permits at Vallecito Reservoir (Colorado)
Reclamation is phasing out private boat dock permits at Vallecito Reservoir, near Durango. The permits have an expiration date and do not include terms and conditions for renewal. New permits will not be issued in compliance with 43 C.F.R. 429, *Use of Bureau of Reclamation Land, Facilities, and Waterbodies*. On November 9, Reclamation's Western Colorado Area Office met with Colorado Senators Michael Bennet and Mark Udall as well as Congressman Scott Tipton's staffers in Durango, Colorado, regarding private boat dock permitting at Vallecito Reservoir.

Reclamation to Educate Public Opponents on the Closed Basin Project (Colorado)
The Closed Basin Project provides water to the Rio Grande to be sent to New Mexico as part of Colorado's Rio Grande Compact water. Without the project, local farmers would have to leave that amount of water in the Rio Grande. The project also provides water for wildlife mitigation in the area. Reclamation's Albuquerque Area Office has been dealing with a small group of opponents to the Closed Basin Project in Alamosa, Colorado, that continues to post letters in the local newspaper. The latest letter placed in the *Alamosa Valley Courier* criticizes the project and proposes that a documentary be produced to show the impacts of the project on groundwater levels in the San Luis Valley and the tremendous cost for operation. Last year, staff of the Closed Basin Project took a group of the critics out to tour the project and presented a PowerPoint presentation on some of the facts of the project. However, it is clear that the tour did little to sway their position. The Albuquerque Area Office and its Alamosa Field Division are working on a message to release to show the facts of the project. The Rio Grande Conservancy District has also started responding to some of the letters to the editor.

Film Maker to Visit Reclamation's Brackish Water National Desalination Research Facility in New Mexico
Reclamation's Albuquerque Area Office is working with an Albuquerque film producer and his crew who paid a visit to Reclamation's Brackish Water National Desalination Research Facility in Alamogordo, New Mexico, on November 15. The film crew will be conducting interviews and getting footage of the facility for a documentary being produced for New Mexico State University on the life and achievements of former Senator Pete Domenici, who was an advocate for the facility.

Blackfeet Water Rights Settlement Legislation (Montana)
On November 7, DOI met with the Blackfeet Tribal Council regarding the Blackfeet Tribe-Montana Compact and S. 399, the Blackfeet Water Rights Settlement Act of 2011. Great Plains Regional Director Michael Ryan accompanied Del Laverdure and Dion Killsback, from the office of the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, for a tour of the Blackfeet Reservation and the meeting. The group discussed concerns of the Department regarding the Compact and S. 399, as well as the Blackfeet Tribe's recent proposal to the Department which would significantly modify S. 399. Mr. Laverdure indicated additional work would be needed on the proposal before the Department could move forward. The group agreed to work together on the technical and programmatic parts of the proposal.

Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) Biological Opinion (BiOp) Litigation (Oregon, Montana, Washington, Idaho)
A September 27, 2011, meeting at the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) provided a forum to assure government alignment on the response to Judge Redden's August 2, 2011, Opinion and Order in the long-running FCRPS litigation. The judge found the 2008/2010 FCRPS Biological Opinion (BiOp) to be arbitrary and capricious on the grounds that habitat mitigation measures were not specifically identified beyond 2013, i.e., for the last five years of the ten-year BiOp period, and remanded the BiOp with direction to address specific deficiencies by January 1, 2014. The CEQ meeting addressed pros and cons of appealing the ruling and what the scope of activity would be in conducting the remand. The Action Agencies (the Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Bonneville Power Administration) and

the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration proposed a focused and aggressive approach to addressing the court's issues during the remand. The focused approach includes identification of habitat projects through 2018, improving the reporting of habitat research and monitoring results, and, through discipline, resisting efforts to "start over." On September 30, 2011, the Federal government filed a protective notice of appeal regarding the court's August 2, 2011 ruling. The protective notice preserves the government's option to pursue an appeal at a later date. On the same date, the 2010 FCRPS BiOp annual progress report was released to the public and filed with the court. After receiving an extension of time to comment on the 2010 FCRPS Annual Progress Report, Plaintiffs submitted their comments to the court on October 25, 2011. Plaintiffs' comments were highly critical of the FCRPS BiOp Annual Progress Report, claiming that the report does not allow the public to gage progress and asking for additional involvement of the court. The comments include a request that Judge Redden appoint a settlement judge to mediate the scope of the remand with the Plaintiffs and the Federal defendants, and that a panel of independent scientific experts be appointed to assess implementation of the Reasonable and Prudent Alternative. DOJ plans to file a response by November 16, 2011, opposing both of these requests and has provided the agencies with a draft brief for review by November 14.

Reclamation to Participate in Oregon Water Resources Congress (OWRC) 2011 Annual Conference in Hood River (Oregon)

Commissioner Connor will make the initial presentation to kick-off OWRC's annual conference on November 30. Later during the conference, Pacific Northwest Regional Director Karl Wirkus will participate with Robyn Thorson (Pacific Region Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) and others in a December 1 round table discussion on "Meeting Oregon's Water Needs." OWRC is an association of local governments, water districts, and other entities involved with irrigation in Oregon.

Remand Process for Coordinated Long-term Operation of the CVP and SWP Biological Opinion (California)

Parties to the litigation in the Delta Smelt Consolidated Cases and Consolidated Salmon Cases have been working toward December 2, deadlines to file a written report in each case, stating whether the parties have jointly agreed upon a schedule for completing the remand process to develop revised biological opinions (BOs) and complete National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance. If there is not agreement among all parties to the Delta Smelt Consolidated Cases, then the draft BO must be transmitted to Reclamation no later than December 14, and the timeline for NEPA compliance in the final amended judgment stands. If there is not agreement among the parties to the Consolidated Salmon Cases, then the parties must describe in the report to the Court the issues which the parties agree and the parties' separate positions regarding matters on which they disagree. The parties must also file proposed judgments including a schedule for remand on both ESA and NEPA.

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Proposed Rulemaking on Klamath Dam Removal (Oregon)

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality is proposing a rule stating the policy and procedures DEQ would use to evaluate whether or not the removal of J.C. Boyle Dam on the Klamath River would comply with the Clean Water Act, should a water quality certification for

the project be requested. A water quality certification may be requested if the Secretary of Interior determines that the dam should be removed and a federal license or permit is required. A public hearing will be held on December 6 in Klamath Falls. DEQ is seeking public comments by 6 p.m. on December 15.

Congressional Activities

- December 8: Senate hearing on "Water Security, Opportunities and Challenges Related to Technology." Details TBD.

US Geological Survey

International Energy Agency CO2 Storage Workshop, Paris: USGS energy scientists attended an International Energy Agency (IEA) hosted workshop "Second CO2 Storage Capacity Estimation Seminar: Developing Guidelines" in Paris, France, November 16-17, 2011. The IEA intends to recommend the U.S. Geological Survey's geologic carbon dioxide storage assessment methodology as a global standard. The USGS discussed the methodology and will assist in writing the guidelines for the IEA.

New Study to Determine Presence of Hibernating Bats and White-nosed Syndrome: White-nosed syndrome (WNS), a fungal disease that kills cave-hibernating bats, has spread rapidly from the northeastern United States to the mid-Atlantic region, and there is concern that the disease may soon affect western bat populations. There have been few bat surveys and no winter surveys of National Wildlife Refuges (NWRs) in the Pacific Northwest, so it is unknown if any of the potential 16 bat species are present. USGS wildlife biologist Joan Hagar is leading an assessment of the status of wintering bats at selected NWRs because hibernating bats are particularly susceptible to WNS. Study objectives are to determine whether potential hibernation sites at Little Pend Oreille (WA), Sheldon-Hart Mountain (OR/NV), and Mid-Columbia River (OR/WA) NWRs are occupied by bats in winter and by which species; evidence of WNS or other disease will be documented. Results will assist resource managers and scientists to minimize the threat of WNS.

Modeling Forest Disturbances and Carbon Cycling: USGS scientist, Shuguang Liu, is the lead author for the paper "Simulating the impacts of disturbances on forest carbon cycling in North America: Processes, data, models, and challenges," published on November 8 in the Journal of Geophysical Research. This research on the impacts of forest disturbances on the carbon cycle will help quantify regional and global carbon dynamics. This article finds that significant advances have been made in representation, scaling and characterization of disturbances that should be included in regional modeling efforts; there is a need for better modeling capability to quantify the immediate and long-term impacts of disturbances on various scales; and that there are inadequate databases on disturbances at the continental scale to understand their effects on the carbon balance in North America.

USGS Assists Partners in Siting New Idaho Streamgages: The USGS is assisting public utility Idaho Power Company (and the Idaho Department of Water Resources) in siting new Idaho Power streamgages near its hydroelectric projects along the middle Snake River in southern Idaho. Idaho Power operates other gages along the middle Snake, but both the utility

and the State water resources agency want to improve the availability and accuracy of streamflow information by installing gages nearer to dams. The accuracy of streamflow data along the middle Snake is particularly important when streamflow is near the minimum levels for hydropower operations. Area stakeholders need accurate streamflow data to avoid unnecessary curtailment of water rights. The USGS will continue to work with Idaho Power and the Idaho Department of Water Resources to check quality assurance of any newly-installed gages and on a water balance survey of reservoirs along the middle Snake River.

New York Times Conducts Background Interview on Induced Seismicity: USGS scientist William Leith, Associate Program Coordinator for the Earthquake Hazards Program, was interviewed by Henry Fountain of the New York Times and asked to provide background on induced seismicity. Mr. Fountain was not focused on the Oklahoma earthquake, but had been drawn to the question of earthquakes and fracking by the recent induced quakes in England and the recent report on past quakes near Oklahoma City. Dr. Leith explained that the larger earthquakes are triggered, in some cases, by the wastewater injection activity, not the fracking itself. Mr. Fountain asked if it would be prudent to put sensors in at injection sites. Dr. Leith said yes, for long-term high-volume operations--this has been a persistent recommendation of the USGS. Dr. Leith explained that USGS had only recently reestablished a research project on induced seismicity because of the increase in cases due to enhanced recovery activities. It is unclear if Mr. Fountain will publish any of the interviews as he called on the basis of background information only.

USGS TV Interview with NCSE on National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center: Douglas Beard, Chief of the USGS National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center (NCCWSC), received a TV interview request from the National Council for Science & the Environment to discuss the NCCWSC. The exact date of the interview is still being coordinated; however, it will take place at the 12th National Conference on Science, Policy and the Environment in Washington, D.C., January 18-20, 2012. The Science & the Environment Channel is broadcasting at the event and interviewing several organizations, focusing on how changes to the environment and climate may potentially impact key human requirements such as water, food, health, and energy. The conference will address how government, scientific, academic, business and environmental communities can work together to find solutions to these issues.

NPR/BBC Interview on Sea-Level Projections: USGS scientist Virginia Burkett was interviewed by NPR/BBC during the week of November 13, about the latest projections for sea-level rise. Burkett is a lead author of past and forthcoming IPCC chapters on sea level rise, and is involved in the USGCRP National Climate Assessment. The reporter expressed interest in sea-level projections from Harold Wanless of University of Miami and James Hansen regarding rapid pulses of sea-level rise over the period of decades instead of centuries. Burkett was asked questions about her research as well as whether those projections will be considered in the next IPCC report.

FGDC Launches New Geospatial Website: The Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC), in conjunction with several geospatial partners has released a prototype Geospatial Platform website providing an initial view of the future of user-friendly, integrated, Federal data collections on common geographic maps. Through the website, users can create their own maps

by combining their data with public domain data and can collaborate in public and private groups with others who share their interests. Maps assembled through the Geospatial Platform can be shared with others through web browsers and mobile technologies. All of this is possible without requiring users to install software on their own computers.

Memorandum

To: Chief of Staff

From: Chief of Staff, Indian Affairs

Subject: Indian Affairs Weekly Look Ahead Update

FOCUS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23, 2011

INDIAN AFFAIRS

Education

- BIE is developing individual school profiles and BIE "Fingertip Facts" for use by the political team and others wanting to know more about the BIE.
- The BIE Assessment is underway to determine areas of improvement and organizational realignment and it is having weekly meetings to update and monitor progress.
- BIE hosted a Native Language Institute which hosted 70 teachers and administrators providing professional development to assist in planning and designing Oral Native Standards and Assessments to tribes.
- BIE has been notified that it is being sued over the BIE's authority to make and enforce certain disallowed costs determinations and asking for a new policy regarding administrative expenditures of tribal grant schools. This matter has been referred to the Solicitor's office for legal opinion.

Organizational Improvement

- Administration Assessment: The contract completion date has been extended to December 16, 2011; all draft chapters have been provided to the internal IA team.

Economic Development

Leasing Regulations: On November 28, 2011, the Secretary will hold a press call to announce the proposed rule revising Indian Affairs leasing regulations (25 CR 162) to replace outdated provisions with transparent procedures for obtaining BIA approval of residential, business, and wind and solar resource leases on Indian land. This proposed rule would help facilitate leasing on tribal land by adding certainty to BIA approval timelines, eliminating unnecessary reviews, and provides deference to Tribes by approving leases at whatever amount they negotiate. The proposed rule will be available in the *Federal Register* public inspection website on November 28, 2011; it will appear in the *Federal Register* on November 29, 2011. Tribal consultation sessions will also be announced for the targeted dates: January 10, 2012, Seattle, Washington; January 12, 2012, Palm Springs, California; and January 18, 2012, Rapid City, South Dakota.

Indian Reservation Roads: The BIA and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) jointly provided a briefing to the staff of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on "Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century" or MAP-21. This bill as introduced by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works has significant changes for the largest program in the BIA. It will change the name of the program and the negotiated rulemaking of 2004 between the

Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Transportation and the tribes. The most significant change takes the negotiated formula (required by TEA-21, P.L. 105-178) by tribal governments and changes it from a road data/needs based concept to primarily population from the USHUD-based population data. The briefing by BIA and FHWA strictly identified the differences of what is now in the program and what is being proposed. No formula runs were shared, as they are still being reviewed by both BIA and FHWA. When this information is available, a briefing on its impacts will be provided to Indian Affairs leadership.

Outreach

- Planned Events:

  Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs:
  November 23, 2011, Speech, National American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month to FBI staff, Washington, DC.

  December 6 -7, 2011, quarterly meeting of the Tribal Interior Budget Committee, Washington, DC.

  PEPFAR Tribal Consultations:
  November 29, 2011 , Hilton Crystal City National Airport, Arlington, VA.
  December 7, 2011, US Grant Hotel, San Diego, CA.
  December 9, 2011, National Indian Training Center, Albuquerque, NM.
  December 12, 2011, Billings Hotel and Convention Center, Billings, MT

CONFIDENTIAL

November 23, 2011

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
Attn: James E. Anderson, Special Assistant

From: Ray Joseph, Principal Deputy Special Trustee

Re: Assistant Secretary Report for November 21 to November 25 and November 28 to December 2, 2011

Office of the Special Trustee (OST)
Assistant Secretary Weekly Report
November 23, 2011

Schedule and Activities
Principal Deputy Special Trustee Ray Joseph

- Management meetings in Washington (11/21-23,25, 11/28-12/2)

Review – November 14 to November 18

- **Update:** OST is concerned about the 638 appraisal program managed by the Yakama Nation. There has been (since 2003) and continues to be a backlog of appraisal requests. A BIA-OST team drafted a letter with best practices to be implemented by the tribe to reduce the appraisal request backlog. The letter also suggests that the Nation voluntarily return the program if it cannot implement the best practices and it contains an action plan that describes how the Office of Appraisal Services would handle the Yakama Nation appraisal workload in the event of a retrocession. The letter was forwarded to the BIA Awarding Official on November 17. BIA SOL is reviewing the letter for legal sufficiency prior to the Awarding Official sending it to the Yakama Nation.

- **Update:** The annual audit of the Individual Indian Money and tribal and other trust funds was released November 10. It was published on the OST website.

- **Update:** On November 16, the Fiduciary Trust Officer (FTO) at the Northern Cheyenne Agency conducted financial literacy training for at-risk youth in the Second Season Program. The program is funded through a government grant to redirect youth involved with the Northern Cheyenne Prosecution Office.

- **Update:** The trial for the Jicarilla Apache Nation v. U.S. litigation commenced November 8 and concluded on November 17. The Nation is seeking an accounting and to recover monetary loss and damages related to the U.S. government's breach of its fiduciary duty in allegedly mismanaging the Nation's trust assets and other funds.

- **Update:** FTOs at the Osage Agency and the Tulsa Urban Office presented a fourth financial skills workshop at the Wah Zha Zhi Cultural Center in Pawhuska, Okla., on November 19. The event provided general information regarding financial education and was geared to Osage shareholders who anticipate receiving funds from the tribal

litigation settlement signed October 21. However, the workshop was open to the public and covered sudden wealth, credit and debit, investing, avoiding scams, the psychology of money, probate and estate planning, and whereabouts unknown.

Week Ahead – November 21 to December 2

- **New:** DOI and DOJ hope to make offers to 74 Settlement Proposal to the Obama Administration (SPOA) tribes a few weeks after the third White House Tribal Nations Conference on December 2. In support of the settlement work, the Office of Historical Trust Accounting is updating joint account Expedited Settlement Evaluation Methodology (ESEM) results for 11 tribes, providing trust-land acreage information for nine tribes, and summarizing trust fund ESEM results into judgment and non-judgment account categories. The Office of Appraisal Services is providing market study evaluations for agriculture and grazing in four regions, as requested by SOL. Also, DOJ and SOL are discussing counter-offer ranges for the Otoe-Missouri and Miami tribes.

- **New:** The FTO at the Colville Agency is presenting three financial skills training sessions at Grand Coulee High School's career day, in Grand Coulee, Wash. The training will take place November 23.

- **New:** On November 28, the FTO at the Osage Agency will present a financial skills workshop at the Hominy Cultural Center in Hominy, Okla. Another workshop will be held November 30 at the Grayhorse Community Center in Fairfax, Okla. These events will provide general information regarding financial education and be geared toward Osage shareholders' anticipation of receiving funds from a recent tribal settlement. The workshops will be open to the public and cover such topics as sudden wealth, credit and debt, investing, avoiding scams, the psychology of money, probate and estate planning and whereabouts unknown.

- **Update:** OST's Field Operations schedules outreach events, training seminars and meetings at powwows, schools and other venues. More than 20 activities were held in November.

- **No Change:** The OAS Rocky Mountain Regional Office carried over last fiscal year's appraisal request backlog of 153 for a total pending workload of 479. Both the quantity of requests and a period of time when the region lacked full staffing contributed to the backlog. The Office of Appraisal Services proactively addressed the issue by sending a special backlog team to tackle it. Team members were deployed for two weeks, starting October 24. The team's effect on the workload numbers will be available when the appraisal reviews are completed, around late November.

- **No Change:** OST is finalizing information submitted by other DOI offices and bureaus for the quarterly *Status Report to the Secretary of the Interior from the Principal Deputy Special Trustee for American Indians*. OST's IT Manager and IT staff members visited DOI's Advanced Security Operations Center on November 9 to study IT security risks to be reflected in the report. The final report will be available early in December. The report continues to compile a record of trust activities in lieu of the discontinued Quarterly Report to the Court.

On the Horizon

- **New:** The FTO at the Blackfeet Agency will partner with personnel from the Browning Community Development Corporation to provide financial skills training to Browning High School students. The training will be held December 5-6 in Browning, Mont.

- **Update:** Treasury's Financial Literacy and Education Commission (FLEC) was scheduled to meet with OST personnel on November 18 to discuss OST's culturally sensitive financial skills training. The meeting was postponed. OST is seeking to emulate Treasury's best practices and to determine if an OST-Treasury relationship would result in this audience-specific financial skills training being implemented through other agencies.

- **Update:** BIA and OST are working with USDA to create a central point of access and a uniform loan application to improve the loan process in Indian country. OST is participating on the training and technical assistance subcommittee of the working group.

- **Update:** On October 3, Treasury transferred the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Act funds of $290 million principal and $144 million interest for OST to invest. Pursuant to the Economy Act, Treasury requested that OST invest and manage the transferred principal and an interagency agreement (IAA was signed on October 25. Treasury would have incurred expenses for comparable investment services at a higher rate through the private sector. Treasury and OST are working on six additional IAAs and memoranda of understanding for similar legislative settlement act funds. SOL is currently analyzing the on-off budget nature of the six funds.

- **No Change:** Nemont Utility Co. received a USDA grant to use ARRA funds to install a fiber optic infrastructure across the Crow Reservation, the Ft. Peck Reservation and on intervening private lands. The week of November 7, Nemont's contract appraiser and OST's Review Appraiser in Montana appraised Phase I of the fiber optics rights-of-way on the Crow Reservation. Nemont has provided notice that their board of directors has given restart approval, which contains a go-no/go decision in January as a safety precaution to ensure things are all still moving in the right direction.

- **No Change:** Tribes raised the issue last winter about deposits of successful oil and gas bidders being held in interest bearing accounts while leases await approval. BIA and OST personnel met with members of the Fort Peck Tribe to advance resolution of this issue. To reconcile concerns raised by the tribe, discussions continue among the tribe, SOL, AS-IA and OST regarding draft statutory language.

U N I T E D S T A T E S
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

November 22, 2011

Memorandum

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
c/o James Anderson, Special Assistant

From: Rhea Suh, Assistant Secretary-Policy, Management and Budget

Subject: November 22, 2011, Policy and Other Issues

This provides major policy and other issues that fall under the purview of the Assistant Secretary – PMB.

POLICY

Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC) Meeting: The Invasive Species Advisory Committee convenes their fall 2011 meeting December 6-8 in Washington, DC. This is the first meeting for new members who were appointed earlier this fall. The theme of the meeting is invasive species and commerce with presentations on ballast water discharge and regulation and advanced invasive species detection methods. In addition, there will be a special session on e-commerce activities and the sale of many invasive species or potentially invasive species over the internet. Lori Faeth, DAS for Policy and International Affairs will welcome new members to the ISAC.

Senior Officials Exercise. Larry Broun represented the Department at Senior Officials Exercise 3-11, which addressed intentional contamination of the food chain with massive fatalities in the U.S. The exercise was led by the White House National Security Staff; lead agencies were HHS, USDA, FDA, DOJ/FBI and DHS. The exercise highlighted the need for rapid identification of the source of such contamination and the need for effective information sharing across all agencies and levels of government. While DOI does not have specific responsibilities in this scenario, the exercise reinforced our previous lesson-learned during from H1N1 influenza preparedness that DOI should assure that Tribes and DOI bureaus with responsibilities for public safety on Federal lands are effectively wired into the information-sharing process during health emergencies.

MANAGEMENT

ONRR Receives Clean CFO Audit for Fiscal Year 2011: In a clear demonstration of ONRR's effective processes and controls, and for the first time in its history, ONRR did not receive a single financial CFO audit finding for Fiscal Year 2011. This accomplishment reflects ONRR's commitment to continuous improvement and excellence in all aspects of mineral collection and disbursement. Additionally, ONRR was lauded by the CFO auditor for submitting every 'prepared by client' (PBC) deliverable by or before the due date. Timely PBC submissions are an effective indicator of ONRR's strong internal controls and organization.

BUDGET

2012 Continuing Resolution. The government is operating under the second 2012 continuing resolution PL 112-36, which funds government operations through November 18. The third CR (HR 211) that would continue government operations through December 16 was passed by the House and Senate as part of the 2012 Agriculture, Commerce-Justice-Science and Transportation-HUD spending measure. The measure, which the President is expected to sign on Saturday, passed the House by a vote of 298-121 on Thursday afternoon and the Senate passed the measure on Thursday night by a vote of 70-30.

2012 Appropriations. Current thinking is that the remaining nine appropriations bills will be combined into one omnibus spending package. Efforts to build a second minibus package around the Energy-Water bill (HR 2354) stalled in the Senate. The conference agreement set more generous funding levels for certain food programs than those in the House-passed version of the Agriculture appropriations measure. Also, momentum is building in the House against the passage of 2012 appropriations at the level set by the Deficit Reduction Act. Budget Chairman Paul D. Ryan of Wisconsin and Deficit Committee Co-Chairman Jeb Hensarling of Texas, voted against the first minibus because it contains more spending than the House-backed budget resolution (H Con Res 34).

Collapse of Deficit Committee Negotiations. Leaders of the deficit panel on Monday confirmed what had been expected for nearly two weeks: They could not "make any bipartisan agreement" for cutting the deficit by $1.2 trillion before their Wednesday deadline. Although the co-chairmen and several of the other members of the bipartisan panel expressed hope that "Congress can build on this committee's work," it is unclear how the chambers will be able to address the difficult and polarizing issues that drove the 12-member committee to failure.

The Budget Control Act requires that in the absence of an agreement on deficit reduction, there will be $1.2 trillion in automatic budget cuts, known as sequesters. The first automatic cuts will take effect Jan. 2, 2013, and will fall equally on defense and non-defense accounts, including both discretionary spending and some mandatory, or entitlement, spending. The second sequester will occur a month later, when the president submits his budget for fiscal 2014; the sequester will change the caps on that year's discretionary spending levels and impose across-the-board cuts in mandatory programs. Subsequent sequesters will occur each year with the submission of the president's budget request. Medicaid, Social Security, veterans' spending and programs targeted at low-income Americans will be largely exempt from automatic cuts. Medicare cuts can amount

to no more than 2 percent of the program's outlays, and they will affect only payments to providers, not to beneficiaries.

A new law would be required to change the sequesters. After the Thanksgiving recess, some GOP senators, led by John McCain of Arizona and Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, are expected to offer an amendment to the pending fiscal 2012 defense authorization bill that would lift the sequester on defense dollars. But proposals for eliminating those cuts drew rebukes from the White House. President Obama said in a statement Monday evening that he would veto "any effort" to end sequestration and said there should be "no easy off-ramps" to coming up with the $1.2 billion in deficit reduction. Opponents of undoing the sequester are likely to cite a new statement from credit rating agency Standard & Poors that said the committee's failure to reach a deal would not affect the United States' credit rating because spending will still be reduced under the sequester — but the report also noted that could change if the cuts did not stand.

OTHER

2011 Combined Federal Campaign for the National Capital Area (CFCNCA). As of November 17, Interior is one quarter of the way towards our 2011 CFCNCA campaign goal of $600,000, having raised $149,965, an increase of over $47,000 from November 7. Unlike last year, the CFCNCA is indicating that the campaign will end in just over four weeks on December 15. The table below shows the status of contributions and the goals relative to the December 15 date. It is important to note that last year, most of Interior's contributions came in after December 15.

DOI's Got Brains! weekly trivia competition continued to narrow the field to reach the final four teams to compete on November 30. Here are the results:

- November 9: NPS fell victim to the unbeaten OIG Trust, But Verify team and the BLM Brainy Managers beat out the OSM Surface Miners.
- November 10 – Special Veterans Day game: Air Force's Air Superiority finally overtook the Army/Marines Commandos Team after several rounds.
- November 16: Office of Strategic Employee and Organizational Development Team #2 fell victim to the FWS Wise Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Woodchucks, who then in turn were trounced by the Air Force Air Superiority team. The IA Hanging Around the Fort team was victorious over the BOEM/BSEE Refried Brains team.

Upcoming events include:

- November 30 – **Interior's Got Brains! Final Four games**: Air Force Air Superiority against IA Hanging Around the Fort and OIG Brain Trust, But Verify against BLM Brainy Land Managers. Noon in the Bison Bistro.
- December 8 – **DOI's Got Talent!** at 10 am in the Yates Auditorium. Talent is still being sought for this event.
- December 14 – **CFC Extravaganza!** Final event will feature the DOI's Got Brains! championship, an auction, bake sale, karaoke and announcement of the winner of contest to identify the total donations in the CFC change jug.

IG/GAO Reports. The list of current reports and their status is attached.

Attachments:
PMB Office Reports

cc: Deputy Assistant Secretaries—Policy, Management and Budget

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POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

New: OEPC Alaska Office Coordinates Information on Bering Sea Storm: During the recent Bering Sea Storm, in accordance with the *DOI Disaster Response Plan for Alaska*, the OEPC Alaska Office served as the Alaska-based single-point-of-contact for providing information to Alaska-based DOI Bureau Emergency Contacts on the storm, collecting information on DOI Bureau employees and facilities at risk from storm-related winds and flooding, and communicating appropriate information to the DOI Watch Office. The OEPC Alaska Office also stood ready to help coordinate DOI Bureau assistance that may have been required.

Update: National Response Framework (NRF). Signed by President Obama in March 2011, Presidential Policy Directive (PPD) 8 aims to strengthen the security and resilience of the United States through systematic preparedness for the threats that pose the greatest risk to the security of the Nation, including acts of terrorism, pandemics, and catastrophic natural disasters. As part of this Directive, a multi-agency workgroup has been assembled to review the NRF and revise the Framework as needed. The OEPC is part of this endeavor due to their role as primary agency for Emergency Support Function #11 – Protection of Natural and Cultural Resources and Historic Properties under the NRF. The first workgroup was held November 7. During the workshop, the OEPC representative was successful in advocating for consideration of response activities to tribal lands and insular areas as issues to be addressed in the rewrite of the NRF.

Update: DEEPWATER HORIZON Oil Spill Response. The OEPC headquarters and regional staff continue to provide support to senior DOI officials, and the Gulf Coast Incident Management Team (GCIMT) based in New Orleans. The GCIMT is targeting an end of phase 3 and 4 operations by the end of this hurricane season, and an end to response operations by late November.

- The OEPC continues to work with the DOI Pollution Removal Funding Authorization (PRFA) Cost Documentation Team to review and improve DOI bureaus/offices' reimbursable cost documentation packages and submit them to the US Coast Guard (USCG) National Pollution Fund Center (NPFC). DOI bureaus and offices have received PRFAs totaling $96.8 Million in reimbursable budget authority. So far, DOI has submitted cost documentation packages totaling $51.49 Million and the USCG has processed and reimbursed in full a total of $14.76 Million.

- The U.S. Coast Guard's Federal On Scene Coordinator (FOSC) Report on the DWH Oil Spill Response was recently submitted to the National Response Team (NRT), which was briefed at its last meeting. The FOSC report refrains from strongly scoring key issues encountered in the DWH spill response and avoids making recommendations. Rather, it

provides a Coast Guard narrative of the DWH spill response, with input from DOI and other agencies that participated in the Unified Command.

- The U.S. Coast Guard submitted its draft Commandant Instruction memo for Spills of National Significance (SONS) response management to the NRT for review, with concurrent review by the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. The memo would institutionalize many features of the SONS response structure and functions that were utilized during the DWH oil spill response, and addresses certain recommendations contained in reports issued by the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling; the National Incident Command; the USCG's Deepwater Horizon Incident Specific Preparedness Review (ISPR); and the FOSC Report on the DWH Oil Spill Response. Finalization and implementation of the draft Commandant Instruction memo for SONS response management is anticipated by Jan 1, 2012.

Office of Policy Analysis

New: Convention on Biological Diversity and Invasive Alien Species. The National Invasive Species Council staff attended the 15th meeting of the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (7-11 November, Montreal) to provide input into the development of recommendations on invasive species as related to: the pet trade, live bait and live food; the use of international standards; and future priorities for work. The recommendations will be considered by the CBD's Conference of the Parties in 2012. Presentations on the development of national invasive species strategies and on linkages between invasive species and the Global Island Partnership were delivered at events during the week.

New: Water Research Foundation. The National Invasive Species Council staff will serve on a Professional Advisory Committee together with the Bureau of Reclamation and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection experts to help guide a Water Research Foundation (WRF) funded project concerning microscopic algae that can disrupt potable water storage reservoirs and drinking water treatment facilities.

Update: Arctic. Policy Analysis is leading intercessional work of the Arctic Council EBM Experts Group; in particular an effort to ascertain the science and traditional knowledge needs for pan-Arctic EBM. The Policy Analysis Director worked with Canadian and Norwegian delegates to the Experts Group to identify process and objectives. Policy Analysis worked with representatives from BOEM, IARPC, the Special Advisor for Alaska Affairs, and the Deputy Secretary's office to help plan a workshop on science needs for offshore policy decisions in the Arctic.

Update: Agency Adaptation Working Group. Policy Analysis is participating in the Interagency Adaptation Working Group, which supports the Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force and is cultivating ongoing interagency coordination on adaptation. The Working Group met on November 17 and discussed possible guidance for agency climate change adaptation planning. In support of the DOI Climate Adaptation Working Group, Policy

Analysis provided information and expertise to revise the High Priority Performance Goals for this Departmental priority.

Update: Technology Transfer. Policy Analysis met this week with USGS and BOR subject matter experts and started drafting a Departmental Manual chapter that would deal with, and update, policies and procedures related to technology transfer.

Update: Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act. Policy Analysis participates on the recreation fee working group, which includes representatives of the five agencies (Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and U.S. Forest Service) authorized under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA). On November 15 and 17, the working group held meetings to discuss a communication strategy and a legislative strategy leading up to sunset of FLREA at the end of 2014.

Ongoing: Estimating the Benefits and Costs of DOI's Fire Program. Policy Analysis, the DOI Wildland Fire Coordination Office, and bureau fire program staff held a teleconference on November 22 to discuss the benefit/cost project, identify contacts, and address any questions regarding the approach to the analysis. Policy Analysis is continuing its work to prepare a review of the literature and fire models.

Ongoing: Economic Report. Policy Analysis is continuing to hold meetings with bureaus to discuss various technical issues related to preparation of the FY 2011 Economic Report. Over the coming 2 weeks, the Office will compile data on grants/payments necessary for the economic contribution analysis. On November 22, Policy Analysis, the USGS, and bureaus held a teleconference to discuss the next steps involved in estimating the number of jobs and economic contribution from DOI-related restoration projects.

Ongoing: Klamath Economic Support. The Economics staff is continuing to review preliminary data and results from the non-use survey and provide additional comments on the economic analysis included in the draft Secretarial Decision Overview Report. Some additional preliminary results were provided by the contractor early in the week of November 14, with a final report from the contractor delivered on November 18. Staff also reviewed a number of draft responses to economics related comments that were received on the draft environmental impact statement.

Office of Native Hawaiian Relations

New: Hawaiian Home Lands – The ONHR is meeting with the Chairman for the State of Hawaii Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to discuss ONHR concerns with the potential improper issuance of leases to non-qualified beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act. The ONHR and the Chairman will also discuss a possible hydrogen/micro-grid project for Hawaiian Home lands on the Island of Hawaii. Initial discussions with the Office of Electrical Reliability and Office of Hydrogen, Fuel Cells, and Infrastructure Technologies at the

Department of Energy regarding the hydrogen/micro-grid project are set for the week of November 28.

New: US Fish & Wildlife Service Cultural Orientation – Diversity Training – The ONHR coordinated and co-presented a Cultural Orientation training for 15 Ecological Services, Law Enforcement, and Fisheries staff and 6 Refuges staff, providing the participants with some history about Hawai‘i and Native Hawaiians, an overview of the various laws protecting Native Hawaiian rights and interests and requiring consultation, and tools and practical guidance on working with Native Hawaiian organizations and the community in general. The training was well-received and greatly appreciated, with participants asking for more. The participants also received diversity credit for the training.

Update: US Fish & Wildlife Service Sharpe Law Fellowships – The ONHR assisted the Region 1 office in conducting interviews of law students at the University of Hawai‘i William S. Richardson School of Law for three fellowship positions in the summer of 2012. One position will be with the Pacific Islands Climate Change Cooperative, another is with Ecological Services, and the third is in Virginia with the Office of ESA Litigation. ONHR will be participating as one of the mentors for the student selected to work with Ecological Services.

Office of International Affairs

New: Colorado River Negotiations: On November 15**,** OIA staff hosted a conference call with Jennifer Pitt, Director of Environmental Defense Fund’s (EDF) Colorado River Project, as well as BOR and Solicitor’s office staff to discuss U.S./Mexico cooperation on the Colorado River. BOR and SOL staff provided an update on negotiations of a new minute for comprehensive management of the Colorado River Basin under the 1944 U.S./Mexico Boundary Waters Treaty. EDF expressed appreciation for the Department’s leadership, and encouraged DOI to take a proactive role, in partnership with the conservation community, to explore options for financing water conservation measures needed to restore the Colorado Delta ecosystem, which has been decimated by inadequate environmental flows in recent decades.

New: Briefings and Discussion on USGS international programs: On November 9, the OIA Director and Policy Division met at USGS headquarters with the Acting Director of the USGS International Office and her staff of regional specialists as well as USGS substantive leads for international work on issues such as biodiversity, Earth observations and water. The discussion and briefings were extremely useful for deepening OIA’s understanding of USGS programs and strengthening DOI/USGS relationships to serve and support coordination with those programs, improve communication, and support information needs of DOI management.

New: Field Coordinating Committee: The OIA staff participated on a Field Coordinating Committee (FCC) conference call on November 16 to debrief last week’s meeting in Silver City, NM and to determine how often future meetings should be convened. The Committee decided that subsequent FCC meetings should be held annually (vs. biannually) due to Department-wide cuts in travel budgets. One suggestion was to “piggyback” or dovetail off of an existing

conference/meeting (e.g. the Trilateral Committee in Santa Fe, NM on May 14-18, 2012) and/or add an extra day to the agenda.

New: Indigenous Peoples in Voluntarily Isolation Regional Workshop: The OIA-ITAP will sponsor an international workshop of Indigenous Peoples in Voluntarily Isolation in Bogota, Colombia on November 24-25, 2011. The workshop objective is to open a multi-country dialogue and review (1) the current status of how these countries approach Indigenous Peoples in Voluntarily Isolation and Initial Contact, (2) existing protection policies and (3) legal frameworks and policies among Andean Amazon countries. Government representatives and technical experts from Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia and Brazil will attend. This work is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

New: Assessment of Indigenous Territories in Peru: The OIA-ITAP will conduct an initial assessment of several indigenous territories in the Loreto Region of Peru to evaluate the general threats to these territories (e.g., deforestation, climate change, extractive industries projects) and their impact on the local economy. DOI will also develop a baseline on the knowledge, use of, and threats to medicinal plants in indigenous territories. The data will help the Loreto Regional Government and the indigenous communities define specific activities to protect their territories, traditional knowledge, and use of medicinal plants. This work is funded by the USAID.

New: Natural Resource Management Curriculum Development in Oman: An OIA-ITAP protected areas management specialist will attend a workshop in Oman in preparation for the creation of Oman's National Field Research Centre for Environmental Conservation. The establishment of this research center is an important part of OIA-ITAP's work in Oman. The specialist will also travel to Jordan in order to initiate dialogue between Omani and Jordanian partners to contribute to cooperation on the national ranger training center being developed in Jordan, with support from OIA-ITAP. This work is funded by the Department of State.

Update: Arctic Policy: The OIA staff attended a November 10 interagency meeting chaired by the State Department to discuss access challenges inherent in working in the Russian Arctic. The agenda covered the documentation and logistical hurdles necessary to work in Russia and the merits of various potential solutions (including revamped bilateral agreements, regular interagency lesson sharing, and specific actions for the US embassy in Moscow). As a next step, DOS is collecting more information from particular agencies. USGS and FWS were also in attendance. OIA has shared meeting notes and next steps with BOEM, BSEE and NPS.

Update: Automation of Foreign Travel Approval Process: On December 1, OIA will launch the automated approval process for the DI-1175 foreign travel request form. The new system will increase efficiencies in the approval process and will allow OIA to store and search data on the foreign travel of DOI employees. The system, based on a SharePoint platform, will cover all bureaus except USGS, whose existing system requires additional development time and is expected to be incorporated by March 2012. The OIA will be hosting demonstrations of the new system for interested parties on December 1 and 2.

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YOUTH, PARTNERSHIPS AND SERVICE

New: Office of the Secretary Interns. The OS internship program has completed its recruitment process for the Spring semester and will be making selections in the coming weeks.

Ongoing: MOU between DOI, USDA, U.S. Army Corps and Wilderness Inquiry. Five year Memorandum of Understanding undergoing revisions to renew agreement between DOI (BLM, BOR, NPS, FWS), Forest Service and the Army Corps of Engineers to cooperate on providing increased opportunities for outdoor recreation for people of all abilities, economic circumstances and cultural backgrounds.

Ongoing: MOU between DOI, USDA and HistoriCorps. DOI SOL and USDA attorneys have completed review of a new MOU between DOI (BLM, FWS, NPS), USDA (Forest Service), HistoriCorps, The Corps Network and the Student Conservation Association to cooperate on projects and activities related to preservation of historic structures, sites, artifacts, landscapes, and other resources and to conduct heritage education at the national, regional, and local levels.

Ongoing: OPM Pathways Program Advisory Council. The Office of Youth in the Great Outdoors represents the Department on the Federal Pathways Advisory Council. The Office plays a key role in advising OPM on the history and future of Federal Internships. The Youth Office representative is chairing a subcommittee on implementation guidance for the Pathways Program.

New: Federal Advisory Committee on a 21st Century Conservation Service Corps. The Office of Youth completed a comprehensive website to share, in real time, information on the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps Federal Advisory Committee. The office worked collaboratively with the Office of the Secretary's New Media Office.

New: Federal Advisory Committee on a 21st Century Conservation Service Corps. Lisa Young and Eugenie Bostrom participated in a two day training to become familiar with rules, regulations and workings of Federal Advisory Committees.

Renewed: Veteran/Youth Fire Corps. The Office of Wildland Fire, Youth Office, SOL staff and ASPMB Acquisitions & Property Management are working together to develop guidance to DOI Offices and Bureaus on the use of "multi-bureau cooperative agreements." A pilot agreement focused on Veteran/Youth Fire Corps will be one of the first model agreements to distribute as an example.

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TECHNOLOGY, INFORMATION AND BUSINESS SERVICES

Office of the Chief Information Office

New: IT Shared Services Strategy. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provided its draft Information Technology (IT) Shared Services Strategy document to federal agencies in the Executive Branch for comment. This is in alignment with the "Shared First" concept, presented by the Federal Chief Information Officer (CIO). The strategy calls upon agencies to achieve some key deliverables within one year. Agencies are asked to identify three functional (administrative) areas for migration to a shared service by April 2012, and complete these migrations by December 2012. The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) compiled comments to OMB on the draft document from the Department of the Interior (Department), and Bureau and Office stakeholders. While the Department is supportive of the overall shared strategy concept, concerns were voiced over the practicality of the aggressive timeline set by OMB, as well as need to take a more business-centric approach. The Department recommended that the document be reviewed by other federal governance bodies including financial, acquisition and human resources officers before being issued in final version.

New: Electronic Mail Outage. At approximately 11:50 a.m., on Thursday, November 10, 2011, the Office of the Secretary Exchange Mail System failed due to a server problem. This outage affected both internal and Outlook Web Access users. The operations staff restored service at approximately 12:45 p.m. Some customers lost electronic mail credentials during the outage and needed assistance.

New: Mandatory Compliance with Enterprise Information Technology Solutions Released. The CIO issued a memorandum mandating compliance with enterprise IT solutions. The memorandum was issued in response to several Bureaus and Offices expressing their intention to pursue their own IT product purchases independent of the Department. Several Bureaus and Offices have also indicated their plans to make their own IT standardization decisions rather than participating or leading Department-wide IT product decision-making and policy activities. The memorandum reminds Bureaus and Offices that in order for the IT Transformation to be successful, all organizations within the Department must participate in and adhere to enterprise IT initiatives. This will drive standardization for the overarching IT infrastructure, which will reduce costs and improve performance over time. Bureaus and Offices were reminded that they are not to pursue independent IT infrastructure acquisitions and implementation activities, but must work in collaboration with Department-wide efforts.

Update: IT Transformation Quick Wins. The OCIO announced the completion of four Quick Wins: (1) Collaborative IT Support in the Field, (2) the Interim Unified Messaging Solution, (3) the procurement of an enterprise Mobile Device Management solution to expand the deployment of tablet computers and (4) the migration to an External SharePoint infrastructure that fosters collaboration with DOI partner organizations. The email also announced the next round of Quick Wins for first quarter of fiscal year 2012. These will be completed by December 31, 2011, and include:

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1. Secure web access to Quicktime for all Department employees;
2. The implementation of instant messaging across all Departments;
3. Bureau of Indiana Affairs (BIA) and the Office of Special Trustee for American Indians (OST) activities with the OCIO to streamline the Department IT network for greater interoperability and reduced cost of operations; and
4. The implementation of the recently acquired enterprise Mobile Device Management solution.

Update: IT Workforce Planning. OCIO staff held a joint meeting with SRA, the consultant engaged to lead the IT workforce planning for the IT Transformation and McKinsey Consulting, who is leading the development of the detailed IT Transformation implementation plan. The purpose of the meeting was to coordinate work between the two consultants, eliminate any gaps in deliverables, and ensure a smooth integration between their respective bodies of work.

Update: Enterprise Asset Discovery Initiative (EAD). The EAD project is on track for the November 30, 2011, completion. USGS and BIA preliminary scans are complete. NPS is still seeking approval from its officials to proceed. All participating Bureaus are awaiting the risk acceptance document from the Department's CIO to proceed with more detailed scans of their infrastructure. The risk acceptance document has been submitted to the CIO for signature.

Update: FY11 Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) Report. The metrics for this year's FISMA report to OMB and Congress were distributed by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and validated by the CIO Council. The completed report is was submitted to OMB on November 15, 2011. While the FISMA report identified potential areas to work on for next year, no material weakness were identified by KPMG, our external auditors, or by the OIG.

Office of Valuation Services

New: NACT Meeting. The NACT meeting is scheduled for Thursday, where we will be updating the OVS performance metrics through FY 2011.

Update: OVS Appraiser Positions. We have received the list of eligibles for the GS-13 review appraiser vacancies. The applications are being reviewed this week.

Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution.

New: Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative. CADR is providing process guidance and support for the team staffing Assistant Secretary Rhea Suh on this Open Government initiative.

New: OSM-BLM employee meetings. CADR is providing advice and facilitation services to senior managers holding employee meetings to discuss the possible merging of the OSM and the BLM. Field office meetings were held last week and an a DC meeting will be held next week.

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New: Youth program needs assessment. CADR is assisting in a process for gathering feedback and input on the current and future state of the youth program and office.

Update: FOIA ADR training. The first FOIA ADR training was delivered last week for DOI FOIA practitioners and attorneys. The goal of the conflict resolution training is to improve communication and efficiency in processing FOIA requests and reduce complaints and delays.

Update: National Indian Gaming Commission Tribal Advisory Committee. CADR continues to provide process design and facilitation services for the NIGC's Tribal Advisory Committee. The committee is working on regulatory revisions.

Ongoing: Geospatial Project. CADR is facilitating the coordination between DOI's core team and the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution in support of the joint effort to select a vendor and deliver the phase 1 prototype of a landscape geospatial information tool for use by senior leadership.

Update: Landscape Conservation Cooperatives. To reduce contract costs, CADR is facilitating a meeting of the 21 LCC regional coordinators next week to gather input on the LCC National Council.

National Business Center

New: AMD Assists FEMA in Continuity of Operations Planning for Bering Sea Storm. An AMD employee who has trained extensively in emergency management was lauded for her assistance this past weekend in Alaska. This employee responded to a call for her expertise when western Alaska experienced some of the highest winds and surf on record. Our employee was mission assigned by FEMA to provide aircraft scheduling and support. Her efforts were recognized by the DOI Regional Environmental Officer.

New: **AMD Participates in USGS/OSM Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Operations.** AMD personnel participated in a joint USGS/OSM Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Proof of Concept mission in Charleston, WV. The operation involved operation of the Raven RQ-11A Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) in airspace over the Powelton Mine, Fayette Co, West Virginia. The flights were used to determine the operational effectiveness, cost-benefit and future use of remote sensors to provide assistance with oversight of the West Virginia coal regulatory and abandoned mine land programs designed to ensure that surface coal mining operations are conducted in accordance with the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977.

Update: Financial and Business Management System implementation. The NBC has been and will continue to provide off hours support for FBMS processing for the Fish and Wildlife Service and Office of the Secretary implementations. We have worked with the FBMS Project Management Office to process and complete all catch up files for all Deployed bureaus.

Update: Fiscal Year 2011 financial services year-end close. The NBC successfully completed

the End of the Year close for its financial services customer the Federal Trade Commission, and International Trade Commission.

New: Interior financial services. The Bureau of Indian Affairs contacted the NBC for financial management services. BIA is considering using NBC's Permanent Change of Service (PCS) and Travel Payment services, with work to begin in January 2012. Also, if approved, the NBC will assist BIA with their FBMS implementation in these areas.

New: NBC Administrative Operations and GSA hosted the International Editorial Food Service Council (IEFSC) Briefing and Tour of the Bison Bistro. The facilities management staff provided coordination and logistics for the meeting on November 9th. The DAS-TIBS, representatives from GSA, and Sodexo welcomed the 27 members of the IEFC and briefed them on the vision for the Café, construction, innovative food service contract, health and sustainability in menu offerings and earning the LEED Platinum certification by the Green Building Council. A tour of the facility followed with an emphasis on the composting equipment and program.

New: Administrative Operations Schedules Bureau and Office Administrative Contact Meeting for November 17th. An invitation was sent to DOI Bureaus and Offices administrative contacts on Nov 8th. The purpose of the meeting is to inform contacts of upcoming projects and changes impacting operations and services, reacquaint with contacts to ensure they know who to contact and how to obtain our services, answer questions, and receive feedback on NBC services.

New: LED Lighting Project for the MIB Garages and Cooling Tower Space. The contractor, PFD Mechanical, Inc., completed installing LED lighting in approximately 80% of zones 3-5; this is being pursued as a means for realizing energy efficiency. The work is expected to be completed by mid-November.

Update: Meeting with DOI University to discuss Field Office Locations: DOIU is planning to close the Anchorage training facility and relocate to Sacramento, CA. The facility will be in a building that NBC has a delegated authority lease. Space for staff and training is expected to be approximately 2,000 square feet.

Update: Secretary's Garage Door: Overhead Door Company replaced the detector loop on and the door is now working properly.

Update: SIB organic garden planting and maintenance. NBC Staff is continuing to monitor the recently planted fall garden, and will likely be able to harvest some of the vegetables (lettuces, chard and kale) in as soon as a few weeks. We are working to determine the best use, rather the harvest be donated or featured as a special dish/demonstration in the cafeteria. Our Project Search students continue to work in the garden on a regular basis during this critical growing phase.

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Update: Implementation of the Capital BikeShare program. The Capital Bikeshare membership codes were issued by Administrative Operations staff to approximately 135 DOI employees. We have scheduled the Confident City Cycling class, taught by Washington Area Bicyclist Association, for December 13th in the Yates Auditorium. A LAN message notification of the safe bicycling training will be distributed.

HUMAN CAPITAL AND DIVERSITY

Office of Human Resources

New: electronic Official Personnel Folder (eOPF) Access. The Accountability team has arranged for each of its members to have access to eOPF department-wide, now that eOPF has been rolled out across the entire department. This access will facilitate accountability reviews, but also will allow team members to review files remotely and follow-up on ongoing actions.

New: New Senior Executives, Professionals, and HR Specialists. Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget Rhea Suh welcomed forty Senior Executives, Professionals, and HR Specialists to the FY 2011 Senior Executive Service (SES) / Senior-Level (SL)/ Scientific/Professional (ST) Performance Review Board briefing on November 4, 2011. Speaking on behalf of the Executive Resources Board, she provided guidance to Performance Review Board members on the importance of their role in making recommendations for recognition (performance awards) for those individuals who made significant contributions to organizational performance. Performance Review Boards are expected to finish their work the week of November 21, 2011 which will allow for final recognition decisions to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

Update: Human Capital Management Report – The Human Capital team has started gathering information to be placed into OMB MAX HCMR system. Accountability Program Manager Lin Cord has begun transferring some data in to OMB MAX.

Update: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) Human Capital Accountability Review. The Accountability team is preparing for an upcoming review, to be led by the Office of Human Resources (OHR), of the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM). The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE), and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) are all sending volunteers to participate on the review. The review team leader conducted a telecom with the team to go over logistics and other details. In addition, the review team issued a customer perspective survey to all OSM employees and supervisors. OHR also issued a questionnaire to selecting officials and selectees as part of the delegated examining portion of the review. Advance information is due to OHR no later than close of business November 18, 2011. OHR has arranged for the entire team to have access to OSM's eOPF files. This will greatly facilitate the review process because of the elimination of paper records. The Accountability team will also conduct a survey, using Zoomerang, of all selecting officials and employees selected through the delegated examining process by OSM.

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Update: Upcoming Accountability Reviews. All of the bureaus have submitted their accountability review schedules for FY 2012**.** In addition to the OSM review mentioned above, the Accountability team will be participating in the following reviews scheduled over the next several months:

- Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Region 5, Hadley, MA, date TBD
- National Park Service (NPS), Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, MS, date TBD

Update: USAJOBS 3.0 Teleconference Meetings – The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has requested assistance in having agency OHRs review the current "override" locations to determine if it is of better use than the established geographic location codes.

Update: Pathways Programs – Pathways continues to advance in the effort to refine the draft Implementation Guidance. OPM plans to notify the CHCOs of the Subcommittees' progress sometime in January.

Completed: Presidential Rank Awards. Following an extensive nomination process in the spring and a government-wide competition that occurred over the summer months, on September 30, 2011 the President approved two Rank Awards for DOI Executives. Rowan Gould (FWS) will receive the President's rank of Distinguished Executive, with a monetary award of 35% of his pay, and William Dickinson (NPS) will receive the President's rank of Meritorious Executive, with a monetary award of 20% of his pay. Congratulations may be offered now to these deserving executives, however, no public announcements (such as a Departmental Notice or a Press Release) are permitted until the Office of Personnel Management grants permission.

Office of Civil Rights

New: White House Initiative Office on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (WHI-HBCU). On November 15, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) is participating in a strategic planning meeting with the WHI-HBCU. Attendees include Mr. Robert Stanton, Senior Policy Advisor to the Secretary, and the National Park Service Minority Serving Institutions Office. The focus of the meeting is to review existing and develop new strategies to strengthen DOI partnerships with HBCU students and faculty. The meeting is being held in the Main Interior Building, North Penthouse.

New: Diversity Training Event for HR & EEO Community. On November 16, 2011, OCR, Bureau EEO Officers, and HR Practitioners participated in transgender training in the Main Interior Building in the North Penthouse. The training was conducted by Donna Rose, a world class educator on transgender issues. This training is designed to sensitize HR/EEO Practitioners to transgender issues and to provide technical competency for practitioners to handle transitions or complaints based on gender identity.

New: Federal Interagency Diversity Partnership Inaugural Training Day. On November 17, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights participated in the Federal Interagency Diversity Partnership Inaugural Training Day. This training event, entitled *"Promoting Diversity and Inclusion Throughout the Federal Workforce,"* took place at the U.S. Department of Health and Human

Services, Hubert H. Humphrey Building located in Washington, D.C. The training brought together Diversity, EEO, and HR practitioners from Federal agencies to learn best practices and address emerging issues in the areas of Diversity and Inclusion. The keynote speakers and workshop facilitators were senior officials from Federal agencies, including the Office of Personnel Management, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and the Office of Management and Budget.

New: Harpers Ferry Compliance Review. On November 22, 2011 Public Civil Rights Division Chief Sloan Farrell and Senior Equal Opportunity Specialist David Quirino will participate in the first "Feasibility Study" for potential accessibility upgrades to the Goodloe E. Byron Bridge and Spiral Staircase at the Jackson House located at Harper's Ferry Historical National Park (HNP), West Virginia.

New: Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's (EEOC) Office of Federal Operations (OFO) meeting. This week, OCR Director Sharon D. Eller and DOI's Chief Diversity Officer (CDO) John Burden met with EEOC's OFO to begin discussions around building a curriculum for the EEO professional community that addresses diversity and affirmative employment competencies. Their objectives are to improve the affirmative employment programs' capability to instantly connect their managers and supervisors to diverse candidate pools, particularly college graduates in the fields of study in the categories of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), and the Hispanic/Latino community.

Maintaining a citizenry that is well versed in the STEM fields is a key portion of the public education agenda in the United States. The end result of building this course will be a two day training class taught by EEOC, and the CDO to further develop skills in affirmative employment and outreach to minority communities. They also want to teach their EEO professionals how to leverage the active leadership engagement and accountability that the Diversity Change Agent Program has generated. The program will be piloted with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in February 2012.

Update: National American Indian Heritage Month. The Department of the Interior joins the Nation in observing National American Indian Heritage Month, November 1- 30, 2011. The theme for the observance is *"Service, Honor, Respect: Strengthening Our Cultures and Communities."* Since 1976, Presidents of the United States have proclaimed a day, week or month of recognition for Native Americans. During National American Indian Heritage Month, Interior celebrates the rich cultural traditions and proud ancestry of American Indians and Alaskan Natives and recognizes the vital contributions these groups have made to the strength and diversity of our society. In observance of American Indian Heritage Month, Indian Affairs is sponsoring a program on Tuesday, November 29, 2011 in the Sidney Yates Auditorium, Main Interior Building.

Completed: Public Civil Rights Coordinators Meeting. On November 17, 2011, new Public Civil Rights Division Chief Sloan W. Farrell presided over the Public Civil Rights Coordinators meeting held at the Main Interior Building. Sloan, who joined OCR from the General Services Administration (GSA), was introduced to the group by OCR Director Sharon D. Eller. He

discussed his philosophy and explained the importance of compliance reviews. In addition, it gave the group an opportunity to share best practices and where there is need for improvement. The agenda also included the Age Reports which needs to be submitted to the Department of Justice by December 1, 2011. This is a report that deals with age discrimination in Federally-assisted programs, services, or activities.

Completed: Federal Interagency Diversity Partnership Inaugural Training Day. On November 17, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights attended the Federal Interagency Diversity Partnership Inaugural Training Day. This training event, entitled *"Promoting Diversity and Inclusion throughout the Federal Workforce,"* took place at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Hubert H. Humphrey Building in Southwest, Washington, D.C. The event brought Diversity, EEO, and HR practitioners together from various Federal agencies to learn best practices, and address emerging issues in the areas of Diversity and Inclusion. The keynote speakers and workshop facilitators were senior officials from Federal agencies, including the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Office of Strategic Employee and Organizational Development

New: Chief Learning Officers (CLO) Council Meeting: This week, the Office of Strategic Employee Organization Development (OSEOD) Director Sandy Wells attended a CLO meeting at OPM's Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, VA. The group is discussing learning and development initiatives that support cost and operational efficiencies across the federal landscape.

New: Organizational Initiatives: OSEOD has made temporary organizational changes due to a crisis situation at the National Indian Program Training Center (NIPTC) in Albuquerque, NM. We have convened a NIPTC Recovery Team lead by DOIU President Lynn McPheeters to conduct a partial Reduction in Force (RIF) at NIPTC, develop a business plan for future training to be provided by NIPTC, and ensure the stability of NIPTC space issues.

Office of Occupational Safety and Health

New: Industrial Hygiene Workgroup: The Industrial hygiene Workgroup met to review the Departmental Manual (DM) Chapter 21 on Radiation, the National Radon Action Plan, the HPS Welfit earplug testing device provided by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health and the fiscal year (FY) 2012 Exposure Assessment Initiative.

Completed: Safety and Health Council Meeting: The Safety and Health Council met in Herndon on November 17-18, 2011. The agenda included the bureau action plan chapter, the Safety Management Information System (SMIS) progress, radiation safety, and safety week activities for 2012. The council decided to hold two three day meetings in FY 2012 instead of four two day meetings because three of the bureaus have very tight travel budgets. The council

members also toured the National Park Service's Manassas Battlefield Park located in Manassas, VA.

LAW ENFORCEMENT, SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Immediate Office of the DAS

No Change: Short-term Access to Government Computers for Emergency Response. Fire program representatives from Interior and Forest Service hosted a meeting at the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise on October 27-28 for DOI and USDA IT security staffs to see first-hand the set of use cases and business requirements that wildland fire has. The group toured parts of the Fire Center and the next door Boise Interagency Dispatch Center. The meeting was highly successful, with all attendees gaining a greater appreciation of the business requirements and security requirements. As a result of the meeting a formal presentation of the business issues and proposed compensating controls is being developed. This will be presented to the Chief Information Officers in Interior and Agriculture by the end of the year for their approval.

No Change: Radio Transformation. The senior steering group met on November 1 to review the project planner's draft scope and project outline documents. Feedback was given by the group and new drafts will be prepared.

No Change: Fire IT Project. The Roadmap Team met in Boise the week of October 24 to continue development of the strategic goals and objectives and to identify associated action steps. Next meeting is the week of November 28.

No Change: Gulf Coast Response Staffing. The DOI Incident Commander in New Orleans briefed the Senior Advisor in OLESEM and the NPS/FWS regional offices on Coast Guard planning for "Stage 5" organization and the associated Interior staffing that will be required. Interior presence at the incident command in New Orleans is expected to continue through early 2012.

No Change: Interagency Interoperability. The Service First Leadership Team was briefed on the Interagency Interoperability Oversight Group and the current status of addressing barriers to interconnection between agencies (for such things as computer sign-on, video teleconferencing, and connection to other agency peripheral devices). Solutions to these problems require both technical changes and changes in agency policies. The Service First Leadership Team expressed a strong desire for interconnection to enable interagency work to take place more efficiently. A detailed report on status and required resources/actions will be delivered to the Team within 30 days in order for them to assist with resolving the issues.

No Change: Use of National Technical Means (NTM) in Support of Wildland Fire. On August 10 an interagency meeting of representatives from wildland fire, geospatial programs, and the intelligence community took place to discuss opportunities to better utilize information from national technical means assets of the intelligence community in support of various aspects

of the wildland fire program. An interagency governance group to identify requirements and opportunities and to coordinate better delivery of services will be created.

No Change: Civil Applications Committee Coordination. The chair of the CAC (USGS Deputy Director Suzette Kimball) and the Interior CAC representative (Deputy Assistant Secretary – Water and Science) briefed the Deputies Operating Group in March on the mission and purpose of the CAC and solicited bureau input on improving coordination within Interior.

No Change: Interagency Dispatch Improvement. All bureaus/agencies have signed the charter. Plans for a meeting or conference call of the Steering Committee are underway

Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES)

New: OLES is Participating in an Arctic-Issues Meeting. OLES, in collaboration with the Office of International Affairs, it is participating in a State Department-sponsored meeting with Dr. Lawson W. Brigham—one of the foremost experts on Arctic issues—to discuss Arctic-related issues of interest to the U.S. Government.

New: OLES is Coordinating Interagency Threat Analysis. In response to OLES' efforts to educate interagency partners on the intelligence needs of the Department of the Interior, OLES has fielded initial inquiries from both the Department of Homeland Security's Intelligence and Analysis Directorate and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's National Maritime Intelligence Center offering to support the intelligence requirements pertaining to the DOI's land and maritime borders. OLES will schedule meetings to scope the level of support and identify the appropriate representatives to participate in this process.

Update: The OLES is Collaborating with Interagency USG Partners - OLES continues to reach out to its interagency partners to explore shared resourcing and leveraging best practices to achieve cost-effective solutions to its counterintelligence and insider threat programs.

Update: Main Interior Ramps/Bollards. Ramp D is currently closed for the installation of the new bollard system and all deliveries are currently being re-routed to Ramp G.

Update: Updated Security Equipment. OLES purchased and received seven (7) new magnetometers (walk through metal detectors) for MIB and SIB. The new magnetometers are in the process of replacing the current outdated systems located in the lobbies and mailroom. In addition, the Physical Access Control System (PACS) contract will be awarded once FBMS is out of blackout.

No Change: Interagency Security Committee (ISC) Prohibited Items Working Group. OLE, Security Division, is participating in an interagency committee addressing prohibited items in Federal facilities. The Prohibited Items Working Group is chartered to:

- Develop Interagency Department standards prohibiting specific items for entry into all Federal facilities.

- Provide a forum for the ISC to identify by a consensus a list of all prohibited items and an explanation as to why those items are prohibited.
- Develop a process for denying prohibited items into Federal facilities once a list has been agreed upon.
- Obtain a consensus from the Federal community for the standards and/or best practices for the denial process.

No change: The IMARS Cloud Computing Solicitation Issued. The IMARS contracting officer issued the solicitation for IMARS Cloud Computing on October 21. Proposals are due by November 18. The Cloud Computing Initiative is required by the 25 Point Implementation Plan to Reform Federal IT released by the Federal Chief Information Officer from the Office of Management and Budget.

Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

New: Domestic Resilience Group (DRG) Interagency Policy Committee. On November 21, department and agency representatives at the DRG will be asked to concur on a new National Preparedness System Description, a milestone in the implementation of the Presidential Policy Directive 8 on National Preparedness. The DRG will also be briefed on Presidential Policy Directive 7 on Critical Infrastructure, the National Security Professional Development Emergency Management Pilot program, and results of Senior Officials Exercise 3-11 (see item above). Larry Broun will attend.

New: American Council for Technology/Industry Advisory Council. On November 10, Larry Broun participated in a panel discussion at the human capital shared interest group of the American Council for Technology/Industry Advisory Council. ACT/IAC is a non-profit, public-private partnership dedicated to improving government through the application of information technology. The topic involved emergency management activities during the recent earthquake in the Washington, DC, area and methods used by emergency managers to rapidly provide guidance to employees and the public in such situations.

Update: Emergency Response Activities. The Interior Operations Center (IOC) monitored the following activities during the past week:

- *Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Response:* Sixty-six DOI personnel continued to work full-time on Deepwater Horizon cleanup planning and operations. Response activities continue to move forward as the operations transition to USCG Region VIII management, which is described as 90% complete.
- *Dengue Fever Outbreak:* Outbreaks of Dengue Fever have been reported in the Republic of the Marshall Islands and on Yap in the Federated States of Micronesia. Two deaths have been associated with this outbreak on Yap. The CDC, World Health Organization and local health authorities are working to contain these outbreaks.
- *Bering Sea Storm:* On November 8, western Alaska was hit with a huge coastal storm that brought hurricane-force winds, coastal storm surge and blizzard conditions. The storm caused flooding and wind damage to some coastal communities as storm conditions persisted

for more than 24 hours. No significant damage was reported to DOI facilities and no injuries of DOI personnel were reported.

- *Kilauea and Volcano:* Kilauea Volcano remains at Alert Level "Watch," Aviation Color Code "Orange."
- *Wildland Fire Issues:* Nationally, the Wildland Fire Preparedness Level is 1 with light Initial Fire Attack activity. The number of DOI personnel participating on Interagency Firefighting teams averaged around 165 persons daily last week.
- *Earthquake activity:* Aftershock activity continues in Oklahoma from the Magnitude 5.6 earthquake that occurred on November 5. The previous record for the largest Oklahoma quake was a magnitude 5.5 that occurred near El Reno on April 9, 1952.

Update: Indian Affairs Emergency Management Expert Study. The Director of OEM and Bureau of Indian Affairs Chief of Staff will meet again on November 17 to discuss progress on action items identified by the Expert Study. OEM has provided comments on the draft Indian Affairs Policy Manual chapter developed for the Indian Affairs Emergency Management Program. The manual defines the purpose, scope, responsibility and organizations structures needed for the program when responsibility shifts from ASIA to BIA.

Update: Continuity of Operations (COOP) Plan Update. Coordination of the 2011 DOI COOP Plan with bureaus and offices was completed this week. The COOP Plan is now being submitted to the Assistant Secretary – Policy, Management and Budget approval. The new plan contains revisions based on new interagency requirements, lessons learned from exercises, and suggestions from bureau and office team members who have deployed to work from Site C throughout the past year.

Update: Exercise Eagle Horizon-2011 (EH-11). OEM will host a "Concepts and Objectives" meeting for the National Level Exercise (NLE) 2012 on November 15 in the IOC. Bureaus and offices representatives will discuss DOI participation in NLE 2012 events and draft department-level objectives. NLE 2012 will consist of four distinct exercises taking place March-June. The theme tying all of the exercises together is cyber security and response to cyber attack. Eagle Horizon 2012 will be the final exercise in the series, and will focus on COOP operations following cyber and possibly other attacks.

Update: Interagency Emergency Health Policy. LCDR Elaine Bond is currently participating in daily conference calls led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) related to the dengue fever outbreak on the Marshall Islands. LCDR Bond will also be participating in the National Infrastructure Protection Plan's Health/Medical sector quarterly meeting.

Update: Occupant Emergency Planning (OEP). OEM has begun planning for Shelter-in-Place emergency drills in MIB and SIB. OEP Planner Dave Vanderweele OEM is also supporting OLES and OHR on a presentation to MIB and SIB employees on Violence in the Workplace. The NBC Modernization team cancelled a meeting this week to address required modifications to the elevators for emergency egress for people with disabilities; OEM awaits rescheduling of this meeting.

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Update: Online Training Development. OEM met November 7 with DOI University to begin development on "Emergency Management – 101" for DOI EM practitioners. OEM and DOIU are now working to collect content from existing sources and draft an outline of the roles that will be presented in the training course. Two online emergency management training courses are planned for development over the next several months.

Update: Secure Video Teleconference (SVTC). This week, POB provided funding to OCIO to upgrade outdated SVTC equipment at MIB and our alternate site. SVTC is required to coordinate interagency response during continuity events and other emergencies. OCIO will work with the Defense Information Systems Agency to install equipment which is compatible with the interagency Crisis Management System. OEM will continue coordination with POB to address operations and maintenance requirements in FY13 and beyond.

No Change: All-Hazard Incident Management Planning. OEM continues to schedule meetings with BLM, BIA and FWS emergency coordinators to determine how those bureaus will implement the requirement from the Deputies Operating Group to have a single system for dispatching resources. OEM will be working closely with all bureaus to develop business rules as the Department implements the use of IQCS and Resource Ordering Status System (ROSS) for DOI responders.

No Change: National Preparedness Directive/Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8). OEM is working with the FEMA-led PPD-8 Implementation Team to develop the "National Preparedness System Description." This narrative is due to the President in November and was circulated to the Domestic Resilience Group (DRG) for their initial review this week. OEM participated in the PPD-8 Implementation Team's meeting on November 3 to adjudicate comments from the interagency. OEM continues to work with USGS and OEPC to develop the policy to guide PPD-8 related mitigation and recovery planning activities within DOI.

No Change: Exercise Eagle Horizon-2011 (EH-11). OEM and the Site E team finalized the after action report last week, and will publish the report to all participants in November. Participants included most bureaus and several OS offices; discussions included decisions about corrective action planning as well as lessons learned during the successful exercise. Lessons learned from EH-11 will provide a framework for EH-12 planning.

No Change: Multipoint Video Teleconferencing (VTC). OEM and NBC are coordinating the installation of a multipoint VTC capability in the IOC Conference Room. OCIO is working to identify a location for installing a server at its Virginia facility. This capability will provide for internet (IP) and ISDN video teleconferencing in the IOC conference room and at other VTC locations in the Main Interior Building, with no incremental costs for departme

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Final: Corrective Action Program (CAP). The FY11 CAP Status Report has been approved by the Assistant Secretary, Policy, Management and Budget. This report includes an overview of outstanding Corrective Action Recommendations (CAR) and a summary of new issues. Bureaus

and offices identified as leads for CAP issues are tasked to prepare Improvement Plans to guide corrective actions during the next CAP cycle. The new CAR items emanated from the Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill, the National Level Exercise (NLE)-11 catastrophic earthquake exercise, interagency exercise Dark Zephyr which explored readiness for an anthrax emergency, and lessons learned which were compiled for the National Security Staff exploring DOI emergency planning shortfalls should the U.S. suffer an event similar to the tsunami and nuclear power plant emergency in Japan.

Office of Wildland Fire (OWF)

New: LANDFIRE – Monthly Users Conference Call. The LANDFIRE program will hold its monthly user's conference call on November 15 at 3 p.m. EST. This is a reoccurring call which takes place the third Tuesday of each month to discuss progress with improvements, enhancements, and updates to the data products and discuss user feedback on applications and areas of concern.

New: LANDFIRE – Alaska Calibration Workshop. LANDFIRE program representatives met with agency employees from (BIA, BLM, NPS, FWS, and Forest Service) in Fairbanks, AK, last week to review the data products. The workshop had excellent participation with both the meeting and live webinar. Feedback received focused on existing vegetation data and succession disturbance pathways and updates. Workshop also touched on November 15 data contribution opportunity where data stewards and land management leaders can contribute data on this annual cutoff date for data submissions from national/regional/local data sources. Data submitted after November 15 will be considered in future LANDFIRE update cycles

New: Integrated Reporting Wildland Fire Information (IRWIN). IRWIN project is entering its second year. This project is intended to provide data exchange capabilities between existing wildland fire applications, thereby reducing redundant data entry and improving consistency. It will also provide a dashboard capability that will provide a single location to access data operational wildland fire data. The charter has been signed by DOI and USDA FS paving the way for refinement of system requirements. Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) has been selected to develop a conceptual architecture and prototypes in early spring. Stakeholder interviews with various business and application leads will take place in Boise, ID the week of November 14. Additional interviews will occur in the near future with executive leadership in Boise, ID and Washington DC.

Update: **Wildland Fire Cost and Benefits Assessment.** OWF leadership has coordinated with Office of Policy Analysis providing assistance to the OWF for a cost and benefits assessment. During planning meetings a draft strategy has been developed to focus on work and timelines. A conference call will be held in the near future to review the developed draft strategy which outlines work and timelines to address questions that have been raised by GAO, OMB and Senate such as, "Is the Department of the Interior's Wildland Fire management Program cost effective?"

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Update: Wildland Fire Program - Veterans / Youth Opportunities. OWF is working to support veterans and youth employment in the Department's wildland fire programs. Coordination through the Interior Fire Executive Council, OWF is identifying opportunities to increase employment through a multi-bureau cooperative agreement. A draft cooperative agreement is being work through collaboration with the Youth Office, Office of the Solicitor, and Office of Acquisition and Property Management staffs. OWF attended meetings last week focused on veteran hiring options sponsored by the Departments Veterans office.

Update: Hazardous Fuels Reduction (HFR): Activities this week centered on preparations for the Hazardous Fuels Prioritization and Allocation System (HFPAS) After Action Review (AAR). An AAR is to be conducted at the end of each HFPAS cycle, according to policy, as part of the Evaluation and Process Adjustment component. Previous AARs and other reports were reviewed for issues and then consolidated into a package that is intended to serve as the starting point for revising the process for the next analysis cycle. The AAR is currently scheduled for December 2, at the OWF office in Boise, ID. Many field units around the country have been able to implement HFR treatments this fall. More than 25,000 acres of accomplishment has been reported already in FY 2012.

No Change: Wildland Fire Outlook – November 2011 through February 2012. Although significant rainfall has occurred across Oklahoma and Texas during the past month, extreme to exceptional drought conditions continue to persist in both States also in parts of Louisiana, New Mexico, Arizona, Kansas and Arkansas. Extreme drought also persists across most of Georgia and parts of South Carolina and Alabama. For the Southern Geographic Area above normal significant fire potential will continue due to fuel moistures remaining near or worse than critical thresholds. For the Okefenokee Swamp and the site of the previous Honey Prairie Fire, the threat for fire reemergence will remain in place.

No Change: International Fire Program - OWF collaborated with the Office of International Affairs in developing a portion of the draft International Program Strategy. Focus area was centered on the goal of "*Promoting International Cooperation to Manage the Impacts of Wildland Fires*".

No Change: National Wildland Fire Management Cohesive Strategy - Phase II. The Wildland Fire Executive Council (WFEC) finalized the agenda and logistics for the November 9-10 Wildland Fire Leadership Council (WFLC) meeting in Denver, CO. WFLC will meet this week to review Phase II of the National Cohesive Fire Management Strategy, and plan Phase III with the WFEC, the Regional Strategy Committee Chairs, and the National Science and Analysis Team.

Final: Processing Miscellaneous Travel Expenses For a Casual (AD) Hired Under the AD Pay Plan. OWF and the Bureau Incident Business Leads are working with the Office of Financial Management to seek approval for exemption from GovTrip. In early 2009, the FS successfully implemented business rules for paying miscellaneous travel expenses for FS casuals off of the OF-288s. If an exemption is approved specific instructions developed by the interagency business leads will be distributed in the 2012 AD Pay Plan.

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BUDGET, FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND ACQUISITION

Office of Acquisition and Property Management

New: Suspension and Debarment.

- **Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Hearing.** On November 16, 2011, David Sims, the DOI Debarment Program Manager, in his capacity as Chair of the Interagency Suspension and Debarment Committee, participated on a hearing panel before the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee. Mr. Sims' testimony offered observations regarding the role of the Federal procurement and non-procurement suspension and debarment system; and provided an overview of the role of the Interagency Suspension and Debarment Committee.
- **Recent Actions.** On November 7, 2011, DOI issued Notices of Proposed Debarment to Larry Dees, Sr., and Larry Dees, Jr. The proposed debarments are based on the Dees' criminal convictions for violation of the Lacy Act.
- On November 7, 2011, DOI debarred the following individuals:
    - Arthur Greybull, III, based on the fact of his conviction for theft of funds from a tribal organization;
    - Edith M. Kadlec, based on her state conviction for participation in a theft from a nonprofit organization which received DOI funding;
    - Linda Longee Christiansen, based on her conviction for theft of tribal organization funds;
    - Orvel Smith, based upon the fact of his theft of funds from a tribal organization;
    - Jeffrey Brown, based upon the fact of his criminal conviction for violating the Lacy Act; and
    - Mike Kee James, based upon the fact of his conviction for embezzlement of tribal funds.

New: Asset Management Team Meeting. On November 17, 2011, PAM staff and the DAS-Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition led the DOI Asset Management Team meeting. Agenda items included a discussion on the OMB/GSA Utilization Metric for Prospectus Level Leases and briefing on a new GAO engagement on Federal building preservation issues. Other agenda items included status updates on the DOI Real Property Cost Savings and Innovation Plan, Attachment G, Capital Planning and Investment Control (CPIC), and the Condition Assessment System pilot project. The team agreed on a plan going forward to finalize the DOI Real Property Cost Savings and Innovation Plan.

New: Disclosure of Agency Executive Fleet Vehicles on PAM Website. In compliance with President Obama's May 24, 2011, Memorandum on Fleet Performance, PAM posted information on two gasoline/hybrid electric SUVs in the DOI executive fleet on its website. The President's Memorandum requires that within 180 days of the date of issuance, any executive fleet vehicle larger than mid-size sedan, or which does not comply with the requirements for alternative

fueled vehicles, must be disclosed on the agency website. The Memorandum on Fleet Performance requires agency executive fleets to achieve maximum fuel efficiency, be limited in motor vehicle body and engine size, and ensure that optional equipment is limited to that which is essential to meeting agency mission requirements.

Office of Budget

No Change: 2012 Interior Appropriations. On October 14, 2011 the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies released a draft appropriations bill. The Senate mark is $372 million or 3.7 percent above the House mark. The Senate mark provides $10.3 billion for Interior programs, which is $350 million or 3 percent below the 2011 enacted level and $844 million or 7.5 percent below the 2012 President's budget. If the discretionary amounts are adjusted for an additional $93 million in BEOM/BSSE inspection fees and $32.5 million in BLM permit processing fees, the change from 2011 is $224 million or 2.1 percent below the 2011 level.

Report language supporting the draft bill has not been made public. The draft legislation is to serve as the Chairman's mark for the subcommittee and constitutes a starting point for further discussions within the Senate and future negotiations with the House.

Update: 2013 Budget Formulation. OMB Directors' Review is underway as the OMB branches provide their recommendations to OMB Director Jacob Lew in preparation for passback, scheduled for Monday, November, 28, 2011. Key issues anticipated in passback include funding for LWCF and PILT, and the OSM/BLM consolidation proposal.

Office of Financial Management

Update: FY 2011 Financial Report. DOI's FY11 Annual Financial Report was officially released and filed with appropriate entities on the November 15. Congratulations and appreciation to the financial community.

The AFR is an achievement of the entire DOI financial community and includes two noteworthy items that no other Federal agency has accomplished before.

- A Cost-Benefit schedule showing the costs of individual DOI Bureaus compared to the values the Bureaus provide. It is my hope that AFR readers reach the same conclusions we do that the benefits of Interior's programs are worth the taxpayer dollars they consume.
  A video with Rhea Suh discussing the highlights of DOI's efforts and financial achievements. This is one example of our efforts to find innovative ways of communicating DOI financial and program performance in a manner that readers will find useful.
  The FY 2011 Consolidated AFR and Rhea Suh's Video is now posted to the PFM website. http://www.doi.gov/pfm/par/afr2011/index.html

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New: Payment Recapture Audits. The Department is submitting to the Congress a plan approved by OMB on its compliance with the Improper Payment Elimination and Recovery Act of 2010. PFM submitted a procurement package to the National Business Center Acquisition Directorate (AQD) to obtain contractor services to perform payment recapture audits (formerly known as recovery audits). Office of Management and Budget guidance states reporting on payment recapture audits efforts is necessary in order to meet the new criteria outlined in the Improper Payment Elimination and Recovery Act of 2010. AQD is currently reviewing the statement of work, independent government cost estimate, suggested sources and prior recovery audit contract that PFM administered under the former improper payment legislation, the Improper Payment Information Act of 2002. PFM anticipates commencing payment recapture audits through the Departmental Offices, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, and Bureau of Reclamation in January or February 2012.

New: General Administration Service's (GSA) Independent Validation and Verification (IV&V) Testing. PFM participated in General Administration Service's IV&V testing on the new government-wide master contract of the electronic travel system (ETS2) in Arlington, Virginia. During the IV&V sessions, agency representatives executed different travel scenarios to test the functionality, usability and security of the travel systems offered by the industry vendors. Recommendations and feedback submitted by the agency testers will enable GSA to work with the ETS2 vendors in developing the next generation of travel systems that will be offered to Federal agencies when the current ETS1 master contract expires in 2013.

Update: GAO Reports and Entrance/Exit Conferences.

- PFM submitted signed letters to GAO in response to their report on *Interagency Contracting* (GAO-11-784), and added one recommendation to the tracking system for implementation.
- PFM attended the GAO exit conference regarding their review--*BLM Hardrock Financial Assurances*. The draft report is expected to be issued next week for agency comments with one recommendation for BLM. This is an update of the report issued in 2008 where GAO found that the financial assurances that were in place as of November 2007 were inadequate to cover estimated reclamation costs. GAO also found that BLM's approach for determining the adequacy of financial assurances was not useful because it did not clearly lay out the extent to which financial assurances are inadequate.
- PFM attended the GAO entrance conference regarding the *Review of Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Oversight of Risks Posed to Nuclear Reactors by Natural Disasters*. Although NRC is the focus of this review, GAO wants to understand USGS role in developing and assessing data on natural hazards.

<u>Office of Planning and Performance Management</u>

Update: Priority (Performance) Goals. The final fourth quarter (FY 2011) status reports for the FY 2010-2011 Priority Goal targets have been integrated and were used by the Deputy Secretary for the quarterly status reviews held on November 9 and 15. Results are being posted to www.performance.gov in accordance with OMB's timeline.

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Update: Annual Performance Plan and Report (APP&R). PPP issued guidance for preparation of an integrated Annual Performance Plan/Performance Report and will be seeking review and update of FY 2012 targets by the Performance Management Council membership on a draft APP&R by December 6.

Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization

New Item: Improving Small Business Procurement Data – Quality and Process. In accordance with an Office of Procurement Policy (OFPP) memo signed on November 14, 2011 the Small Business Administration will continue to provide agencies with anomaly reports for Fiscal Year 2011 data reviews. The reports will focus on high risk and high impact contracts. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2012 the process will focus on review of contracts with the highest potential for questions or errors.

Update: Small Business Goals and Accomplishments. As of November 15, the Department had awarded **54.58 percent** of its Fiscal Year 2011 contract dollars to small business. Initial results reported from the Federal Procurement Data System, Next Generation (FPDS-NG) indicate that BIA, BLM, FWS and USGS all exceeded their annual goals for small business contracting. The Department's overall small business goal agreed upon with the Small Business Administration (SBA) is 51.5 percent.

Update: Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Zone Changes. The Small Business Administration issued a memo regarding updates to the HUB Zone Program on November 8, 2011. Approximately 2,600 HUB Zone small businesses have been proposed for decertification as a result of the 2010 census data. Agencies with contracts with firms that may be decertified will continue to receive HUB Zone credit if the firm was a HUB Zone firm at the time of award. Agencies will continue to receive HUB Zone credit until the five year recertification process is completed.

FBMS Program Management Office (PMO)

Update: FWS Go-Live. On November 10, 2011, FBMS was deployed to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and deployment to the Departmental Offices took place on November 14. The deployment made available the following business management functions: acquisition, core financials, financial assistance, fleet management, and personal property management. The FWS deployment was delayed three days to ensure the highest quality conversion possible.

Update: FBMS Executive Steering Committee (ESC) Meeting. On November 8, the monthly FBMS ESC meeting was held. The primary discussion topics of the November 8 meeting were the status of D6 Go-Live, Value Capture Pilot Initiatives, three-way match versus two-way match for reimbursable agreements, and data protocols related to FBMS. The delay of FBMS Go-Live at FWS and DO, when the issues were expected to be resolved, and the process for approving Go-Live once they were resolved were discussed. During the meeting, updates were also presented by the FBMS PMO on FBMS production and deployment activities; and by

the Departmental Offices and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on their deployment statuses; and by the NBC on the status of their FBMS support activities. The next FBMS ESC meeting is scheduled for December 13, 2011.

Departmental Offices FBMS Implementation Office (OS IMO)

New: D6 FBMS Go-Live in the Office of the Secretary and Departmental Offices! On November 14, the Departmental Offices achieved the final approval to go live. DO began loading budget and catch-up activities will follow. Thanks to everyone who worked tirelessly to ensure the successful go-live for DO.

New: Daily OS Catch Up Conference Call. Beginning November 15, the OS FBMS IMO will be hosting a daily conference call with the 300+ users who were identified as "Catch Up" users after "Go Live". This daily conference call will be held at noon for one hour until end of month November.

No change: Training for Go-Live. The FBMS IMO D6 training continues. Currently over 500 users have completed training with very few instances of "no show". The IMO continues to provide tailored, course specific communications with critical class related information from the generic mailbox – OS_FBMS_IMO@ios.doi.gov.

No change: Project Status Meetings. The FBMS IMO D6 team continues to host weekly project status meetings with FBMS stakeholders every Friday beginning at 11:00 am – 12:00 pm in the Herndon Atrium Bldg, Reston Conference Room. WebEx and call in will be available.

No change: OS Implementation Office is *Tweeting*! Follow us on Twitter "*@OSFBMS*". This social media forum is an opportunity for our OS community to ask questions, send comments, and learn more about the Deployment 6 Financial and Business Management Systems and the Implementation Management Office

OFFICE OF NATURAL RESOURCES REVENUE

Office of Natural Resources Revenue

Indian Oil Negotiated Rulemaking (Update): ONRR is in the process of forming a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee (Committee) to address the valuation of crude oil produced from Indian leases. ONRR worked with the Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution and the Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to obtain a third party neutral to serve as facilitator for the Committee. The Secretary signed a second *Federal Register* Notice of Intent, published August 22, 2011, to establish the Committee and propose the membership. The comment period on this notice expired September 21, 2011. **ONRR received three additional nominees for committee membership and is vetting them through the White House liaison. We have also routed the Notice of Establishment and the Charter for the Secretary's signature.** The target date for the first meeting of the Committee is now February 2012.

Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget
Weekly Office Reports
November 21, 2011

Strategic Review Implementation Work Groups (IWGs) Update (New): The ONRR Strategic Review FY 2012 IWGs continue to make progress. On November 10, 2011, five of the six IWGs – *Performance Accountability, Integrated Approach to a Large Independent Producer (Apache), Define Common Outcomes and Establish Joint Strategies, Formalize Job Rotations and Cross Training, and Develop a Collective Knowledge Strategy* – presented an overview of their project plans to the ONRR Senior Managers with a primary focus on key milestones and project deliverables. The remaining FY 2012 IWG – *Compliance Risk Tool Enhancement* - will present an overview of their project plan to the Senior Managers on a future date.

On November 21, 2011, the QSC is meeting with the Institutionalize Strategic Review/Enhance Measures Implementation Work Group (ISR IWG) to review the data provided by sponsors for proposed measurement areas and metrics. One of the strategic initiatives for the ISR IWG is to ensure ONRR is measuring the right things, especially related to the three strategic outcomes:

- *Companies timely comply with laws, regulations, and lease terms and pay every dollar due*
- *States, Tribes, Indian mineral owners, U.S. Treasury, and other entities receive timely, accurate revenues and data*

The public trusts ONRR's professionalism, integrity, efficiency, and quality.

From:	Kemkar, Neal
To:	Neal Kemkar (CEQ) (nkemkar@ceq.eop.gov)
Subject:	FW: Bureau Reports
Date:	Friday, October 28, 2011 5:22:39 PM
Attachments:	Bureau Reports 2011.10.28.pdf Department-wide Reports awaiting management response as of October 28 2011.xlsx

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From: Anderson, James E
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2011 5:22:32 PM
To: DOI_Politicals
Subject: Bureau Reports
Auto forwarded by a Rule

Here are your weekly bureau reports. Have a good Halloween weekend!

James Anderson
Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 208-4591 desk
(202) 257-9542 mobile

OIG - Reports Awaiting Management Response

October 28, 2011

Reports	Report Title	Bureau/ Office	Status	Response Due Date	Contact	Comments	PFM Action/Remarks
Final R-GR-FWS-0004-2011	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Grants Awarded to the State of Georgia, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, From July 1, 2008, Through June 30, 2010	FWS	Extension	11/7/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0007-2011	Maryland Dept of Natural Resources	FWS		11/14/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0008-2011	Michigan Dept of Natural Resources & Environment	FWS		11/5/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0009-2011	Hawaii Dept of Land and Natural Resources	FWS		11/3/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0010-2011	Maine Dept of Marine Resources	FWS	Extension	11/21/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0011-2011	North Dakota Game and Fish	FWS		10/31/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Draft WR-EV-FWS-0003-2011	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Conservation Easement Monitoring and Enforcement	FWS		11/14/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Final WR-EV-OST-0010-2011	Monitoring and Enforcement	OST		12/31/2011	Ray Joseph 202-208-3947		
Final VI-EV-OIA-0002-2010	Evaluation Report - Administrative Functions of the Virgin Islands Government Employees Retirement System	OIA	Due	10/28/2011	Marina Tinitali 202-208-5920		OIA is finalizing their response and expects to submit it to the OIG on 10/28/11.

Early Alert - Coming up
Due - Due within 10 business days or less of the response due date.
Late - After the response due date.
Extension - Reports that have been granted a response due date extension.
Completed - Response sent to OIG.

Attorney Client Communication – Confidential & Privileged

Office of the Solicitor Weekly Report for the Week of October 31, 2011

Deepwater Horizon Matters

Multi-District Litigation

(b) (5)

Renewable Energy Litigation Updates

Defending Renewable Energy Projects

(b) (5)

Other Matters

Northern Arizona Withdrawal Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)

(b) (5)

EAJA Fees Litigation in Center for Biological Diversity v. BLM and Kern County, CA (N.D. Ca.)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

1875 Railroad Right-of-Way Solicitor's M- Opinion

(b) (5)

Wind River Boundaries Opinion

(b) (5)

***Madison County v. Oneida Indian Nation of New York* (2d Cir)**

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Keystone XL Pipeline

(b) (5)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
THREE WEEK OUT REPORT
October 28, 2011

WEEK AHEAD

Grand Canyon National Park (AZ) – Proposed major development near park boundary. The Stilo Development Group USA, LP has proposed large-scale residential, commercial, and tourist development in Tusayan, Arizona, the south gateway community to the park. Stilo's conceptual plan includes 2,000 homes, hotels, retail stores, a dude ranch and other development. Annexation and re-zoning to allow the project to proceed are on a fast track for approval. Since the largest parcel is located far outside the town's boundary, Tusayan was asked to annex both the parcel and about 5,450 acres of surrounding Kaibab National Forest land. The town planning and zoning commission voted on October 24 to recommend annexation, as well as rezoning of the Stilo parcel for development. On October 26, the town council held a public hearing on the proposal; annexation will likely be approved on November 2. The proposal raises significant park concerns about impacts on park resources, especially water, visitor facilities, infrastructure, and staffing for increased visitation. The issue has potential to attract significant news media attention.

Point Reyes National Seashore (CA) – Expiration of RUOs. Fifteen Reservations of Use and Occupancy (RUO) for "non-commercial single family residential purposes" at the park expire between February and September 2012. None of these residential RUOs are occupied as a primary residence, they are generally used on weekends with heavier use during summer and fall. Only one is permanently occupied as a rental. Two residences are located on Pine Ridge Road; 13 are within the Duck Cove Subdivision along the west shore of Tomales Bay. At present, Duck Cove is posted no trespassing, and there is no public access to the beach or lands. The NPS has prioritized inventory and assessment of these structures and infrastructure and will move forward with disposition in a timely manner. Potential issuance of special use permits to allow continuation of these residential uses is inconsistent with park planning and is not in the best interest of the government. During the week of October 31, Duck Cove residents will be notified of the pending expiration of their RUOs and offered relocation assistance. Delegation staff has already been alerted to this issue and will be briefed further the week of October 31.

Gateway National Recreation Area (NY) – EPA Announcement on Dumping in Jamaica Bay. On October 31, the EPA Regional Administrator, in coordination with New York State and New York City, will be making a major announcement focused on sewage dumping in Jamaica Bay. In attendance will be Representative Meeks, Representative Turner (invited), and speakers from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and New York City Department of Environmental Protection.

New River Gorge National River (WV) – General Management Plan and Abbreviated Environmental Impact Statement. The NPS will make its final decision on the GMP and EIS by November 5 for the river. Public comments on proposals were submitted last year; the final plan reflects only minor changes from one of its alternatives. The NPS wants to preserve areas

for primitive recreational experiences from end to end of the park and would intersperse cultural and interpretive resource focal areas, establish a north-south through-park connector of scenic roads and trails, develop partnerships with gateway communities, and improve rim to river experiences.

ON THE HORIZON

Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve (FL) – Significant Archeological Discovery to Be Announced. On November 10, the park will announce a significant archeological discovery at the Kingsley Plantation site within the Preserve. The announcement will be made on-site to an invited group of descendants of people who had been enslaved on the plantation in the 18th and 19th Centuries. Kingsley Plantation is named after one of its owners, Zephaniah Kingsley, a slave trader who married several of his slaves, freed them, and helped them relocate to Haiti following changes in racial laws in Florida in the 1820s.

Mississippi National River & Recreation Area (MN) – Asian Carp in the Upper Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers. Recent DNA sampling indicates silver carp may be as far north as Lock & Dam #1 in Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota. A multi-agency work-group co-chaired by the NPS is working on an action plan to address this invasive fish issue. One recommendation is to consider closing the upper 3 locks on the Mississippi River navigation system in the Twin Cities. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers does not concur with that option.

Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park (TX) – Dedication of New Resaca de la Palma Unit. On November 19, the park will dedicate the new Resaca de la Palma unit during its ninth annual Memorial Illumination (the lighting of 8,000 paper-bag "illuminaria" representing all of the U.S. and Mexican soldiers who fought in the battle). The 34-acre parcel was the scene of the second day of fighting in the Battle of Palo Alto in 1846. Michael Barkin, the U.S. consul general in Matamoros, Mexico, will attend, and the Mexican Consulate has been invited.

Publication of Draft Regulations on Sunken Military Crafts. The Department of Navy has drafted regulations under the Sunken Military Craft Act that gives permitting authority for work on Sunken Military Craft, including historic ships and aircraft, in NPS-managed lands and waters. The NPS, NOAA, and other affected agencies are opposed to the draft regulations. We anticipate publication in the Federal Register by late November.

Upcoming Landmarks Committee Meeting. On November 8-9, the Landmarks Committee of the National Park System Advisory Board will meet in Washington, D.C. The committee will review 16 properties which are being considered for designation and updated documentation for two existing National Historic Landmarks.

Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve (CO) – Notice of Intent for Ungulate Management Plan. A notice of intent to prepare an EIS for the park's Ungulate Management Plan is expected to be published in the Federal Register within the next two weeks. Publication of the NOI will initiate a public scoping period with public meetings scheduled for the week of November 14 in Alamosa and Crestone, Colorado.

James A. Garfield National Historic Site (OH) – Unveiling of Presidential Coin. On November 17, the park will host the U.S. Mint's official unveiling and release ceremony for the James A. Garfield Presidential $1 coin. The coin honors the service and accomplishments of our 20th President.

Week Ahead Report
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
October 17, 2011

III. Potential or Expected Legislative, Legal, and Policy Issues:

Public Hearing to be held for draft revised Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan. A public hearing was held in Fairbanks, Alaska on Wednesday October 19, 2011. The public hearing provided an opportunity for public testimony. Refuge staff encourage reviewers to look at the whole plan. However, it is anticipated that most comments will focus on the wilderness review and oil and gas development in the Arctic. FWS has already received more than 50,000 comments on the document, which was released for public review on August 15, 2011. The comment period runs until November 15, 2011. A high level of controversy is centered upon this plan.

Repaired Dune Breach at Prime Hook NWR Eroded by Coastal Storm: Storm-caused breaches in the barrier dune system at Prime Hook NWR in Delaware are perceived to threaten local residences and refuge habitats. In response to calls from the community to close the breaches on public and private land, the refuge prepared an Environmental Assessment to repair and maintain the dunes as a short-term solution to protect homes and refuge freshwater habitats. After many months of delays, the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) repaired the primary breach the week of September 26. A coastal storm breached the dune again on Wednesday, October 12. Requests from community members for the Service and DNREC to take immediate action to repair the newly formed breaches are anticipated. The Service is in discussions with DNREC to determine whether additional repairs are feasible.

Notice of Availability for Draft Economic Analysis on Proposed Critical Habitat for Slickspot Peppergrass: The FWS is announcing the availability of the draft economic analysis (DEA) of the proposed critical habitat for slickspot peppergrass and also reopening the comment period to allow all interested parties an opportunity to comment simultaneously on the proposed rule, the associated DEA, and the amended required determinations section. The State of Idaho filed a lawsuit on November 16, 2009, challenging the FWS listing as threatened under the ESA. No court date has been set. Permittees may be concerned that additional restrictions or requirements may result from critical habitat designation on Federal and State lands. Target for submitting to the Federal Register is October 24, 2011.

90-day Finding on a Petition to Delist the Coastal California Gnatcatcher: The FWS concludes that the petition does not present substantial scientific or commercial information to indicate that delisting under the ESA may be warranted. Therefore, the FWS is not initiating a status review in response to this petition. The finding also includes notification of the FWS conclusion that the coastal California gnatcatcher constitutes a valid subspecies and that the FWS is no longer considering whether to propose reclassifying it as a distinct population segment (DPS). This action is expected to be controversial. On September 15, 2011, the Pacific Legal Foundation filed a legal complaint against the FWS failure to make a timely finding on the petition and will likely oppose the finding's conclusion. Target for submitting to the Federal Register is October 31, 2011.

Withdrawal of Southern Sea Otter Experimental Population and Extension of Public Comment Period: The FWS proposes to declare the southern sea otter translocation program a failure, eliminate the experimental population status under the ESA for the remaining otters at San Nicolas Island, and return these remaining otters to threatened status under the ESA. If finalized, the proposal would allow otters from the parent population to freely expand their range into waters previously maintained as an "otter-free zone." This action would also eliminate the incidental take exemptions created in the original regulations for otters throughout southern California. The State of California, the California Department of Fish and Game, NGOs and thousands of citizens are expected to support the proposal. The U.S. Navy and commercial fishermen will likely oppose it. Target for submitting to the Federal Register is October 31, 2011.

Proposed Rule to Delist the Johnston's Frankenia Due to Recovery: The FWS proposed to delist Johnston's frankenia (a plant) due to recovery in 2003, but that proposed rule was never finalized. The FWS is re-proposing the delisting (with updated information) in order to reopen the comment period and then complete a final delisting rule. The FWS does not anticipate any potential issues from delisting this species. Target for submitting to the Federal Register is October 28, 2011.

Comment Period Extended for NiSource Multi-State Habitat Conservation Plan: FWS has extended the comment period on a draft Environmental Impact Statement evaluating a proposed multi-species, multi-state draft Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and application for an incidental take permit under the Endangered Species Act. Comments will be accepted through December 13, 2011. The HCP was developed by NiSource Inc., primarily a natural gas transmission, distribution and storage company, as it seeks an incidental take permit for operating and maintaining its network of pipelines in 14 northeastern, Midwest and southeastern states. Some local media interest is anticipated.

Service to Solicit Proposals for White-nose Syndrome Research Grants: Fish and Wildlife Service will issue a request for proposals for research on white-nose syndrome in bats, a fungal disease devastating bat populations in the eastern U.S. the week of October 17. The Service expects to invest up to $1 million in the current request for research proposals. In previous years, the Service has provided grants through the Preventing Extinction program and a congressional appropriation for white-nose syndrome work. This year's funds come from internal Service allocations. The Service leads a cooperative effort with federal and state agencies, researchers, universities and other non-government organizations to research and manage the spread of white-nose syndrome.

Protection and Indemnity Club Memorandum of Understanding Signing Ceremony: On Tuesday, November 1, 2011, Department of the Interior (Department) will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the International Group of Protection and Indemnity (P&I) Clubs. The 13 P&I Clubs are responsible for insuring approximately 95% of the world's ocean going vessels and FWS works routinely with the P&I Clubs following a spill. This MOU will apply to all Department bureaus and the purpose of the MOU is to promote efficient and cost-effective restoration of injured natural resources that result from oil spilled from ships in the USA. Following the signing ceremony, there will be a series of presentations by the Department,

including FWS and the P&I Group representatives on a variety of topics related to oil spills from vessels and to natural resource damage assessments. This meeting is not expected to be controversial.

LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT
October 30 – November 5, 2011

SENIOR OFFICIALS' ACTIVITIES

Week of October 31, 2011
Acting ASLM Burke – In the office on Monday and Tuesday. On travel Wednesday to ND to deliver the keynote address at the University of North Dakota School of Law—Energy Law Symposium on Thursday. On travel Friday from ND.
DAS Baca – In the office all week.
DAS Farquhar – In the office all week.

Week of November 7, 2011
Acting ASLM Burke – In the office all week.
DAS Baca – In the office all week.
DAS Farquhar – In the office all week.

HOT TOPICS

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Renewable Energy

- ***Update:*** **Solar Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR)*****:*** *The Director, the Solicitor's Office and the BLM's Fluid Minerals Division have surnamed the solar and wind energy competitive ANPR surname package. Once approved by the BLM and the ASLM, the ANPR package will be forwarded to OMB for review. OMB has not determined if the ANPR would go through an expedited informal review (usually two weeks) or the longer formal review, which is up to 90 days. BLM endeavors to publish the ANPR in Nov., shortly after the release of the Supplement to the Draft Solar PEIS on Oct. 27. The ANPR will provide for a 60-day public comment period.*

- ***Update:*** **Draft Solar Programmatic EIS and Supplemental:** *The Supplemental to the Draft Solar Programmatic EIS was published in the Federal Register on Oct. 28 for a 90-day public comment period. Copies of the Supplement were delivered to the EPA on Oct. 20. The Supplement will bring greater emphasis to developing solar energy inside of Solar Energy Zones, but will also allow applicants to pursue projects outside of zones using a variance process.*

Fluid Minerals

- ***Update:*** **Keystone Pipeline:** *Climate Change activist Bill McKibben is organizing a protest for Nov. 6 at the White House opposing the proposed Keystone XL pipeline. The pipeline would carry oil developed from tar sands from Alberta, Canada across a total of six U.S. states to refineries in TX. The Department of State is the lead agency on the EIS; the BLM is a cooperating agency and will determine whether to issue a right-of-way for the pipeline project to cross approximately 50 miles of public lands located in*

the BLM-MT Miles City District. The project is opposed by environmental activists who claim the pipeline will add to global warming.

Solid Minerals

- **New: OSM/BLM Consolidation Briefings:** *OMB has requested briefings from the Department regarding the consolidation of the OSM within the BLM. Next week, BLM Director Abbey and OSM Director Pizarchik will brief OMB and the appropriations committees. Then in the coming weeks they will be conducting town hall meeting with the employees to discuss the consolidation.*

- ***New:*** **Historic Mercury Site in Idaho Vandalized:** *On Oct. 14, the BLM-ID Boise District announced recent vandalism of an inactive mercury milling site located in Owyhee County, ID. The milling apparatus, called a retort, is believed to have been inactive since 1966. The vandalism has caused the integrity of the structures to be jeopardized, and mercury remaining in the structures was deposited onto the soil surface. The BLM is coordinating the response to this action with the ID Department of Environmental Quality, EPA, the Owyhee County Commissioners, and the local sheriff's office.*

Congressional Activities

- ***New*: House Natural Resources Committee Grand Canyon Hearing:** *The House Natural Resources, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands has scheduled a legislative hearing on Nov. 3 on H.R. 3155, the Northern Arizona Mining Continuity Act of 2011. The Act would prohibit the withdrawal of nearly 1 million acres of public lands near the Grand Canyon from location and entry under the Mining Law. Director Abbey will testify. The hearing will focus on the proposed legislation as well as the Oct. 27 release of the Northern AZ Proposed Withdrawal Final EIS.*

Wild Horses and Burros

- ***Update:*** **High Rock Gather:** *As of Oct. 25, approximately 545 horses had been gathered. There have been two gather related deaths. About 35 horses were reintroduced to the range on Oct. 20. Released mares are treated with a non-permanent fertility control vaccine administered by a qualified veterinarian. The BLM plans to gather approximately 1,276 wild horses. The appropriate management level for the HMA is 251-458 horses.*

- ***Update:*** **Red Desert Gather:** *As of Oct. 22, 580 horses had been gathered by the BLM-WY Wind River/Bighorn Basin District Lander Field Office. There has been one gather-related death. The BLM plans to gather 1,140 wild horses from both inside and outside the HMA and will remove about 800 horses. The remaining mares will be treated with fertility control and returned to the HMA. The appropriate management level for the HMA is 480-724 horses.*

Miscellaneous

- ***New:*** **BLM to Issue Record of Decision (ROD) for Rail Project:** *The BLM is tentatively scheduled to sign the ROD for the DesertXpress Passenger Rail Project in*

San Bernardino County, CA and Clark County, NV in early Nov. The ROD authorizes a right-of-way grant to construct and operate a high-speed passenger rail line on public lands between Victorville, CA, and Las Vegas. Construction is expected to begin in early 2012. Approximately 821 acres of public land are needed for the right-of-way.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

- ***No Change:*** **Western Gulf OCS Lease Sale 218:** The package containing the Final Notice of Sale (FNOS), Decision Memo, and Record of Decision is under review within BOEM. The package is scheduled to be submitted for ASLM review during the week of Nov. 7. The FNOS is scheduled to be published on Nov. 14, 2011. Lease Sale 218 is scheduled for Dec. 14, 2011.

- ***No Change:*** **Next 5-Year OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program**: The next major steps in the 5-year program preparation process are the development of the Draft EIS and the Proposed Program, which are scheduled for publication in early Nov. 2011.

- ***Update: BP Exploration Plan (EP) Review Ends:*** *On Oct. 21, GOMR BOEM approved BP's deepwater "Kaskida" supplemental exploration plan, the first such approval for this company since the Macondo event. The supplemental EP proposes to drill up to four wells in the Gulf of Mexico's Keathley Canyon area. The proposed well sites are in water depths that range from 6,019 to 6,034 ft and are located 192 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline. Before approving this EP, BOEM confirmed BP's compliance with the bureau's rigorous, heightened standards, including the use of blind shear rams and casing shears on subsea blowout preventers; third party verification of the BOP testing and maintenance; and laboratory testing of cement slurries. On Oct. 26, BSEE approved BP's drilling permit after completing a site-specific EA.*

- ***Update: U.S.- Mexico Transboundary Reservoirs Issues****: On Oct. 24, staff from the BOEM, the BSEE and Department of State briefed the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on the negotiations. Negotiations took place in Washington, D.C. on Oct. 26-28. Keith Couvillion, Deepwater Land Manager, Chevron will serve as the U.S. oil and gas industry representative at the negotiating sessions. Both countries seek to have a mutually agreed upon document created by the end of the year.*

- ***Update: Wind Application Offshore Maine:*** *On Oct. 12, BOEM received an unsolicited request for a commercial wind lease from Statoil NA. BOEM is reviewing the application for completeness, which will be followed by a qualifications review. BOEM staff is also working with the State on next steps, including scheduling the next Task Force meeting, which is tentatively scheduled for the week of Dec. 5 in Portland.*

- ***Update: Mid-Atlantic Offshore Wind (NJ, DE, MD and VA):*** *On Oct. 21, a draft Programmatic Agreement (PA) was sent to the consulting parties in order to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Once executed BOEM will be able to proceed with its leasing and site assessment activities in the Call Area. BOEM has tentatively scheduled a second webinar on Nov. 9 with the consulting parties*

to discuss the PA. On Oct. 27, a public notice was posted on regulations.gov to solicit comments from the general public regarding historic properties and the mid-Atlantic undertaking. The comment period closes on Nov. 10.

- ***New: Mexican Delegation Visit to BOEM and BSEE GOM Regions:*** *On Nov. 14-15, a delegation of Mexican government officials representing the National Commission of Hydrocarbons and PEMEX will visit the BOEM and the BSEE Gulf of Mexico regional offices. Staff from the BOEM GOM Region will provide presentations and information relating to its Worst Case Discharge process and its Fluid Gradient Calculation Methodology, which were delivered in support of the BSEE GOMR's well containment analysis and review procedures.*

  New: Report to Congress on Comprehensive Inventory of U.S. Oil and Gas Resources: *BOEM staff are updating the 2006 Comprehensive Inventory Report to Congress as required by Section 357 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. This update is required every 5 years and will incorporate resource estimates from the new 2011 National Assessment and the latest reserves information available. A fact sheet/brochure providing an overview on the findings will be released in conjunction with the 2012-2017 5-Year Proposed Program to the public and the release of the actual report in late Dec. and Jan 2012.*

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

- ***Update:*** **Suspension of Operations (SOO) Requests:** *As of Oct. 25, the BSEE's Office of Production and Development (PD) had received 1,414 SOO requests under Notice-to-Lessees (NTL) No. 2011-N05. As of Oct. 27, approximately 1,300 of these requests were approved, 15 denied, and 2 withdrawn (98 percent complete). BSEE continues to process the remaining requests and plans to complete all SOO requests by Oct. 31.*

- ***Update:*** **Chukchi Sea Lease Sale 193 Suspension of Operations (SOO):** *On Oct. 3, DOI submitted the ROD to the AK District Court to address the remand. A status conference with Department of Justice and Court is scheduled for Oct. 26 to clarify that BOEM and BSEE may proceed with processing plans.* ***[Please provide update]***

- ***New:*** **Iraq Interagency Policy Committee (IPC) Meeting:** *On Oct. 14, the Office of International Programs and DAS Farquhar participated in an IPC focused on what the U.S. Government is doing in regards to Iraq's oil sector, and identification of the chief impediments for increasing Iraq's production. A follow-up meeting was held on Oct. 27 in Washington, D.C. IPC's are called by the National Security Staff to discuss pertinent issues often identified during a Deputies Committee (i.e. Deputy Secretary level) or Principles Committee (i.e. Secretary level or higher). During a recent Principles Committee, Vice President Biden asked the IPC to address this particular issue.*

- ***New:*** **Notice-to-Lessees (NTL) on Implementation of Safety and Environmental Management Systems:** *On Oct. 24, the NTL was posted on the BSEE web site and sent to operators. The NTL consolidates guidance and information to help operators comply*

with the requirements of the SEMS rule. Operators are required to implement a SEMS program by Nov. 15. The NTL also addresses issues relating to how BSEE will implement its SEMS compliance program, and describes the anticipated interactions between BSEE personnel and the operator community..

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

- **New: OSM/BLM Consolidation Briefings:** *OMB has requested briefings from the Department regarding the consolidation of the OSM within the BLM. Next week, BLM Director Abbey and OSM Director Pizarchik will brief OMB and the appropriations committees. Then in the coming weeks they will be conducting town hall meeting with the employees to discuss the consolidation.*

- ***New:*** **OSM's Executive Council Meeting:** *On Nov. 2 and 3, OSM's Executive Council will is scheduled to meet in Washington, DC.*

- ***Update:*** **OSM Director to Testify at Nov. 4 Congressional Hearing on Stream Protection Rule:** *Director Pizarchik has been asked to testify at a Nov. 4 hearing before the House Natural Resources Committee on the bureau's 2008 Stream Buffer Zone Rule, portions of which may be revised as part of the Stream Protection Rulemaking.*

WEEK AHEAD – October 30 to November 5, 2011

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Monday, October 31:

- ***No change:*** **Oregon Pilot Update:** The BLM-OR Coos Bay District Office is scheduled to make available for a 30-day public review the Wagon Road Pilot Project EA and preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact. The proposed action alternative describes the effects of conducting a variable retention harvest on approximately 135 acres with a volume of 6,000 thousand board feet (MBF). The project is expected to be controversial.

Tuesday-Thursday, November 1-3:

- ***No change:*** **Public Meetings on Nevada Mining Plan:** The BLM-NV will hold public meetings on the Sloan Hills Mineral Materials Sales Draft EIS. Two mining companies (CEMEX and Service Rock Products Corp.) have submitted plans proposing to mine and process limestone and dolomite from the proposed project site. The proposed project area is near several housing developments. Homeowners organized an active letter-writing campaign to congressional and county elected officials opposing the project. The BLM is preparing for an expected 500 people per meeting.

Tuesday, November 1:

- ***Update:*** **Oil and Gas Lease Sale in Wyoming:** *On Nov. 1, BLM-WY will offer 50 parcels covering 48,228 acres in an oil and gas lease sale. Forty-two parcels were deferred from the original sale notice pending a consistency review with the proposed national sage-grouse management policy. The protest period for the sale ended on Sept. 2. The BLM received four protests, covering 29 of the 92 parcels listed in the sale notice. Issues cited in the protests include: parcels offered in Citizen Proposed Wilderness Areas; parcels offered in big game migration corridors; and parcels offered in sage grouse habitat. These protests will be resolved prior to the sale.*

Thursday, November 3:

- ***No change:*** **Oregon Timber Sale:** The protest period on the Parker Bear Reoffer Timber Sale is scheduled to expire. The proposed project entails density management on approximately 247 acres of 50 to 75-year-old stands in Late-Successional Reserve and Riparian Reserve land use allocations. The sale date is Nov. 16. Approximately 6,430 MBF will be offered for sale. There has been no controversy associated with this sale.

Friday, November 4:

- ***New:*** **Meeting with EPA on Mine Bonding in Nevada:** *The BLM-NV State Director Amy Lueders and the Deputy State Director of Minerals Gary Johnson will meet in Sacramento, CA with representatives from EPA Region 9 and the NV-EPA to continue discussions on bonding requirements and issues associated with mines in NV, including the BLM's permitting process, and collaboration among the agencies on proposed mine projects.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

Friday, November 4:

- ***New:*** **Meeting with Norwegian Minster of Petroleum and Energy:** *Director Beaudreau and AK Regional Director Jim Kendall will meet in Anchorage with a delegation led by the Norwegian Minister of Petroleum and Energy. Topics of discussion will include the role of the BOEM and the BSEE in petroleum activities in AK, the history of petroleum activities on the OCS, recent developments including Sale 193, and the challenges associated with offshore development of oil and gas.*

- ***New:*** **Meeting with ConocoPhillips:** *Director Beaudreau and AK Regional Director Jim Kendall will meet in Anchorage with representatives from ConocoPhillips to discuss to discuss AK planning areas and the next 5 year Plan.*

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

Tuesday, November 1:

- **No Change: Shell Chukchi Sea Exploration Plan:** The BOEM has requested a BSEE completeness review of comments on Shell's revised draft Chukchi Sea Exploration

Plan. Comments are due by Nov. 1. Staff is reviewing the revised plan and preparing for a decision allowing for processing for the EP.

Wednesday-Thursday, November 2-3:

- ***Update:*** **Technology Assessment and Research (TA&R) Study 684 - "Effects of Water Depth on Equipment and Operations" Workshop:** *A workshop on the Effects of Water Depth on Equipment and Operations will be held in Galveston, TX to help BSEE meet a recommendation of the Sept. 1, 2010, OCS Safety Oversight Board Report. Over 120 oil and gas industry representatives and government employees are scheduled to participate in the workshop. Mike Saucier, Regional Supervisor of District Operations for the Gulf of Mexico Region will be a keynote speaker.*

Thursday, November 3:

- **No Change: BSEE/U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Quarterly Meeting:** Vice-Admiral Bryan Salerno and BSEE Director Bromwich are scheduled to meet at the USCG Headquarters in D.C. Staff will present updates on activities of the Response Workgroup, which will include topics on the USCG review of oil spill response plans and participation in the BSEE unannounced oil spill drills; and the Prevention Workgroup, which will include the regulatory initiatives of both agencies. U.S. preparedness activities in advance of planned drilling by Repsol in offshore waters of Cuba will also be addressed.

- **No Change: New Orleans Area Planning Committee Meeting:** BSEE's Gulf of Mexico Region Branch of the Oil Spill Response Division will host a meeting of the New Orleans Area Planning Committee on Nov. 10. Committee members include staff from the USCG, NOAA, EPA, state agencies, oil spill removal organizations, and parishes. They will discuss proposed changes to the New Orleans Area Contingency Plan.

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

Friday-Saturday, November 4-5:

- ***New:*** **West Virginia Watershed Celebration Day:** *OSM's Charleston Field Office is helping coordinate the 13th Annual WV "Watershed Celebration Day" in Weston, WV, which is hosted by the WV Watershed Network. The Watershed Celebration Day is an annual event to honor WV citizens who have volunteered their time and made exceptional efforts to protect and restore the State's streams, including acid mine drainage clean-up projects.*

WEEKS AHEAD

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Monday, November 7:

- ***New:*** **Open House on Utah Land Exchange:** *The BLM-UT Salt Lake Field Office will hold an open house in Tooele, UT on the Skull Valley Land Exchange EA. The Federal*

and non-Federal lands proposed for exchange are located west of the Stansbury Mountains in Tooele County, UT. Under the proposal, the U.S. would acquire up to 14,401 acres of non-Federal land. In exchange, the U.S. would convey to the non-Federal parties up to 14,059 acres of Federal land. The primary purpose for the exchange is to consolidate scattered land ownership pattern in and around the Skull Valley area. The U.S. would acquire lands within the Congressionally-designated Cedar Mountains Wilderness; lands within two wild horse HMAs; lands that provide crucial mule deer and elk range; an important historic site associated with the Pony Express Trail; and rights to a spring that is important to wild horse herds and wildlife. The BLM is seeking public input regarding land use issues, access issues and resource information on the potential impacts of the proposed exchange.

Thursday, November 10:

- ***No change:*** **Oil and Gas Lease Sale in Colorado:** BLM-CO will auction 54 parcels covering 41,548 acres. The protest period closed on Sept. 12. The BLM received nine protests. Issues cited in the protests included: leasing near Bald and Golden Eagles; NEPA compliance; Endangered Species Act compliance; hydraulic fracturing concerns; air and water quality concerns; and greenhouse gases. BLM-CO is processing the protest response. Some of the issues (including greenhouse gases and air and water quality concerns) were already addressed in the relevant planning documents.

Wednesday, December 7:

- ***New:*** **National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A) Lease Sale:** *BLM-AK will hold an Oil and Gas Lease Sale within the NPR-A at the Anchorage Federal Building. The BLM is offering 283 tracts (3,060,176 acres) comprised of 178 tracts (1,817,186 acres) within the Northeast planning area, and 105 tracts (1,242,990 acres) within the Northwest planning area. These tracts were also offered at prior lease sales. There has been a minor amount of controversy regarding the amount and location of lease tracts available in the sale.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

Thursday-Friday, December 15-16:

- ***New:*** **Public hearings on the draft EIS for the next 5-Year OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program:** *Public hearings are scheduled to be held in Washington D.C.; Houston, TX; Mobile, AL; and New Orleans, LA. Nine hearings will also be held in AK.*

- ***New:*** **Marine Board Workshop Comparing Traditional and Renewable Offshore Energy Technologies, Challenges, and Interactions:** *This workshop is intended to serve as an information exchange between U.S. and European offshore renewable energy developers and oil and gas developers, with the National Academy of Sciences Marine Board, the DOE, the NOAA and others. The workshop will be held in Washington, D.C.*

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

Monday-Tuesday, November 7-8:

- ***Update:*** **Ocean Energy Safety Advisory Committee (OESC) Meeting:** *The OESC will hold its third meeting in the South Interior Building Auditorium. The OESC was established to advise to the Secretary on matters relating to ocean energy safety. It is comprised of representatives from the offshore energy industry, Federal Government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and the academic community. In accordance with FACA, the meeting will be open to the public. A press release was issued on Oct. 17. A meeting notice was published on in the Federal Register on Oct. 18, and the agenda will be published by Oct. 31 on the Committee's web page. The Secretary, Deputy Secretary Hayes and Director Bromwich are scheduled to address the OESC.*

Thursday, November 17:

- **No Change: International Offshore Drilling Response Plan:** Staff from BSEE's Oil Spill Response Division will participate in a workshop in Miami, FL. The workshop is being coordinated by the USCG and will provide an opportunity to review, test, and validate the general concepts of the International Offshore Drilling Response Plan that is under development. The scenario will involve a major oil spill originating in foreign waters.

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

Thursday, November 3:

- **Update: OSM Extends Public Comment Period for Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for Mine Permit Renewal at Arizona Coal Mine:** *In response to requests from the public, OSM has extended the public comment period until Nov. 3 on certain NEPA documents related to a mine-permit renewal for the Kayenta Mine, located on the Navajo and Hopi Reservations. The request for permit renewal proposes to continue mining operations in existing coal resource areas for a five-year period. On Sept. 14, OSM placed the EA and an unsigned 'Finding of No Significant Impact' on OSM's Western Region website for public review.*

Monday-Wednesday, November 7-9:

- ***New:*** **OSM to Test Unmanned Aerial Vehicle for Mine Inspections:** *OSM's Charleston Field Office is coordinating with the USGS to test the effectiveness of unmanned aerial drones in conducting surface mine inspections. Coordination efforts began in May 2011. Flights will be performed to see if the aircraft (a USGS-owned Raven) could be used to inspect the miles of sediment ditches on large surface mines in steep slopes. The test flights will also use a thermal camera to attempt to delineate heat signatures in a nearby underground coal seam fire.*

Weekly Report
October 28, 2011

Memorandum

To: Mehgan Conklin
Associate Deputy Secretary

From: Anne J. Castle
Assistant Secretary for Water and Science

Subject: Weekly Meeting Issues

Senior Officials' Activities Oct. 31- Nov. 4:
Anne J. Castle – (b) (6) /working from Denver; conducting a Youth/Colorado River/Latino Roundtable event at the Escuela Tlatelolco Nov 7 in conjunction with Nuestro Rio. Nov 8-10 in DC.
John Tubbs – Oct 31-Nov 10 in DC; participating in Anacostia Urban Waters event Nov 4.
Lori Caramanian – Oct 31-Nov 2 at USGS EROS Data Center in Sioux Falls, SD; Nov 3 in DC; (b) (6) . Nov 7-8, in DC; Nov 9-10 at USGS Science Centers in central FL.
Tanya Trujillo - Oct 31-Nov 4 in DC. Nov 7, in Denver for Escuela Tlatelolco event and briefings; Nov 8-10 in DC; speaking at the Atlantic Group's Energy/Water Nexus Forum Nov 10.
Marcia McNutt – Oct. 31, Cambridge, MA, present seminar at MIT Dept. of Earth, Atmospheric & Planetary Sciences; Nov, 9-10, Denver, CO, attend Wildland Fire Leadership Council.
Mike Connor – Oct. 31-Nov. 3, in DC; (b) (6)

Reclamation

Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project Designated by the Administration as a High Priority Project (New Mexico)

The Obama Administration recently announced that the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project was selected as one of 14 infrastructure projects to be expedited through the permitting and environmental review processes in order to achieve the job creation goals of the Administration. The Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project was the only project selected from the Department of the Interior. The project will still comply with all environmental compliance and permitting requirements, but all involved agencies and entities will be focusing on how those processes can be streamlined and improved to allow the project to move forward more quickly. The Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project is the cornerstone of the Navajo Nation water rights settlement in the San Juan River Basin and will consist of two water treatment plants, 280 miles of pipeline, 24 pumping plants, and numerous water regulation and storage facility. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2012 pending approval and execution of legislatively mandated agreements. Design and construction work on the project will be carried out by Reclamation as

well as the Navajo Nation, the City of Gallup, and the Indian Health Service. The latter three will carry out design and construction tasks in accordance with financial assistance agreements with Reclamation.

Natural Resources Defense Council Appeal Briefing Filed on Fall X2 Ruling (California)
On October 19, NRDC filed their opening brief with the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals to appeal the injunction issued by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California in September 2011 regarding the Fall X2 action from the Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (RPA) contained in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's 2008 Biological Opinion on the continued long-term operation of Reclamation's Central Valley Project and California's State Water Project. The injunction ordered that the Fall X2 action be modified this year requiring that the monthly average X2 target not be set more eastward than 79 km, rather than the 74 km position called for under the RPA after October 15.

Delta Science Program Independent Science Review - BDCP (California)
On October 25-26, the Independent Science Review Panel convened to review the working draft Bay Delta Conservation Program Effects Analysis Conceptual Foundation and Analytical Framework to ensure it is of sufficient scientific quality to serve its intended purposes. The Panel also reviewed the working draft Entrainment Appendix as an example of the application of the conceptual understanding, methods and analyses discussed in the Foundation and Framework.

Meeting of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Advisory Council
On October 25-26, 2011, Upper Colorado Region representatives, including Deputy Regional Director Brent Rhees, participated in a Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Advisory Council (Council) meeting in Santa Fe, NM, to discuss federal agency accomplishments and make recommendations regarding future salinity control activities. Briefings were provided on the status of salinity control activities and input will be sought for the Council's annual report. Progress reports and activity schedules were provided by participating agencies including Reclamation, the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Environmental Protection Agency. The Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum also met on the same dates.

Hoover Dam Tour (Nevada)
On October 31, Lower Colorado Assistant Regional Director David Palumbo will escort a delegation from the Taiwan Water Resource Agency on a tour of Hoover Dam and the intake tower.

Update: Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) Biological Opinion (BiOp) Litigation (Oregon, Montana, Washington, Idaho)
A September 27, 2011 meeting at the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) provided a forum to assure government alignment on the response to Judge Redden's August 2, 2011 Opinion and Order in the long-running FCRPS litigation. The CEQ meeting addressed pros and cons of appealing the ruling and what the scope of activity would be in conducting the remand. The Action Agencies (the Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Bonneville Power Administration) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

proposed a focused and aggressive approach to addressing the court's issues during the remand. On September 30, 2011, the federal government filed a protective notice of appeal regarding the court's August 2, 2011 ruling. The protective notice preserves the government's option to pursue an appeal at a later date. On the same date, the 2010 FCRPS BiOp annual progress report was released to the public and filed with the Court; Plaintiffs have requested an extension of time to comment on the 2010 FCRPS Annual Progress Report and the Department of Justice is not likely to oppose this request. Plaintiffs' comments were due to the Court October 25, 2011.

Congressional Activities

- On October 24, two Reclamation-related bills were passed by the Full House of Representatives. The Department supported both bills in testimony during this Congress.
    - H.R. 461 – South Utah Valley Electric Conveyance Act
    - H.R. 818 – Uintah Water Conservancy District

US Geological Survey

Earthquake in Eastern Turkey: A magnitude-7.2 earthquake struck 12 miles northeast of the city of Van in eastern Turkey on Sunday, October 23, 2011, at 1:41 p.m. local time at the epicenter. The earthquake occurred at a depth of 12.4 miles and caused strong shaking throughout a broad area, causing significant damage to Van and neighboring towns. The current version of the USGS Prompt Assessment of Global Earthquakes for Response (PAGER) estimate is that economic losses are most likely to be in the $1–10 billion range, and fatalities could total over 1,000. Turkey is a tectonically active country that experiences frequent destructive earthquakes. The earthquake struck in the eastern part of Turkey near the borders with Iran and Iraq. As of this writing, 325 people in 138 cities throughout Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Georgia, Syria, and the surrounding region had responded on the USGS Did You Feel It? website. The USGS organized a post-earthquake investigations coordination call with about 80 participants, including the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program agencies (FEMA, NIST, NSF, and USGS), NASA, OSTP, Department of State, USAID, and non-governmental organizations and universities. The State Department indicated that, as of that time, the government of Turkey had not requested any humanitarian or technical assistance. The USGS is coordinating with scientists and engineers in Turkey, and the USGS/USAID Earthquake Disaster Assistance Team is available should a request come from the Turkish government for technical assistance. More information may be found on the USGS website.

The Great California ShakeOut: On Thursday, October 20, 2011, more than 9 million Americans participated in the largest-ever earthquake at 10:20 a.m.: The Great California ShakeOut (simultaneous ShakeOuts took place in Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, & Guam). The ShakeOut is based on the 2008 USGS ShakeOut Scenario based on the work of the USGS Multi Hazards Demonstration Project (now the permanent SAFRR Project: Science Application for Risk Reduction). The annual ShakeOut drill, which attracted 8.6 million registrants in California, was intended to train the public on what to do the moment the shaking begins. In Northridge, California, the USGS hosted international delegations from Mexico, China, & Japan looking to copy the ShakeOut in their own countries. A Target store in Northridge hosted a public drill including dignitaries such as the Mayor of Los Angeles Mayor, the CA Emergency Management Agency Secretary, and Assistant Secretary Anne Castle. The USGS and Target

have signed an MOU, which formalizes their relationship to facilitate the use of natural hazards science to increase natural hazards resilience in the Nation. The goal is to develop more effective communication products to support the communities served by Target. *The Los Angeles Times* participated in the ShakeOut, testing its emergency newsroom at its printing plant about 2 miles from the main office. Features on the USGS & ShakeOut ran in the *Los Angeles Daily News*, *Los Angeles Times*, KABC, KNBC, KTLA (CW), KTTV (Fox), CNN, KCBS, CBSLA Radio, PBS, and some 350 other outlets.

First Alaskans Institute Elders and Youth Conference: USGS scientists collaborated with Alaska Pacific University (APU) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Climate Change Alaska Tribal Coordinator to present and discuss "Village Relocation Efforts: Mapping, Policy and Creative Solutions" during the 2011, First Alaskans Institute Eders and Youth Conference in Anchorage, AK. The session focused on the collaborative efforts between agencies, communities, students, village governments and universities to assist communities being impacted by climate change. The USGS and APU scientists discussed the physical science data required for general assessment, village relocation site selection processes, and also educational and career pathways for Alaska Native youth in the Earth sciences. The Conference, held this month in conjunction with the Alaska Federation of Natives Convention, was attended by more than 1,000 Alaskan Natives from across the State with the goal of developing leadership in Native youth, strengthened by the experience and wisdom of their elders.

Media: Coverage of USGS Infectious Salmon Anemia Release: Since the announcement on Monday, October 17, of Infectious Salmon Anemia being found in wild salmon in British Columbia, USGS scientist Jim Winton has given Congressional Briefings to the staff of Congressman Norm Dicks and Senator Maria Cantwell, as well as interviews to KING-TV in Seattle, CBS News, the New York Times, the Associated Press, the Seattle Times, Reuters, and the San Francisco Chronicle.

Drilling of a New Colorado Research Core Hole: The USGS National Assessment of Oil and Gas Project is funding and overseeing the drilling of a new research core hole through a portion of the Mancos Shale in the Adobe Buttes area on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land near Delta, Colorado. The drilling will begin on Oct. 24, 2011, and may require up to 10 days to complete. The objective is to obtain up to 1200 ft of continuous core through an interval that includes rocks correlative with the Niobrara Formation. Subsequent study of the core will test the hypothesis that the Mancos Shale has resource potential in this region of Colorado. (The USGS obtained required permissions from BLM to complete the project.)

USGS Provides Coal Assessment Update at Powder River Regional Coal Team Meeting: On October 26, USGS provided a status report on the USGS Regional Coal Assessment of the Powder River Basin at the Powder River Regional Coal Team (RCT) meeting in Casper, Wyoming. The RCT is an independent advisory board to the BLM. It provides advice to the State Directors of Montana and Wyoming and the Director of the BLM on coal issues. Voting members also include representatives of the Governors of the States of Montana and Wyoming. The USGS is a nonvoting member of the RCT providing expertise in the area of coal resource assessment.

Symposium on Quantifying Damage to the Gulf: As a result of the explosion of the Deepwater Horizon rig in the Gulf of Mexico and the resulting oil spill, natural resource trustees—State and Federal agencies—initiated a formal Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA). A symposium to discuss the NRDA will convene on November 2-4, at the National Aquarium in Baltimore, MD. The USGS will present the benefits and considerations related to use of passive samplers in these complex environmental situations.

USGS Public Lecture, "Did You Feel It? The Virginia Earthquake of August 23, 2011": On Wednesday, November 2, the USGS will hold its monthly public lecture "Did You Feel It? The Virginia Earthquake of August 23, 2011," from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Featured speakers is USGS scientists Mike Blanpied and Mark Carter. The lecture will be held at the USGS National Center in Reston in the Dallas L. Peck Memorial Auditorium. This event is free and open to the public. Follow this event live @USGSLive. This announcement and directions can be found online.

Memorandum

To: Chief of Staff

From: Chief of Staff, Indian Affairs

Subject: Indian Affairs Weekly Look Ahead Update

FOCUS FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 28, 2011

INDIAN AFFAIRS

Government to Government

- *Federal Acknowledgement:* The Office of Federal Acknowledgement (OFA) staff continues to work on the following cases:

Petitioner	#	Status
Central Band of Cherokee, TN	227	OFA conducted a peer review session on August 24, 2011, to discuss when to start the response period for the group. The peers advised that the OFA team needs to provide Petitioner #227 with copies of comments that the former leader of the group submitted during the comment period. Petitioner #227 will then have 60 days to respond to these comments.
Choctaw Nation of Florida, FL	288	The Department issued the FD on April 21, 2011. The *Federal Register* notice was published on April 27, 2011. The petitioner filed a timely request for reconsideration before the IBIA on July 19, 2011. IBIA ordered critical documents and list to be transmitted on or before November 21, 2011
Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana	31	A request for reconsideration was filed before the IBIA on February 1, 2010. At IBIA's request, OFA provided copies of documents on May 27, 2010. The IBIA has issued a briefing schedule for interested parties to file briefs; all briefing in the matter before the IBIA was complete in August 2010. On February 16, 2011, the IBIA informed the SOL that the matter is ready for a decision.
Meherrin Tribe, NC	119b	Active consideration began on November 1, 2010. Peer review was held on September 22 - 23, 2011. OFA briefed the ASIA on October 5, 2011; SOL is now reviewing. The Proposed Finding (PF) is projected to be due on or before November 1, 2011.
Muscogee Nation of Florida	32	OFA conducted an initial peer review session on August 24, 2011. This group is on the "Ready, Waiting for Active Consideration"

Petitioner	#	Status
		list; OFA notified the petitioner mid-September that it will be placed on "Active Consideration." Petitioner #32 will have 60 days to provide any new evidence that the Department will consider for the proposed finding.
Piro-Manso-Tiwa Indian Tribe, NM	5	Awaiting input from the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs (ASIA) Office. The ASIA Office suspended active consideration to allow for the review of the proposed finding.
Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation, CA	82	Active consideration began on November 1, 2010. Peer review was on September 23, 2011. OFA is preparing a request for a 180-day extension. The PF was projected to be due on or before November 1, 2011; but with an extension the due date would be May 1, 2012.

Healthy and Safe Communities

- *HPPG:* The OJS has selected the Rosebud Sioux Tribe and the San Carlos Apache Tribe as the next two HPPG sites. A meeting is scheduled with the elected Tribal leaders of both Tribes in November 2011. The OJS will conduct a baseline analysis of violent crime; assess staffing and Tribal programs that will support the community oriented policing in the development of crime reduction strategies for these two locations.

- *Homeland Security*:
  GPRA Performance Measure for Emergency Management: The I-READ index for Indian Affairs was submitted to the Department. The I-READ index has been utilized as the DOI GPRA Strategic Plan end outcome performance measure for emergency management for the past three years.

  Disaster Assistance.Gov Digest: Indian Affairs is one of the founding members of the Tribal Assistance Coordination Group. Working with the DHS Director of Tribal Affairs and the interagency Tribal Assistance Coordination Group, we created four public service announcement (PSA) scripts to inform disaster survivors living on or near tribal lands about the resources available on DisasterAssistance.gov. In May, we distributed the PSAs and background materials to public reservation radio stations across the country. The PSAs can be read on air before, during or after a disaster to inform Native Americans that DisasterAssistance.gov is the online place to go to apply for assistance following a presidentially declared disaster. The PSAs explain that regardless of tribal affiliation or tribal recognition status, Native Americans can apply for Federal assistance and find information on available resources on the portal. The background information gives on-air talent content for additional discussion if radio listeners call in with questions.

  The response to the campaign has been very positive. To date, 33 individual Native public radio stations have agreed to include the PSAs in their programming. The Intertribal Council of California, Northwest Tribal Emergency Management Council, Arizona Department of Homeland Security and the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina are also raising awareness by mentioning the PSAs and background materials in talking points and linking to DisasterAssistance.gov on their Web sites. Additionally, these groups are distributing the written materials to volunteers in and around tribal lands in their respective regions. Also as a result of our outreach efforts, the radio program "Native American Calling," the Nation's

only daily news and talk program produced by Native people for Native people, featured a FEMA Region VIII representative on their panel to discuss recent flooding and disaster response efforts in the Crow, Fort Belknap and Northern Cheyenne reservations in Montana. The station reports that 500,000 people listen to the program on some 52 stations daily. We will continue to reach out to radio stations in areas affected by presidentially declared disasters to ensure they have the most up-to-date information on DisasterAssistance.gov

FEMA R-9 Inter-Tribal Conference: OHSES attended the FEMA R-9 Tribal Emergency Management conference, to coordinate efforts in assisting tribes. Additionally, the need for all ASIA-BIA/BIE offices to become NIMS Compliant was discussed. OHSES is working to update ASIA-BIA/BIE Emergency Plans to reflect current standards and requirements, and provide training to both tribal and IA emergency Management Teams/COOP Emergency Relocation Groups (EMT/ERG), and Incident Management Teams (IMT). Meetings were held with FEMA R-9 Administrator and her tribal liaison, NIMS, and other Regional Program Leads and Coordinators. A National Recognition Award was presented to Terry Bohl, Director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, of the Nevada Indian Health Board (NIHB), and the Inter-Tribal Emergency Response Commission (ITERC), Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada (ITCN), for his many years of efforts in service to tribes in Nevada and the Nation (See Incident Management Team Development / Mutual Aid / Inter-Operable Communications below for some of these efforts).

NIMS Compliance: OHSES attended the FEMA R-9 & 10 National Incident Management System (NIMS) joint conference to coordinate efforts in assisting Tribes to become NIMS Compliant/Certified. OHSES is working to update ASIA-BIA/BIE Emergency Plans to reflect current standards and requirements, and provide training to both Tribal and IA Emergency Management Teams/COOP Emergency Relocation Groups (EMT/ERG), and Incident Management Teams (IMT). The meeting was held with FEMA National and Regional NIMS Coordinators, and representatives from approximately a dozen tribes, and Tribal Emergency Management/Services organizations (NWTEMC, USET, NIHB, NITC, CITC, etc.

Tribal Incident Management Team Efforts: OHSES continued to work with Tribes and Tribal organizations on the establishment of a National Tribal Emergency Management organization. Meetings were held with members of Nevada, NW, Navajo, USET, California tribal and other tribal emergency management/services organizations to discuss the advancement of a National Tribal Emergency Management organization, and Regional Tribal IMTs (T-IMT) and/or Tribal Incident Management Assistance Teams to be use in Mutual Aid to Tribes in need. Funding from FEMA and BIA has been requested to match funds provided from tribal and other sources.

Emergency Telecommunication Systems**:** OHSES continued to work on the establishment of tribal emergency communications systems, including the establishment of statewide tribal radio repeater systems to facilitate tribal Mutual Aid. Meetings were held with members of Nevada, NW (WA/OR/ID), and California tribes and tribal organizations to discuss the advancement of Regional tribal communications systems, and the inter-connections of those systems, including radio repeater nets both in their tribes, states/regions, and between them. Such a system would be invaluable in a major regional earthquake/tsunami event and other disasters, to coordinate tribal mutual aid assistance to tribes from other tribes outside of the

disaster area. Funding from FEMA and BIA has been requested to match funds provided from tribal and other sources. OHSES is facilitating a series of meetings/conference calls to further these tribal efforts.

Incident Management Team Development / Mutual Aid / Inter-Operable Communications**:** In furtherance of achievement of compliance with NIMS required IMT development, Mutual Aid, and Interoperability, OHSES participated in the demonstration of a newly developed Incident Management System in a Box (Kit). The Indian Health Board of Nevada, Emergency Management Office, and the Inter-Tribal Emergency Response Commission (ITERC), Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada (ITCN), in cooperation with FEMA R-9, (Terry Bohl) has developed a kit for distribution to all tribes in Nevada which will allow them to set up an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in about five minutes. The first production was for approximately 19 kits of the 29 needed. This is a truly inter-operable system, with redundancies that allow it to respond to emergencies/disasters even when one or more conventional communications systems fails or are down due to high traffic volumes. The system has a battery life of about 14 hours, but can be operated or recharged with a 'Solar Blanket' which is included in the Box/Kit. This represents a major advancement in inter-operable communications in Indian Country, and lights the way for tribes and Regional tribal emergency management organizations nationwide. Funding for this Pilot/ Demonstration Program has come from FEMA and the State of Nevada,as well as other sources and is a testament to effectiveness of persistent and cooperative efforts in Indian Country.

Missouri River Flooding: SitRep Update as of September 23, 2011, Day 127. The latest information OHSES has is that all Tribes involved in this incident are in the recovery phase.

Restoration of Tribal Homelands

- BIA is reporting that it has reached a new level for taking land into trust under this Administration. Latest figures are that the Department has accepted at total of 53,951 acres into trust for a total of 144,815 cumulative acres.

Organizational Improvement

- *Administration Assessment:* Bronner's draft Task 2 and 3 reports are under consideration by the IA/DOI Team; efforts are underway to consolidate the two reports to have a more cohesive, information-packed report on potential findings and recommendations. Additionally, at the request of the Department, the Bronner representatives interviewed the Deputy Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary's Chief of Staff, and possibly the Secretary himself for their input into the report.

- *Administrative Backlogs*: For FY 2012, monitoring efforts are underway to institutionalize the tracking and priority of completing all incoming inquiries by established deadlines.

Legislative Updates

- *Field Hearing (Alaska):* On October 22, the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs will hold an Oversight Field Hearing on "H.O.P.E. for the future: Helping Our People Engage to Protect Our Youth." The field hearing will be chaired by Senator Murkowski and the hearing will deal with the issue of Youth Suicide Prevention. Tthe Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs submitted his written testimony for the record per the agreement with the Senator.

- On October 31, the Senate Indian Affairs Committee will hold a Field Listening Session on Pending Legislation at the Oregon Convention Center, 777 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Portland, Oregon. The Committee is interested in hearing comments on legislation including: Native Violence against Women Act; Tribal Transportation; Tribal Energy Development, and other legislation the attendees wish to discuss. The listening session will be held 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. (local time).

- Bryan Newland, Senior Policy Advisor to the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs, will testify on behalf of the Department on November 3, 2011, before the House Natural Resources' Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs on the following bills:

  H. R. 205 (Heinrich), To amend the Act titled "An Act to authorize the leasing of restricted Indian lands for public, religious, educational, recreational, residential, business, and other purposes requiring the grant of long-term leases."
  H. R. 1053 (Matheson), To clarify authority granted under the Act entitled "An Act to define the exterior boundary of the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation in the State of Utah, and for other purposes."
  H. R. 2362 (Cole), To facilitate economic development by Indian tribes and encourage investment by Turkish enterprises.

Education

- *EPA Settlement Agreement:* The three Associate Deputy Directors continue to address the EPA violations with each of the Education Line Officers (ELOs). Schools are working with facilities and environmental personnel. The deadline for compliance is approaching. BIE school safety specialists and facility managers continue to work with the schools to ensure appropriate information is uploaded into the Environmental Management System (EMS) and/or the Facilities Management Information System (FMIS).
- *BIE Service Learning*: Six schools were selected to receive funding to support training for school projects supporting the *First Lady's Let's Move! in Indian Country*. Over the next six months, BIE Policy Analyst Brandi Sweet, will be working with the schools to identify and develop project plans to support the training. The schools will be accessing other resources identified through *Let's Move! in Indian Country* to support project development.
- *DOI Student Ambassador:* The BIE funded two positions in the DOI Student Ambassador program. The BIE has one slot remaining. The positions are among nine positions funded within the DOI. The program utilizes the peer-to-peer approach to recruit and hire new federal employees.
- *Coach Across America*: The BIE funded six positions across the nation to support the hiring of coaches and before/after school program coordinators to run activities for American Indian youth. The positions are currently being advertised and can be viewed on the BIE Jobs website at http://www.bie.edu/Jobs/index.htm
- *Fall PALA Plus Challenge*: The LMIC initiative is getting ready to launch a second PALA challenge in the BIE schools to support the LMIC goal of obtaining 25,000 PALA champions this year. The launch will roll out the President's new challenge criteria, the plus program, which incorporates nutrition in addition to physical activity.

Post Secondary Education

- On October 18, 2011, Juanita Keesing, BIE Program Analyst, hosted a meeting focusing on expanding federal partnerships to assist the tribally controlled colleges and universities (TCUs). The DOI, Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the White House Initiative on Indian TCUs participated in the meeting. The meeting resulted in clear goals being set to further the interaction among the agencies and to influence the language of the new Executive Order 13270. The three agencies will compile a report that provides a comprehensive list of all the funding provided to TCUs and the mechanisms used to provide the funding. The group hopes this will alleviate future difficulties in directing funds to the TCUs. The group also discussed including language in the EO that will ease the transfer of funds; language that will allow for a greater non-competitive funding process. Finally, the group will meet again prior to the American Indian Higher Education Consortium winter meeting scheduled for February 2012.

Haskell Indian Nations University (Haskell)

- The Haskell and Kansas University (KU) working group continued to update the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two universities. The MOU will strengthen Haskell and KU's long history of articulation and cooperation.
- The Haskell Indigenous Food Day was celebrated on campus in conjunction with the Haskell Green Campus Initiative and the Lawrence, Kansas community. Guest speaker Casey Camp-Horinek (Ponca), native activist and Actress, with Ben Yuhola providing music, were on hand for the event. A Proclamation from the Mayor of Lawrence Aron Crowell declared Saturday, October 22nd Indigenous Food Day in Lawrence. Workshops and discussions centered on food, sovereignty, water rights and health issues associated with diets.

Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

- The Vice President for Academic Programs, five faculty/staff and five students completed a Photovoice project and video on "student learning" at SIPI. The project was completed under a grant from the American Indian College Fund "Woksape Oyate" Wisdom of the People Initiative funded by the Lilly Foundation. This video and "a quilt block" representing SIPI's Assessment Program will be presented at the College Fund's Summit on October 21-23, 2011 in Denver, Colorado. The College Fund will assemble a quilt for all the tribal colleges and present it to the Lilly Foundation.

Accreditation Update

- The Accreditation Steering Committee met on Wednesday, October 19, 2011. Edward Hummingbird has begun mapping data and/or institutional effectiveness indicators to the Beta Version of the accreditation criterion. This will be augmented by research conducted by the Criterion Subcommittees who have been assigned "topics" so they can also begin identifying possible data sources that can be used as evidence that SIPI is meeting accreditation standards in the next self-study.

Outreach

- Planned Events:

Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs:

October 28, 2011, Indian Law Conference sponsored by the Idaho Chapter of the Federal Bar Association in Fort Hall, ID.

Week of October 30, 2011, the 64th NCAI convention, Portland..

November 7 – 10, 2011, attend the USET meeting, Choctaw, MS.

November 8, 2011, keynote remarks regarding economic development at the URS Native American Procurement Training Assistance Center, Boise, ID.

November 8 – 10, 2011, onsite visit to Blackfeet Tribe to discuss the Blackfeet Water Settlement Act, with the Tribe and to view the Tribe's water infrastructure.

November 10, 2011, keynote remarks highlighting service in Indian Country at the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, Minneapolis, MN.

November 13 – 15, 2011, scheduled tour the Ute reservation and attend the ribbon cutting for the new Ute Energy building.

November 23, 2011, keynote remarks as part of the National American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month to FBI staff, Washington, DC.

Bureau of Indian Education
Week of October 30, 2011, the 64th NCAI convention, Portland.

November 5, 2011, SIPI Pow-Wow: SIPI will celebrate 40 years as a higher education institution.

CONFIDENTIAL

October 28, 2011

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
Attn: James E. Anderson, Special Assistant

From: Ray Joseph, Principal Deputy Special Trustee

Re: Assistant Secretary Report for October 31 to November 4, 2011

Office of the Special Trustee (OST)
Assistant Secretary Weekly Report
October 31, 2011

Schedule and Activities
Principal Deputy Special Trustee Ray Joseph

- Management meetings in Washington (10/30-11/4, 11/7-10)

Review – October 24 to October 28

- **New:** Trust Services Deputy Special Trustee Rob Winter attended the Pueblo of Laguna alternative dispute resolution meetings in Washington, October 26-28.

- **Update:** Nemont Utility Co. received a USDA grant to use ARRA funds to install a fiber optic infrastructure across the Crow Reservation, the Ft. Peck Reservation and on intervening private lands. Nemont's contract appraiser is working with OST's Review Appraiser in Montana to be sure the work complies with OST standards. The USDA representative working with Nemont, BIA and OST briefed USDA Deputy Secretary Kathleen A. Merrigan on the results of the agencies' combined effort. Jodi Gillette (AS-IA), Vanessa Ray-Hodge (SOL), Patrice Kunesh (SOL), Mike Black (BIA) and Principal Deputy Special Trustee Ray Joseph briefed Deputy Secretary Hayes about the project on October 24. Nemont has provided notice that their board of directors has given restart approval, which contains a go-no/go decision in January as a safety precaution to ensure things are all still moving in the right direction. Nemont is dedicated to serving those who live in rural Montana, where poverty is entirely too common. They believe that this broadband service can help to turn some of that poverty around.

- **Update:** On October 3, Treasury transferred the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Act funds of $290 million principal and $144 million interest for OST to invest. Pursuant to the Economy Act, Treasury requested that OST invest and manage the transferred principal and proposed an interagency agreement, which was reviewed by SOL and signed on October 25 by Principal Deputy Special Trustee Ray Joseph.

- **Update:** The Fiduciary Trust Officer (FTO) at the Osage Nation presented a four-hour financial skills workshop on October 24, and another on October 27, at the Osage Nation Wah Zha Zhi Cultural Center in Pawhuska, Oklahoma. The workshop was customized to Osage shareholders. Topics included handling sudden wealth, avoiding

scams, debt, credit and investing. The FTO at the Tulsa Urban Office helped present the program on October 24.

- **Update:** BIA and OST are working with USDA to create a central point of access and a uniform loan application to improve the loan process in Indian country. Team members conferred on October 26 to develop a plan of action for this initiative.

- **Update:** The FTO at the Blackfeet Agency partnered with the Financial Literacy Coordinator of the Browning Community Development Corporation to provide financial skills training to tribal members, with particular emphasis on elders. The event was held in Browning, Montana on October 27.

Week Ahead – October 31 to November 4

- **New:** The FTO at the Northern Cheyenne Agency in Lame Deer, Montana, will present the second session of financial skills training on November 2 to at-risk youth. Training topics will be checking and savings accounts. Attendees are part of the Second Season program, which is funded through a government grant to redirect youth involved with the Northern Cheyenne Prosecution Office.

- **Update:** The OAS Rocky Mountain Regional Office carried over last fiscal year's appraisal request backlog of 153 for a total pending workload of 479. Both the quantity of requests and a period of time when the region lacked full staffing contributed to the backlog. The Office of Appraisal Services is proactively addressing the issue by sending a special backlog team to tackle it. Team members were deployed for two weeks, starting October 24. They are conducting field inspections of properties to be appraised and comparable properties. Part of the team is working on the Blackfeet Reservation in Browning, Montana, where the backlog is concentrated, completing appraisals and appraisal reviews. Another part of the team worked on the backlog that encompasses appraisal review requests from the Fort Belknap and Crow reservations. They also completed five agricultural land market rental appraisals for Turtle Mountain allotments under the jurisdiction of the Fort Belknap Agency. Meanwhile, OAS Rocky Mountain Regional Office personnel are reducing the number of outstanding appraisal requests from the Wind River Indian Reservation. This team approach is focusing OAS resources to reduce the total pending workload and ultimately eliminate the appraisal backlog nationwide.

- **Update:** OST is concerned about the 638 appraisal program managed by the Yakama Nation. There has been (since 2003) and continues to be a backlog of appraisal requests. A BIA-OST team drafted a letter with best practices to be implemented by the tribe to reduce the appraisal request backlog. The letter also suggests that the Nation voluntarily return the program if it cannot implement the best practices. The Office of Appraisal Services (OAS) is finalizing an action plan for a voluntary retrocession, describing how OAS would handle the Yakama Nation appraisal workload. The letter, when signed by Principal Deputy Special Trustee Ray Joseph, will be forwarded to the BIA Awarding Official.

On the Horizon

- **Update:** OST's Field Operations schedules outreach events, training seminars and meetings at powwows, schools and other venues. In October, more than a dozen activities were held. To date, 16 activities have been planned for November.

- **No Change:** Tribes raised the issue last winter about deposits of successful oil and gas bidders being held in interest bearing accounts while leases await approval. BIA and OST personnel met with members of the Fort Peck Tribe to advance resolution of this issue. To reconcile concerns raised by the tribe, discussions continue among the tribe, SOL, AS-IA and OST regarding draft statutory language.

- **No Change:** OST's tribal litigation team met with SOL on September 22 to discuss the Jicarilla Apache Nation trial scheduled for November 7. The Nation is seeking an accounting and to recover monetary loss and damages related to the U.S. government's breach of its fiduciary duty in allegedly mismanaging the Nation's trust assets and other funds.

- **No Change:** The annual audit of the Individual Indian Money and tribal and other trust funds is scheduled for release early in November.

- **No Change:** Treasury's Financial Literacy and Education Commission (FLEC) will meet with OST personnel in November to discuss OST's culturally sensitive financial skills training. OST is seeking to emulate Treasury's best practices and to determine if an OST-Treasury relationship would result in this audience-specific financial skills training being implemented through other agencies.

U N I T E D S T A T E S
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

October 28, 2011

Memorandum

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
c/o James Anderson, Special Assistant

From: Rhea Suh, Assistant Secretary-Policy, Management and Budget

Subject: October 28, 2011, Policy and Other Issues

This provides major policy and other issues that fall under the purview of the Assistant Secretary – PMB.

POLICY

Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) - Presidential Announcement: On Tuesday October 25, 2011, President Obama announced that the Secretary of the Interior will be the senior individual responsible for oversight of U.S. implementation of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI). Secretary Salazar followed the announcement with a commitment to work with industry and civil society to develop a sensible plan to disclose relevant information about revenues from oil, gas, and mining assets, and to enhance the accountability and transparency of our revenue collection efforts. With the President's announcement and the Secretary's commitment, the US has now completed the first three steps of the sign-up process. The EITI Board was notified of this accomplishment in a meeting in Jakarta on Thursday, October 26, 2011. The US decision to implement EITI was a highlight of the EITI board's meetings. US implementation substantially raises the profile of EITI globally and significantly enhances US leadership on transparency and governance.

2011 Department of the Interior Environmental Achievement Awards. The 2011 DOI EAAs have been announced, and the recipients will be recognized at an awards ceremony to take place in the Interior Library at 10:00 am on Thursday, November 3, 2011. These Awards recognize departmental employees and partners who have attained exceptional achievements under Executive Order 13514, "Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance," and for cleaning up contaminated land. The Award categories are: Sustainability Hero; Green Innovation; Lean, Clean and Green; Good Neighbor; Green Dream Team; Building the Future; and Environmental Remediation. The ceremony will be followed by refreshments in honor of the award recipients and a photo opportunity with the Secretary.

MANAGEMENT

DOI's Suspension and Debarment program manager recognized. David Sims, DOI's Suspension and Debarment program manager has been selected to chair the Interagency Suspension and Debarment Committee. David has been chosen for this recognition by OMB because of his work in developing a very robust program for DOI in the last two years. The ISDC provides a collaborative venue for agencies to establish priorities for the federal suspension and debarment community and helps ensure agencies have the tools and resources they need to consider and carry out suspensions and disbarments whenever necessary to protect the government's interests.

ONRR Fiscal Year 2011 Disbursements. ONRR is expecting to announce on November 7 the annual FY 2011 disbursements to Federal Treasury accounts, states, American Indian Tribes, and individual Indian mineral owners. FY 2011 disbursements total $11.16 billion, an increase of nearly $2 billion over FY 2010. ONRR will post the new disbursement data to their web site on the 7th, and the Department of the Interior will issue the press release.

GOMESA Disbursements. ONRR is preparing to make the fourth annual disbursements to U.S. Treasury accounts, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and to four coastal states and eligible political subdivisions under provisions of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 (GOMESA), which mandated that adjacent Gulf coast states and political subdivisions receive a benefit from certain energy leases in Gulf of Mexico waters. Last year, ONRR disbursed $2.3 million. The disbursements this year are substantially less as they reflect only rental payments. A press release is not anticipated.

BUDGET

2012 Continuing Resolution. The government is operating under the second 2012 continuing resolution PL 112-36. This continuing resolution funds government operations through November 18 and continues the 2011 funding level reduced by an across the board reduction of 1.503%. POB is working with bureaus to identify CR anomalies for a possible CR extension through December 24, 2011.

2012 Interior Appropriations. On October 14, 2011 the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies released a draft appropriations bill. The Senate mark is $372 million or 3.7 percent above the House mark. The Senate mark provides $10.3 billion for Interior programs, which is $350 million or 3 percent below the 2011 enacted level and $844 million or 7.5 percent below the 2012 President's budget. If the discretionary amounts are adjusted for an additional $93 million in inspection fees and $32.5 million in BLM permit processing fees, the change from 2011 is $224 million or 2.1 percent below the 2011 level.

Report language supporting the draft bill has not been made public. The draft legislation is to serve as the Chairman's mark for the subcommittee and constitutes a starting point for further discussions within the Senate and negotiations with the House.

OTHER

2011 Combined Federal Campaign for the National Capital Area (CFCNCA). As of October 24, donations towards Interior's 2011 CFCNCA campaign goal of $600,000 total $59,226, an increase of over $21,000 from last week. To date, three organizations have raised over $8,000, including the Office of the Secretary - $14,124 (12.4% of goal), U.S. Geological Survey - $12,814 (9.5% of goal), and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - $8,823 (11.0% of goal). The Office of the Inspector General has raised 43.2% of its goal and BOEM and BSEE have raised 11.5% of their combined goal. The CFC will run through the end of the year. Upcoming events include:

- **October 25** – CFC Featured Artist Sekou Hayes: Noon in the Bison Bistro.
- **October 31** – CFC Halloween Tailgate Lunch sponsored by the National Park Service: Noon in the South Interior Building Auditorium. Halloween costume contest.
- **November 2** – Interior's Got Brains!/Karaoke: Noon in the Bison Bistro. (Teams to be announced this week.) Interior's Got Brains will be a weekly competition in November (except November 23) with the championship on December 14.
- **November 4** – Final CFC Tailgate lunch sponsored by the Bureau of Reclamation: Noon in the South Interior Building auditorium.

IG/GAO Reports. The list of current reports and their status is attached.

Attachments:
PMB Office Reports

cc: Deputy Assistant Secretaries—Policy, Management and Budget

Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget
Weekly Office Reports
October 27, 2011

POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

Update: DEEPWATER HORIZON Oil Spill Response. Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance (OEPC) headquarters and regional staff continue to provide support to senior DOI officials, and the Gulf Coast Incident Management Team (GCIMT) based in New Orleans. The GCIMT is targeting an end of phase 3 and 4 operations by the end of this hurricane season, and an end to response operations by late November.

- OEPC continues to work with the DOI Pollution Funding Removal Authorizations (PRFA's) Cost Documentation Team to review and improve DOI bureaus/offices' reimbursable cost documentation packages and submit them to the US Coast Guard (USCG) National Pollution Fund Center (NPFC). DOI bureaus and offices have received PRFAs totaling $96.36 Million in reimbursable budget authority. So far, DOI has submitted cost documentation packages totaling $51.49 Million and the USCG has processed and reimbursed in full a total of $12.70 Million.

- A new PRFA for FWS has been approved. The PRFA will cover the costs of providing assistance to the U.S. Coast Guard as that agency prepares a biological assessment under the Endangered Species Act to document impacts of the spill response, not the impacts of the oil itself. The NPFC issued this new, separate PRFA instead of an amendment to the existing FWS PRFA due to the fact that this agreement will be managed at FWS HQ and its period of performance will run for a two year period, from October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2013. The PRFA provides reimbursable budget authority totaling $2,221,946. In addition, some of the activities in previously approved FWS PRFA Amendment #18 will be removed by a new Amendment #19, to be submitted shortly. That forthcoming PRFA amendment will reduce the PRFA's existing reimbursable budget authority and ensure that identical activities will not be performed under two different PRFAs.

- Amendment #9 for the USGS PRFA has been submitted to extend the period of performance through the end of 2011. This will allow USGS to continue their analytical work begun under PRFA amendments that were previously approved. There will most likely need to be another extension of the performance period beyond the end of December 31, 2011 as the work is not expected to be completed until sometime in 2012.

Completed: DOI Disaster Response Plan for Alaska Updates: The OEPC Anchorage finalized the semi-annual update to the *DOI Disaster Response Plan for Alaska*. The plan helps ensure that Alaska-based DOI Bureaus/Offices can immediately respond to address Alaska-based DOI Bureau/Office emergencies and provide timely and coordinated assistance among those DOI Bureaus/Offices and their approximately 3,000 employees located in 30 communities

throughout the State. The plan includes detailed information on responses to major earthquakes in the Anchorage and Fairbanks areas, terrorism incidents, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, and any other incident where one or more DOI Bureaus requires assistance to save lives and/or property. Plan updates are now being distributed to appropriate DOI Bureau/Office disaster response planning contacts.

Update: Draft Environmental Justice Strategic Plan. A revised draft of the Department's Environmental Justice Strategic Plan has been surnamed by Assistant Secretaries and the Heads of Bureaus and Offices. The draft plan is available for public review on the Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance's web site: http://www.doi.gov/oepc/justice.html.

The draft plan sets forth an integrated strategy with five important goals and associated measurements to guide the Department in its pursuit of environmental justice. The draft plan also includes metrics to gauge progress in achieving environmental justice.

Office of Policy Analysis

New: Updated Draft Departmental Communications Policy. The Office of Policy Analysis is working with the Deputy Chief of Staff to update the Department's communications policy (470 DM 1). The draft policy is currently circulating for formal review and surname. Policy Analysis is responding to comments and revising the draft policy as needed. The communications policy is being updated as part of a larger Federal effort, initiated by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, to enhance Federal scientific integrity guidelines and policies.

New: Reporter Question Concerning Invasive Species. On Oct. 24, CBS Reporter Reid Orvedahl called the National Invasive Species Council staff for a possible invasive species story on CBS Sunday Morning on Oct. 30. The reporter asked "what was the worst invasive plant in the West?" The NISC staff told him it was cheatgrass. He also asked about species are listed as injurious under the Lacey Act and plant species listed by APHIS as federal noxious weeds.

New: Restoration Program Support. Policy Analysis reviewed 52 funding proposals and provided follow-up questions to the Restoration Program's Work Group as part of the annual allocation process to fund damage assessment cases.

New: Oil and Gas Fiscal Modeling. The Office of Policy Analysis facilitated a 3-day training session for about 20 Federal employees (from BLM, BOEM and DOE) interested in modeling oil and gas fiscal systems. These models were developed under a BLM/BOEM contract comparing U.S. government take to that of other jurisdictions around the world.

New: Energy and Minerals. Policy Analysis economics staff assisted Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in drafting a memorandum to the BLM director on the development of a proposed BLM environmental cost model.

Update: Estimating the Benefits and Costs of DOI's Fire Program. Policy Analysis met with DOI's Wildland Fire Coordination Office to discuss potential fire models and prototypes to

use in estimating the program's net benefits. The Office is also preparing an analysis of fire models and a literature review.

Update: Arctic Council EBM Experts Meeting. On October 17-18, DOI hosted the highly successful first meeting of the Arctic Council Ecosystem-based Management (EBM) Experts Group. The Director of the Office of Policy Analysis co-led the U.S. delegation and the Office of Policy Analysis played a crucial coordinating role alongside the Office of International Affairs. On the first day of the meeting, the Secretary greeted the representatives from each of the Arctic Nations and three Permanent Participants groups. The two-day meeting focused on reaching a common understanding of EBM and developing a set of principles for applying EBM in the Arctic Policy. Going forward, the Office of Policy Analysis will play an active leadership role in the intercessional work towards Arctic-wide guidelines for EBM. Policy Analysis will provide read-outs of the meeting on October 26 at the staff-level Interior Arctic Coordination Group and on October 27 at the interagency Arctic Policy Group meeting at the State Department.

Update: Chesapeake Bay Ecosystem Markets Team (EMT) – Policy Analysis coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the National Park Service, to revise a draft FY 2012 EMT work plan to include the Department as supporting agency for efforts to expand market demand for environmental markets, build local capacity for implementing water quality offset programs, identify potential market approaches to oyster restoration, and developing various technical papers. The Department had earlier volunteered to lead the effort to develop FAQ's on environmental markets and facilitating the development/expansion of conservation and mitigation banking markets.

Update: Tribal Gathering Rule. Policy Analysis reviewed and commented on the National Park Service's draft cost-benefit analysis and regulatory flexibility threshold analysis for their proposed regulation to revise certain sections of 36 CFR Parts 1 and 2 to address "Gathering of Plants, Plant Parts, of Minerals by Federally Recognized Tribes for Traditional Purposes."

Update: FWS Draft Eagle Conservation Plan Guidance. Policy Analysis further revised the economic model and supporting chapter for review by the FWS' Eagle Conservation Mitigation Team during the week of October 24. The Team is meeting to work on finalizing the wind power guidance.

Ongoing: Economic Report. Over the coming weeks, Policy Analysis will continue to hold meetings with bureau staff to discuss various technical issues related to preparation of the FY 2011 Economic Report. Over the coming two weeks the Office will compile data on grants/payments necessary for the economic contribution analysis.

Ongoing: Klamath: Economic Support. The Economics staff is continuing to review preliminary data from the non-use survey and providing additional comments on the economic analysis included in the draft Secretarial Decision Overview Report, which is currently scheduled for release in early October. Staff will also be assisting the response to economics related comments that were received on the draft EIS.

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Office of Native Hawaiian Relations

Update: NAGPRA Guidance to State Department of Hawaiian Home Lands: ONHR is working with the State of Hawai‘i’s Department of Hawaiian Home Lands’ (DHHL) to meet their requests for guidance on implementing the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1995 (NAGPRA) which applies on Hawaiian Home Lands. DHHL engaged in its first consultations pursuant to NAGPRA on October 13th and 14th and invited ONHR to attend in order to provide feedback and guidance. ONHR’s attendance and guidance was appreciated by DHHL, its consultants, and the Native Hawaiian organizations who participated in the consultations. The consultations were in relation to a residential homestead development.

DHHL also contacted ONHR after being notified by a general lessee and a permittee that human remains were discovered during their explorations of separate lava tubes.

ONHR has encouraged DHHL to develop a NAGPRA program and to apply for a National NAGPRA Program grant to support such efforts. The Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission, who is also the Director of DHHL, is very interested in developing such a program as well as having the Hawaiian Homes Commission establish policies to address some of the issues.

Office of International Affairs

Completed: Arctic EBM Meeting: The PPA and OIA staff hosted an Arctic Council meeting of Ecosystem-based Management (EBM) experts on October 18th and 19th. This EBM experts group was a key initiative to emerge from the most recent Arctic Council Ministerial Meeting, and one that had strong DOI backing. Representatives from seven Arctic nations and three Arctic Council Permanent Participants attended the meeting. The meeting was successful in achieving stated objectives: helping to establish a common pan-Arctic understanding of EBM, identifying principles and guidelines for EBM application in the Arctic, and creating momentum to hold additional meetings on the same topic. Next steps will include a science-needs review (co-led by DOI) and a tentative follow-on meeting in early 2012.

New: International Biodiversity Working Group: On October 27, OIA will convene the DOI staff-level international biodiversity working group to review recent biodiversity meetings and to prepare for upcoming meetings under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). In early October, the first plenary session of the newly established Intergovernmental Panel on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) was held in Nairobi, where governments discussed the functions, scope, and operations of IPBES. IPBES is a science-policy interface that will assess and promote science on biodiversity and ecosystems services in support of international policy-making on these issues. On November 7-11, the CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical, and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) will meet in Montreal to discuss the CBD Strategic Plan and related indicators, invasive species, Arctic biodiversity, sustainable use, and inland water biodiversity. OIA has reached out to Arctic contacts within DOI for additional expertise on Arctic biodiversity, which is a new issue under the CBD,

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New: NOAA Discussion of Review of International Agreements: On October 19, an OIA staff member, together with staff from USGS and SOL, attended presentations by NOAA General Counsel's office on procedures, laws and policies for international agreements between NOAA and foreign agencies. The presentations and discussion with NOAA staff provided useful information and points of comparison for OIA's own management of the DOI's own process for reviewing international agreements.

New: Summit of the Americas and Western Hemisphere Science and Technology Ministerial: U.S. negotiators are gearing up for the VI Summit of the Americas, to be held in Colombia in April, 2012. The declaration to emerge from the Summit will likely feature a call for hemispheric cooperation on natural disasters. In addition, Panama will host a meeting of western hemisphere Science and Technology Ministers in November, under the auspices of the Organization of American States. OIA staff is coordinating with USGS to ensure DOI input into the Summit negotiations and the Science and Technology Ministerial.

New: Morocco, Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas: The OIA-ITAP will coordinate a technical assistance mission to support sustainable tourism under the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Morocco and the U.S. Over a 5-week period, two DOI experts will conduct assessments of tourism and help develop sustainable tourism management plans in three of Morocco's protected areas, deliver a national training, and develop recommendations for Morocco's protected areas agency, the High Commission for Water, Forests and the Fight Against Desertification (HCEFLD). This work is funded by the State Department.

Update: Rio+20: The OIA staff participated in an NSC prep meeting for the United Nations (UN) Conference on Sustainable Development to be held in Brazil in June 2012, also known as "Rio+20". The meeting focused on the US submission to the UN due November 1, which is intended to be a short, focused political document. OIA expressed concern that the US submission as drafted does not highlight the key role that biodiversity and ecosystem services play in supporting sustainable development goals, a concern that is shared by others in the interagency group. The NSC will release a revised position paper early this week.

Update: Big Bend/Río Bravo Protected Areas Project: OIA staff finalized coordination and support planning this week for the joint celebration ceremony in Big Bend National Park on October 24 involving Secretary Salazar and his Mexican counterpart, Secretary Elvira. An OIA staff member departed Saturday, October 22 to staff the event.

YOUTH, PARTNERSHIPS AND SERVICE

New: AGO Presentation at the 2011 Mid-Atlantic Environmental Literacy Summit. On November 2, the Youth Office will present on AGO, with an emphasis on the interagency AGO Education Work Group. NOAA and others will release a draft elementary and secondary education environmental literacy strategic plan for the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The audience will include federal, state, and local public and private agency representatives.

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New: OS Interns Participate in Service Project at Great Falls National Park On October 28, the Youth Office brought the Fall OS Interns to Great Falls National Park to learn more about what DOI has to offer beyond an office setting. Interns started the day by learning about the park from NPS Park Rangers and went on a hike to visit the falls. The second half of the day, they helped the Rangers repair trails which were damaged during the hurricanes.

New. Nike N7 Summit and NCAI. The Office of Youth sent a representative to the Nike N7 summit to work with tribal leaders, physical activity program managers and federal partners to increase Indian Country's access to physical activity education and opportunities. The Summit will include several *Let's Move!* events led by federal delegates. The Office of Youth will also be present at NCAI where Jessica Wahl and others will meet with Tribal Leaders to discuss the issues of obesity in Indian Country and the role that LMIC plays in combating childhood obesity.

Ongoing: MOU between DOI, USDA, U.S. Army Corps and Wilderness Inquiry. Five year Memorandum of Understanding undergoing revisions to renew agreement between DOI (BLM, BOR, NPS, FWS), Forest Service and the Army Corps of Engineers to cooperate on providing increased opportunities for outdoor recreation for people of all abilities, economic circumstances and cultural backgrounds.

Ongoing: MOU between DOI, USDA and HistoriCorps. DOI SOL and USDA attorneys have completed review of a new MOU between DOI (BLM, FWS, NPS), USDA (Forest Service), HistoriCorps, The Corps Network and the Student Conservation Association to cooperate on projects and activities related to preservation of historic structures, sites, artifacts, landscapes, and other resources and to conduct heritage education at the national, regional, and local levels.

Ongoing: LMIC Service-Learning Training. The Office of Youth has identified 6 BIE Boarding schools that we will work with to provide LMIC service-learning training and technical assistance throughout the Fall Semester in order to implement LMIC service projects in the Spring and Summer. LMIC service projects will include school/community gardens, physical activity clinics, health/nutrition education, among other school and community-based efforts.

Ongoing: DOI STEM Education and Employment Pathways Strategic Plan. The DOI STEM Education Strategic Plan Work Group met, led by staff in the Office of Youth, to review a draft plan and plan steps to finalize the plan. To further inform the plan, this week, staff also met with the Department of Energy regarding their innovative mentoring programs to increase diversity in STEM agencies.

Ongoing: Take Pride in America C.A.S.T. for Kids Event. Final preparations for the upcoming Take Pride in America C.A.S.T. for Kids Event at Camp Letts in Annapolis, MD on Sunday, October 23 are underway this week. The event is expected to be attended by 35 handicapped youth and a parent for a half day's fishing and family fun. Thirty Midshipmen from the Naval Academy will assisted with the event. The event has brought together new partnerships with the Anne Arundel Parks and Recreation Department and the YMCA's Camp

Letts in Edgewater, Maryland, and has been coordinated by Doug Blankinship in the Take Pride in America Office. It is anticipated that this will become an annual event.

Renewed: Veteran/Youth Fire Corps. The Office of Wildland Fire, Youth Office, SOL staff and ASPMB Acquisitions & Property Management are working together to develop guidance to DOI Offices and Bureaus on the use of "multi-bureau cooperative agreements." A pilot agreement focused on Veteran/Youth Fire Corps will be one of the first model agreements to distribute as an example.

Ongoing: Take Pride in America Fundraising Authority: Meetings and discussions continued this week to discuss potential legal agreements with private foundations to leverage funds.

Ongoing: DOI Partnerships Website. Migration of old ASPMB Partnerships website to be converted to DOI.Gov by early August. Partnerships Coordinator trained by Figleaf contractor with PMB staff to convert website and train other Bureau Partnership Coordinators on how to edit and manage site. New Partnerships website will have fewer pages and less content as requested for all government websites by the Administration.

TECHNOLOGY, INFORMATION AND BUSINESS SERVICES

Office of the Chief Information Office

New: DOI Spectrum Support to the Freely Associated States of Micronesia. The Office of the CIO participated in a joint telecommunications board in Guam with the Department of State, Department of Defense, and the Freely Associated States of Micronesia (FASM). DOI personnel provide spectrum training to FASM personnel and participated in coordination meetings on spectrum use and discussions on spectrum planning.

Update: Proposals for First Quarter of FY 2012 IT Transformation "Quick-Wins". Several new IT Transformation "Quick-Wins" have been identified and reviewed with the Bureau and Office Assistant Directors for Information Resources for initial feedback. Projects under consideration include:

- Enabling employees to submit timesheets from remote location using personally owned equipment;
- Expansion of Department-wide employee access to instant messaging services;
- Laying the groundwork for consolidating the DOI network for three bureaus and offices (BIA, OST and OHTA)

The DOI Chief Information Officer and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Technology, Information and Business Services will announce the planned first quarter Quick-Wins by October 28, 2011.

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Update: Innovations Incubator. New content is being prepared and reviewed for the IT Transformation (ITT) website, to potentially support a customer poll function and other employee engagement features.

Update: Customer Management. An all-employee email is being prepared to announce the IT Transformation (ITT) Volunteer process. Modifications to the ITT Website have been prepared so that volunteers can submit their volunteer applications; this feature is in stand-by mode until the email notice is sent out.

Update: The Data Center Consolidation Initiative (DCCI).

- Completed 13 of 18 sites committed for this calendar year, and expect to achieve the Department-wide goal of 18.
- Coordinated Federal CIO request to visit USGS Menlo Park, CA data center on Tuesday October 25, 2011.
- Meeting with OMB/GSA October 27, 2011 to initiate analysis and adaptation of the new, standard government-wide Savings/Cost-Avoidance model.

Update: OCIO Support for OS Investment Review Board's Business Line Roadmap Pilot. As part of the Department's ongoing IT governance reforms under S.O. 3309, the Office of the Secretary, Investment Review Board is sponsoring the development of roadmaps for business improvements related to IT investments for six lines of business as follows:

1. Human Resources
2. Budget and Performance
3. Financial Management
4. Revenue Collection
5. Wildland Fire
6. Environmental Management

The roadmaps will take a cross-organizational perspective to plan for streamlining business processes and associated IT support systems. The OCIO has established a roadmap integration board that brings together architecture and capital planning disciplines. The Deputies Operations Group will be briefed on this initiative in the context of DOI's IT Governance Reforms on October 27, 2011.

Office of Valuation Services

New: OVS Director. The OVS Director met with commercial appraisal firms to discuss their operating processes and policies relative to those OVS is establishing. Outcomes from the discussions included metrics for appraiser performance, service delivery and timelines for delivery.

New: OVS Quality Assurance Division. QAD undertook the first QA review (FYs 2011 and 2010), for the NPS Client Service Team, evaluating service delivery and work quality. Each OVS Client Service Team will undergo a similar review over the next four months. These

reviews will be used to guide training needs, identify means to improve client service and address any issues that emerge from the review.

Update: OVS Appraiser Positions. Vacancy announcements for four review appraiser positions have been posted on USAjobs. These are re-advertisements of previous vacancies that were not filled due to a combination of declinations of offers and a low number of applicants in some locations.

Update: ASFMRA Annual Conference. The OVS Deputy Director/Chief Appraiser, Senior Advisor and Quality Assurance Officer are participating in the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers annual conference this week. Among objectives for the meetings are encouraging candidates to apply for OVS positions, discussion of appraisal issues identified in OVS Quality Assurance reviews, and input into the OVS Apprentice Appraiser Program.

Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution.

New: Training for ONRR. At the request of ONRR's diversity change agents and the strategic development officer, CADR is tailoring communication and conflict management skills training for ONRR staff in DC and Denver.

New: Leadership training. CADR is advising on senior management training on facilitative leadership for ASLM, BLM, OSM, BOEM and BSE.

Update: National Indian Gaming Commission Tribal Advisory Committee. CADR facilitated the first meeting of the National Indian Gaming Commission Tribal Advisory Committee in Norwich, CT, on Oct. 19-20. CADR has assisted in designing the process for the committee to assist in revising gaming regulations.

Ongoing: Open Government Briefings. CADR is conducting one on one briefings on the Open Government Action Plan for Bureau Deputy Directors. Feedback and input will be compiled and shared at the end for the briefing process.

Completed: CADR Dialogue on Intercultural Awareness and Problem-Solving. Evaluations show the dialogue and consultation simulation on Oct. 13, planned to support the upcoming rollout of the new DOI policy on government-to-government consultation and attended by 36 employees, was well received and there is interest in further education on this topic.

National Business Center

Update: Strategic Assessment: Information collection and analysis for the strategic consultants continues. Core teams, expert teams, and volunteer teams have kicked off for the acquisition capabilities and corporate capabilities deep dives. Deep dive teams are developing initial artifacts and findings to deliver change in the targeted areas. A visit to Sierra Vista is scheduled; senior leaders from the Office of the DAS-TIBS and NBC will conduct All-hands, a gallery walk, and Sierra Vista senior leadership team meeting during the week of October 24th. Upcoming

activities include: continue deep dive activities, develop high level plans for recommended initiatives, and begin preparing for transition after contract ends on or about November 7th.

New: Federal Aviation Administration - Furloughed back wage computation. The National Business Center's Personnel Payroll Systems Division and Payroll Operations Division quickly generated payment for approximately 3600 employees entitled to retroactive back pay from the furloughed period, the last week of July and the first week of August 2011. The FAA submitted two pay period amendment time and attendance files for payment reversing furloughed hours. The employees received payment in their October 18th paychecks, shortly after the Department of Transportation provided the authorization to make the retroactive payments.

New: AMD Contractor Completes Medical Evacuation from Antarctic. On October 16th, after weather delays across the Drake Passage, two Basler DC3T's operated by Kenn Borek Air (under contract to Aviation Management's NSF Antarctic Program) departed Rothera Station (UK) for Amundsen-Scott Base (South Pole Station). The mission was to retrieve the winter site manager at the South Pole Station, after she suffered a stroke on August 27th. Despite the extreme cold, well below -50C, the ground operation lasted only 40 minutes due to the readiness of the South Pole ground staff. The former site manager remains in New Zealand for medical treatment.

Update: Fiscal Year 2011 financial services year-end close. The National Business Center continues to complete year-end close-out activities for our external financial services customers. Public Defenders Service for the District of Columbia end-of-the-year close was successfully completed.

New: The NBC exceeded Departmental Performance Metrics for FY 2011 Audit Follow-up Program. The NBC tracked, mitigated and closed 100% of GAO and OIG audit findings and recommendations during the third quarter (Q3) of FY 2011 exceeding the 60% target for Q3 and the 85% metric for year end. In addition, the NBC closed 85% of internally disclosed control weaknesses on target with our internal goal. This demonstrates an effective Control and Compliance Program across the NBC enterprise and indicates active and quality participation by Directorate Internal Control and Audit Follow-up representatives. Directorate staff and NBC senior leaders meet monthly to review progress through the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) process using a Senior Leadership Team Dashboard that discloses risk associated with meeting target milestone for audit mitigation and closure in support the Office of Secretary and the Department.

New: AQD assists in cost savings to the OS/OCIO: Upon protest of the April 2011 Enterprise Hardware Contract, the Hardware Acquisition Team immediately created an interim ordering solution that was approved by the OCIO and PAM. The solution was comprised of step-by-step ordering instructions for both FFS and FBMS that utilized FedBid (the FedBid contract has a cost of only 1 cent per year paid by the DOI). Utilizing FedBid beginning in May 2011, the OS OCIO realized $1.99 million in savings through the end of the fiscal year.

New: AQD supports OS/OCIO in FY11 acquisitions: As of October 11, 2011 AQD has

awarded 738 actions obligating approximately $108 million and more than 86 no-cost modifications in support of the Office of the Secretary in FY11. The dedicated OS acquisition team directly supports critical OS infrastructure and operational needs.

New: Closure of ramp D in the MIB garage. On October 18th, the facilities staff met with the Modernization Program Office and Security to discuss plans to relocate the loading dock operations to ramp G when ramp D bollards are being constructed. Notifications and logistics are being worked out.

New: Alternative Locations for Museum Displays. NBC facilities staff met with Museum staff on October 13th to discuss alternative locations for museum displays. Potential locations and square footage information were provided. Executive management from the Museum was expected to meet with the Secretary's Chief of Staff on October 17th to review the options.

New: Customer Communication Forum (CCF). The regularly scheduled monthly CCF was conducted on October 20th. Updates were provided on modernization, changes to the transit subsidy program, South Interior Building Green Parking Lot Design, a planned upcoming meeting with administrative contacts from the Bureaus and Offices and follow up issues from September's meeting.

Update: Cyclical Painting MIB. Colossal Painting is now painting the 5th wing hallway ceilings and is working on the 6th floor.

Update: Installation of LEED Platinum Plaque for Cafeteria. The materials required for mounting of the plaque, certificate and the ceremonial photo have been ordered. We are targeting early November for installation of the display but will likely know a more exact timeframe later. We are also working to coordinate the ceremony with representatives of the Office of the Secretary, the GSA Administrator, and an executive from the U.S. Green Building Council.

Update: Earthquake/Hurricane Repairs: Thompson Painting will begin patching and painting work the week of October 24th.

Update: SIB organic garden planting and maintenance. NBC Staff worked with DOI volunteers, students, and the GSA Horticulturist to plant additional vegetable seedlings in the garden on the west side. Additional flower beds will be cleared out the week of October 24th and more vegetable seedlings will be planted over the next couple weeks.

Update: Implementation of the Capital BikeShare program. NBC created a website, FAQ's, application and LAN message to announce the launch of the Capital BikeShare program for DC area DOI employees.

Update: Recertification of the Transportation Subsidy Program. Recertification has been completed for many Bureaus and Offices. An extension through November 30th was granted for BOR employees in Denver.

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New: Modernization of Wing 1 Postponed. NBC Staff were verbally informed on Wednesday, October 19th, by GSA that funding for modernization of Wing 1 has been cut from the FY12 budget. We are awaiting formal notification, but in the meantime we are preparing materials for executive management that will outline building and budget impacts as well as issues for decision.

HUMAN CAPITAL AND DIVERSITY

Office of Human Resources

New: Bureau of Reclamation's (BOR's) Denver Office Accountability Review Close-out. The Accountability team closed out a review of (BOR's) Denver Office. This review was led by the Department with team members from BOR's regional human resources offices during the week of November 15-19, 2010. BOR submitted a corrective action plan in response to the Department's report of findings on July 5, 2011. All required actions have been addressed satisfactorily. BOR is still in the process of finalizing an HR Career Development Program policy, an HR Organizational Chart outlining approvals, processes, responsibilities, and authorities, a synopsis of its web-based tracking system, a DI-3100 checklist, and Directives and Standards covering the 3 R's. The review was closed out with the understanding that BOR will provide the Department with copies of these items upon their completion.

Update: Upcoming Accountability Review- Office of Surface Mining (OSM). The Accountability team is preparing for an upcoming review, to be led by the Office of Human Resources (OHR), of the OSM. OHR has requested participation from other bureaus to participate on the team and has gotten volunteers from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE), the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and BOR. OSM has identified expected outcomes for the review and the team lead had begun developing surveys and interview guides.

Update: Upcoming Accountability Reviews. In addition to the OSM review mentioned above, the Accountability team will be participating in the following reviews scheduled over the next several months:

- BIA Center for Recruitment, Anadarko, OK, October 24 - 28, 2011
- Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Region 5, Hadley, MA, date TBD
- National Park Service (NPS), Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, MS, date TBD

New: USA JOBs 3.0
The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) installed a new bandwidth product to reduce online traffic jams and it tested well. We have noticed that it has reduced jams on the front end. The hardware/software tested made the search engines work faster and better. OPM says they removed the "governor" and now all applicants can access USAJOBS without restriction to protect the system.

- Old postings are being expired; have eliminated duplicate job postings.

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- Ability of jobs to be searchable – jobs now showing up in search results.
- Have added more search servers.
- Have finished testing with Occomy – focusing on getting 3.0 on worldwide network will begin implementation after 6 p.m. on October 19, 2011, and active tomorrow morning. Won't have to turn anyone away using USAJOBS "Busy" page. Working with Help Desk re: password reset issues and process (similar to 2.0). Changing process to include email address to cut down on user id/password issues.
- HTML text is showing up under job description title – working on problem.
- The 3.0 Team is currently on a mission of "debunk and debug."
- If problem seeing agency jobs on website, send email to usajobs3.0@opm.gov use subject: agency page issue.

Update: Pathways Programs. OPM is currently reviewing over 250 comments on proposed regulations for the Pathways Programs. Pathways will replace the STEP/SCEP and is a new student recruitment program aimed at attracting interns, recent grads, and Presidential Management Fellows. The Pathways Advisory Council is meeting monthly to develop implementation guidance and related information for agencies. The council expects to have draft guidance prepared by December 13, 2011. OPM's goal is to issue final regulations in Spring 2012.

Update: Phasing out non-foreign area cost-of-living allowances (COLA). Under 5 U.S.C 5941 (a)(1) and under section 1914 of Public Law 111-84, COLA is being phased out while locality pay is being phased in. On September 26, 2011, OPM hosted a teleconference to propose three options to agencies affected by this transition. OPM has requested a data call to provide information on whether or not the options currently on the table would be a viable measure for agencies to consider. DOI is in the process of collecting data to submit to OPM no later than November 2, 2011.

Office of Civil Rights

New: Society for Human Resource Management Annual Diversity & Inclusion Conference. Staff from the Office of Civil Rights attended the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) Annual Diversity & Inclusion Conference during October 24-26, 2011. The conference provides a premier training opportunity for HC professionals, diversity practitioners, and leaders to enhance their knowledge of diversity and inclusion, collaborate and network with others who lead diversity initiatives, and walk away with innovative strategies designed to improve agencies' diversity and inclusion objectives and goals. The conference is being held at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, in Washington, D.C.

Update: National Disability Employment Awareness Month. The Department of the Interior joins the Nation in observing National Disability Employment Awareness Month, October 1-31, 2011. The theme for the observance is "Profit by Investing in Workers with Disabilities." The theme honors the contributions of workers with disabilities and serves to inform the public that they represent a highly skilled talent pool that can help employers compete in today's global economy. In observance of Disability Employment Awareness Month, the Office of Civil Rights and the Bureau of Reclamation sponsored a program on October 20, 2011, in the Rachel Carson

room, Main Interior Building. The keynote speaker, BOR employee AlejAndro Anastasio, made a presentation entitled "My One Handed Life" to help dispel misperceptions about the abilities of individuals. In addition, the program included presentations on DOI's participation in Project Search and best practices from the FWS Disability Program. Project Search is where Interior is partnered with nine high school seniors with developmental disabilities from the Joseph P. Kennedy Institute located in Washington, DC, to gain experience and exposure in the work environment that will lead them to better opportunities.

Update: Annual Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Statistical Report of Discrimination Complaints (462 Report). The Office of Civil Rights (OCR) 462 Report Team is working with preparers in OS and DOI Bureaus to eliminate errors in the 462 Report. We must file and certify the DOI 462 Report with the EEOC by October 31, 2011. Official 462 Reports were filed with OCR during October 4-6, 2011. Reviews have been conducted by the OCR 462 Team and corrected 462 Reports have been submitted by preparers in OS and seven Bureaus. 462 Reports have been entered in the EEOC's Website by the aforementioned preparers in OS and seven Bureaus. We are reviewing the information in the EEOC's Website and are ensuring that errors are corrected. Once information from all DOI sub-components has been submitted and errors eliminated, the DOI 462 Report will be certified by the Director, OCR.

Update: Federal External Civil Rights Specialists & Officers Meeting. On October 18, 2011, Equal Opportunity Specialist Michael Zimmerman attended the Association of Federal External Civil Rights Specialists & Officers Meeting, at the National Park Service, 1201 Eye Street in Washington, D.C. Will Shafroth, Counselor to Secretary Salazar for the America's Great Outdoors Program met with inter-agency groups representing public civil rights officers across the Federal government and discussed public engagement pertaining to conservation and recreation efforts across the country. He also urged inter-agency collaboration which will help in various ways. Environmental Protection Agency representative and advocate for Environmental Justice/Civil Rights and author Charles Lee, presented a strategy to help integrate and address the nexus of Environmental Justice and Title VI in minority and low-income populations.

Office of Strategic Employee Organizational Development

Update: SES CDP Program. The Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program (SESCDP) policy has been approved by the DOI Executive Resources Board (ERB) and transmitted to the Office of Personnel Management for approval. We anticipate approval of the policy within two to four months. The SESCDP is designed for all individuals at the GS-14 and GS-15 levels or equivalent. The SESCDP will be opened to all qualified Federal employees and to all qualified persons, including those outside the Federal government. OSEOD has contracted with a trainer to train our staff on designing the selection criteria and ranking factors for selecting the CDP and with OPM to assist us on the design of the program.

Update: Expansion of Relationship with the Executive Office of the President. We are continuing our relationship with Elvis Medina of the Executive Office of the President, who requested three contracting courses for his staff in Washington, DC. DOI University will be providing contract support, and will be managing the training logistics.

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Update: Leadership Forums. OSEOD held a leadership forum in Denver on October 18, 2011. The forum featured Maury Hiers, executive facilitator for the leadership book "*How Did That Happen*." The author discussed points on how an individual holds others accountable for delivering on expectations in a positive, principled way that produces results. Twenty-seven people attended the forum.

Office of Occupational Safety and Health

Safety Management Information System (SMIS). The contractor for the Safety Management Information System (SMIS) help desk started on Monday. It will take about two weeks before he is fully functional along with the help desk support person. Also, hardware has been setup in Omaha, Nebraska, to back up SMIS in case the primary hardware at the NPS site goes off line in a disaster situation.

LAW ENFORCEMENT, SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Immediate Office of the DAS

Update: CBP Releases NEPA documents for Tactical Infrastructure Maintenance and Repair (TIMR) Along the Southwest Border (Arizona, New Mexico and California). A Draft Environmental Assessment was issued on September 23 for TIMR work in Arizona. Advance copies were sent to DOI/DOA land managers on August 12 for a short review prior to public release. There will be a 30 day comment period on the draft document. Endangered species concerns were raised during the internal review and discussions are continuing during the public review phase in hopes of resolving concerns prior to finalizing the record. Draft NEPA documents for TIMR work in New Mexico are expected to be released in late October for an internal review (to include review by DOI). Public release will be 2-3 weeks following. California NEPA documents are expected to be released in November. A review for Texas TIMR work will follow when land owner issues are clarified but no date has been projected.

Update: Fire IT Project. Various groups within Interior and Forest Service were briefed on status and content of the two projects on governance and strategic planning. Next Roadmap Team meeting is in Boise on October 26.

Update: Northern Border EIS Being Prepared by CBP. CBP published a draft PEIS on September 16. There is a 45-day comment period ending on October 31. The last public meeting was scheduled for October 17 in Washington, DC. Attendance has been light at public meetings thus far with few substantive issues raised. DOI received electronic copies of the document which have been loaded to the DOI Sharepoint site. Comments have been received from the National Park Service and are expected from the Fish and Wildlife Service. A DOI consolidated response will be prepared by Borderlands Coordinator Andrew after a review of Bureau input and transmitted to CBP by the October 28 due date. CBP hopes to sign a Record of Decision this year.

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No Change: Radio Transformation. The senior steering group met on October 12 to review the results of the two field visits in September and to begin defining specific deliverables from the project planning contractor.

No Change: Gulf Coast Response Staffing. The DOI Incident Commander in New Orleans briefed the Senior Advisor in LESEM and the NPS/FWS regional offices on Coast Guard planning for Stage 5 organization and the associated Interior staffing that will be required. Final approval of the Stage 5 planning is expected in a few weeks. Interior presence at the incident command in New Orleans is expected to continue through early 2012.

No Change: Interagency Interoperability. The Service First Leadership Team was briefed on the Interagency Interoperability Oversight Group and the current status of addressing barriers to interconnection between agencies (for such things as computer sign-on, video teleconferencing, and connection to other agency peripheral devices). Solutions to these problems require both technical changes and changes in agency policies. The Leadership Team expressed a strong desire for interconnection to enable interagency work to take place more efficiently. A detailed report on status and required resources/actions will be delivered to the Team within 30 days in order for them to assist with resolving the issues.

No Change: Border Management Policy Summit. Borderlands Coordinator Andrew has proposed an executive level meeting to discuss issues and challenges facing DOI, DHS and the U.S. Forest Service with regard to border security and environmental protection. The proposal is for a one day meeting in Tucson in January convening Bureau Regional Directors, the Regional Forester, BLM State Director for Arizona and USBP Sector Chiefs and Washington Office leadership.

No Change: Short-term Access to Government Computers for Emergency Response. Planning is underway for hosting a visit of the DOI and USDA IT security staffs in Boise, ID during the week of October 24 to see first-hand the set of use cases and business requirements that wildland fire has. We are awaiting confirmation of attendance from those staffs. The "fire team" has completed its proposal for managing various types of non-federal employees that need logical access to federal systems while responding to fires. This proposal will be supplemented with information from the personnel and IT security staffs in DOI and USDA and presented to the Chief Information Officers in both Departments for review and concurrence.

No Change: Use of National Technical Means (NTM) in Support of Wildland Fire. On August 10, an interagency meeting of representatives from wildland fire, geospatial programs, and the intelligence community took place to discuss opportunities to better utilize information from national technical means assets of the intelligence community in support of various aspects of the wildland fire program. An interagency governance group to identify requirements and opportunities and to coordinate better delivery of services will be created.

No Change: Civil Applications Committee Coordination. The chair of the CAC (USGS Deputy Director Suzette Kimball) and the Interior CAC representative (Deputy Assistant

Secretary – Water and Science) briefed the Deputies Operating Group in March on the mission and purpose of the CAC and solicited bureau input on improving coordination within Interior.

No Change: Interagency Agreement with Customs and Border Protection. Work continues on finalizing an amendment to the Interagency Agreement that would provide approximately $8 million dollars to mitigate the impacts of border infrastructure put in place under a waiver of environmental review. Confirmation of the availability of funds is expected this month at which time it is hoped the amendments will be signed and funds will be obligated. Paperwork necessary to effect the obligation of funds is being prepared for Texas and California mitigation projects to allow flexibility in deciding whether to apply the funds to Texas or California or some combination of the two. Lands proposed for acquisition are within the existing acquisition boundaries for the San Diego National Wildlife Refuge and the South Texas Refuge Complex. There continues to be strong interest on the part of Senators Feinstein and Boxer from CA and Senator Cornyn from TX.

No Change: Interagency Dispatch Improvement. All bureaus/agencies have signed the charter. Plans for a meeting or conference call of the Steering Committee are underway.

Final: MLK Memorial Celebration. On October 16, the President, the Secretary, civil rights leaders, members of Congress and various VIPs attended a celebration at the MLK Memorial. The OLES participated in all pre-briefings for this event along with the U.S. Park Police. In addition, the OLES provided a law enforcement presence in the IOC during the event.

Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES)

New: Guest Presentation at CIA Kent School. The CIA Kent School has extended an invitation for OLES to participate as a guest presenter at their *Terrorism Analysis Essentials* class, to speak on behalf of non-Title 50 departments and agencies. The class consists of intelligence analysts from across the 17 departments, agencies, and organizations comprising the Intelligence Community.

New: CANAM (Canadian/American) Crime Border Conference. OLES attended the conference that the Rocky Mountain Information Network, Idaho US Attorney's Office and Kootenai County Prosecutor's Office sponsored on October 18-19. Topics presented at the conference included Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the US Department of Justice border issues, cross-border fraud, bulk currency smuggling and best practices on major case investigation. Networking contacts were made with the US Forest Service, US Attorney's Office, Blackfeet Tribal Police, Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the US Border Patrol. Inter-agency collaboration was enhanced as well as the development of primary points of contact for sharing critical law enforcement information.

New: Interior Complex Security Operations Branch (ICSOB) Obtained Updated Security Equipment. The OLES ICSOB purchased and received seven (7) new magnetometers (walk through metal detectors). The new magnetometers will eventually replace the current outdated

systems located in the lobbies and mailroom. In addition, the Physical Access Control System contract will be awarded once FBMS is out of blackout.

New: Criminal Justice Information Systems Coordinator (CJIS). Investigator Rothbaum will become the new CJIS Coordinator for the Department of Interior. This position is responsible for administering access to databases located in the National Crime Information Center (NCIC). The CJIS Coordinator also serves as the liaison with all Department law enforcement bureaus in matters related to NCIC policy and procedures.

Update: Counter-Intelligence and Insider Threat Briefing. On October 7, the President signed an Executive Order directing that structural reforms be put in place to safeguard classified information and access to classified computer systems. On October 11, the OLES met with the Program Manager's Office of the Information Sharing Environment to develop a strategy to support all Non-Title 50 agencies across-the-board to eliminate and/or reduce gaps in classified programs. On October 24, the OLES will meet with the Office of the National Counter Intelligence Executive to discuss ways to improve overall coordination with this important issue.

Update: IMARS Version 1.0. IMARS 1.0, the version that contains the DOI-specific configuration changes, was tested by the Governance Council and they have returned testing results to the IMARS Project Team. The Council met on September 7 to review and prioritize change requests. The vendor is working on three critical changes to the system; these changes are scheduled to be delivered the week of October 24. The changes are needed to accept the configured version as DOI's IMARS 1.0. User acceptance testing is scheduled for a two week period beginning in late November.

No Change: Departmental Security and Intelligence Workshop. This workshop provides required in-service training that satisfies part of the 40-hour annual training for DOI security and law enforcement personnel. The security portion of the workshop will highlight the team effort between the Golden Gate Bridge Authority, National Park Service, United States Park Police, California Highway Patrol, San Francisco Police Department and the U.S. Coast Guard in supporting the security program at one of the Nation's most iconic structures, the Golden Gate Bridge. The intelligence portion of the workshop will focus on topics that have a direct nexus to the Department, with attendees being able to leave with "tools" they can readily use upon returning to their duty stations. A tour will be given of the Northern California Regional Intelligence Center and the Joint Terrorism Task Force. Agendas have been completed, the appropriate contracts are in draft, and logistics are being developed. The newly required conference approval document and decision memo was completed and submitted through channels.

No Change: Security Assessment: Independence National Historic Park, Philadelphia PA. The security division of the OLES performed a security assessment of the Liberty Bell and the Independence National Historic Park from September 26 – 28. Participants from the OLES, NPS, and NPS Regional Office worked as a team to identify vulnerabilities within the park and the surrounding support structures. Overall the security posture is good. Thirteen areas needing improvement were identified and will be included in a formal report which is currently in draft.

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A brief was given to the park Superintendent describing the security deficiencies that need to be mitigated to bring the park into compliance with the Department Manual.

Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

New: National Level Exercise/Eagle Horizon 2012 (NLE/EH-2012). OEM and OCIO will attend the National Level Exercise Initial Planning Conference on October 25-26. NLE 2012 will consist of four distinct exercises, including tabletop discussions as well as full-scale functional exercises. The theme tying all of the exercises together is cyber security and response to cyber attack. Eagle Horizon 2012 will be the final exercise in the series, and will focus on continuity of the Government's operations following cyber and possibly other attacks. The exercises will take place March-July 2012.

New: October COOP Work Day. OEM hosted a COOP Work Day at Site C on Monday October 24 to allow team members to practice operations from an alternate location. A portion of the day included a teleconference on telework within DOI and how it could be used during emergencies. The discussion included a presentation from OHR, depicting the efforts at the interagency level to incorporate telework into more governmental operations, as well as DOI's status of compliance with the Telework Act of 2010. OCIO also discussed the technical side of telework, including the remote access capability for DOI's network and tools available to support teleworkers. FWS, BIA, and BLM also provided Bureau-level perspective on telework implementation, especially during emergencies, allowing OHR, OCIO, and OEM to better understand challenges and barriers that currently exist to further implementing telework. As a result of this meeting, OHR invited OEM to participate on the Emergency Services working group to provide DOI perspective on the effort to include telework in all hazard and continuity plans.

Update: Emergency Response Activities. The Interior Operations Center (IOC) monitored the following activities during the past week:

- *Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Response:* Sixty-nine DOI personnel continued to work full-time on Deepwater Horizon cleanup planning and operations. The cleanup of the DOI areas that were impacted by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill is proceeding on schedule. The Gulf Coast Incident Management Team is targeting an end of phase 3 and 4 operations by the end of this hurricane season, and an end to response operations by late November.
- *Kilauea and Cleveland Volcanoes:* USGS continues to closely monitor Cleveland Volcano in the Aleutian Islands and Kilauea Volcano in Hawaii, rating both volcanoes at Alert Level "Watch," Aviation Color Code "Orange."
- *Wildland Fire Issues:* Nationally, the Wildland Fire Preparedness Level is 1 with light Initial Fire Attack activity. The number of DOI personnel participating on Interagency Firefighting teams averaged around 525 persons daily last week.
- *Earthquake activity:* The U.S. Geological Survey's Hawaiian Volcano Observatory (HVO) recorded a magnitude 4.5 earthquake located beneath the Island of Hawai'i on October 19, at 2:10 p.m. HST. The earthquake was widely felt on the Island of Hawai'i and was the largest in a cluster of about 20 earthquakes on the north flank of the volcano. According to the

HVO, this earthquake activity caused no detectable changes on the continuing eruption of Kilauea Volcano.

Update: Occupant Emergency Planning (OEP). Fifteen people attended the "Building Emergencies for People with Disabilities" Brown Bag lunch held October 20 in the Rachael Carson room. The session included discussions about the evacuation of mobility impaired individuals during various emergency situations. Additional topics are being considered for future OEP Brown Bag lunches.

Update: Continuity of Operations (COOP) Plan Update. OEM is reviewing comments received from the surname process. The new plan contains revisions based on new interagency requirements, lessons learned from exercises, and suggestions from bureau and office team members who have deployed to work from Site C throughout the past year. Publication of the 2011 DOI COOP Plan will be completed in November.

Update: Indian Affairs Emergency Management Expert Study: The Director of OEM and BIA Chief of Staff met to discuss progress on October 19. As a result, OEM is now reviewing a draft Indian Affairs Policy Manual chapter developed for the Indian Affairs Emergency Management Program as well as process documents for serious incident reporting.

Update: All-Hazard Incident Management Planning. OEM is meeting with FEMA and the Incident Management Working Group in Portland, OR this week to assist with the development of task books and qualifications standards for emergency responders across the nation. DOI has made significant progress internally on this and OEM will be ensuring DOI's qualification standards are in line with FEMA. Additionally, OEM continues to schedule meetings with BLM, BIA and FWS emergency coordinators to determine how those bureaus will implement the requirement from the Deputies Operating Group to have a single system for dispatching resources. OEM will be working closely with all bureaus to develop business rules as the Department implements the use of IQCS and Resource Ordering Status System (ROSS) for DOI responders.

Update: Exercise Eagle Horizon-2011 (EH-11). OEM reviewed and submitted corrections for the final draft of the after action report to the Site E team last week. OEM will finalize the report prior to the end of October. Participants included most Bureaus and several OS offices; discussions included decisions about corrective action planning as well as lessons learned during the successful exercise. Lessons learned from EH-11 will provide a framework for EH-12 planning.

Update: Multipoint Video Teleconferencing (VTC). OEM and NBC are coordinating the installation of a multipoint VTC capability in the IOC Conference Room. OCIO is working to identify a location for installing a server at its Virginia facility. This capability will provide for internet (IP) and ISDN video teleconferencing in the IOC conference room and at other VTC locations in the Main Interior Building, wi

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Update: Interagency Emergency Health Policy. LCDR Elaine Bond, U.S. Public Health Service Officer detailed to OEM, participated in the National Security Staff -led Emerging Pandemic sub-Interagency Policy Committee. Additionally, on October 20, OEM participated in the NSS-led Biological Assessment and Threat Response exercise to test notification and communication procedures.

Update: Online Training Development. OEM has scheduled a meeting with DOI University to begin development on Emergency Management (EM) 101 for DOI EM practitioners on October 28. The two planned online emergency management training courses will continue development over the next several months.

No Change: Corrective Action Program (CAP). The FY11 CAP Status Report, including the Emergency Management Council (EMC)-approved Corrective Actions Recommendations (CARs), is nearing completion through the surnaming process with only one package remaining to be returned. Once this final surname is obtained, the Status Report will be presented to the Assistant Secretary, PMB. The Status Report includes an overview of outstanding CARs and a summary of new items. The new CAR items emanate from the Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill, the NLE-11 catastrophic earthquake exercise, interagency exercise Dark Zephyr which explored readiness for an anthrax emergency, and lessons learned which were compiled for the National Security Staff exploring DOI emergency planning shortfalls should the U.S. suffer an event similar to the tsunami and nuclear power plant emergency in Japan.

No Change: Secure Video Teleconference (SVTC). Departmental headquarters maintains SVTC capabilities to coordinate interagency response during continuity events and other emergencies. Equipment now being used is becoming outdated and is not operating reliably. OCIO, OEM and OLES agree on the "way ahead" for modernizing the system; OCIO has coordinated with DISA for specifications and cost estimates and an out-of-cycle funding request has been prepared.

No Change: National Preparedness Directive/Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8). OEM is working with the FEMA-led PPD-8 Implementation Team to develop the next deliverable: the "National Preparedness System." The System is due to the President in November and will provide guidance for building and maintaining domestic capabilities; include a series of integrated national planning frameworks and interagency operational plans; and provide resource guidance along with recommendations/guidance to support preparedness planning for businesses, communities, families, and individuals. OEM continues to work with USGS and OEPC to develop the policy to guide these activities within DOI.

<u>Office of Wildland Fire (OWF)</u>

New: Interior Fire Executive Council (IFEC) Meeting - The quarterly IFEC meeting will be held October 25-26, 2011in Boise, ID. Topics include: Hazardous Fuels Prioritization Allocation System, Information Technology updates including FBMS implementation, Budget updates, Interagency Fire Program Management Standards, Veterans and Youth Initiatives, and updates from various groups within the Wildland Fire community.

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Update: National Fire Plan Operations and Reporting System (NFPORS): After successfully completing the security Certification and Accreditation (C&A) process, the Authority to Operate NFPORS for the next three years was signed on October 21. The NFPORS will be out-of-service from October 24 through October 31 while the updated version, NFPORS 3.0, is deployed.

Update: Emergency Management: OWFC presented a briefing to the National Wildland Fire Coordination Group Risk Management Committee and coordinated an exchange of information. Subjects included the National Response Framework- National Incident Management System committee responsibilities; Emergency Support Fucntion-4 actions; Designated Agency Safety and Health Official representation; and DOI All Hazard positions, qualifications and certifications. OWFC is in the process of coordinating with the development of NIMS Qualifications and Position Guide well as the editing of Type 1 and 2 Incident Management Position Task books for use by all emergency response organizations. The NIMS Incident Management Working Group will meet October 24-27.

Update: Fire Program Analysis (FPA). The fall 2011 FPA Oversight Group meeting is scheduled for October 27 – 28, in Boise, Idaho. At the meeting, Executive Project Manager Faisal Ahmed will present the FPA status and will discuss the budget and the Operations and Maintenance (O&M) strategy for the investment's lifecycle beginning FY 12. The FPA Business Process and Technical Review will begin on October 24, as a "kick-off" meeting is held in Boise, Idaho, between Contractor Booz Allen Hamilton, Incorporated, and the principle parties of the FPA project. A final report is expected by mid-January 2012.

Update: Hazardous Fuels Reduction: A Preliminary Program of Work (PPOW) for the Department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 Hazardous Fuels Reduction (HFR) program was proposed to the Interior Fire Executive Council (IFEC) at their meeting/conference call October 3. The PPOW is the result of the combination analysis of identifying the high priority places to treat, with the high priority treatment projects. The PPOW is considered the starting point in determining the final Bureau HFR allocations. That edition was polished this week, and the resulting PPOW edition 2 will be presented to IFEC at their meeting on October 25. From that, IFEC will produce the final program of work for FY 2012.

The Bureaus completed a total of 997,776 acres of hazardous fuel reduction treatments in FY 2011, or 116.88% of the target of 853,741 acres. This accomplishment is below the 10-year average of 1.2 million acres, but reflects the emphasis on treating the Department's highest priority projects, which are typically in areas across the country that are in the Wildland/Urban Interface (WUI) and are at a high risk of wildfire.

Update: GAO Draft Report: Wildland Fire in the Arizona Border Region. OWFC and Bureau Fire Directors reviewed the draft report and prepared comments. Additional review and specific comments on the recommendations were completed last week. The Department's comments are due to GAO by October 25 and will be prepared for the signature of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget.

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No Change: LANDFIRE 2010 – Data Contribution Opportunity. This is a reminder that the Department of the Interior (DOI), along with the USDA Forest Service, is providing data stewards and land management leaders an opportunity to contribute data to the LANDFIRE Program. The date of November 15 is quickly upon us. This date was established as the annual cutoff date for data submissions along with drawing available data from national/regional authoritative data sources. Data submitted after November 15 will be considered in future LANDFIRE update cycles. Reminder messages were sent out the week of October 10 to those individuals who had previously contributed point and polygon data. The focus for this update is on disturbance and management activities from 2008-2010. These products will bring various map layers up to a 2010 condition, and therefore will be labeled as LANDFIRE 2010 products. Given data gathering, compiling, processing, production timelines, program scope, and funding; it takes LANDFIRE 2 to 3 years to produce an updated data set for the multiple LANDFIRE data layers. The LANDFIRE 2010 update is planned to be delivered in the 2012/2013 time period. More information on this data contribution / data draw opportunity is now available at: http://www.landfire.gov/participate_refdata.php

No Change: International Fire Program—North American Forest Commission Fire Management Working Group (NAFC-FMWG) Meeting. A meeting of the NAFC-FMWG was held in Quebec City October 4-6. Attendees included high level fire management program managers from the host country of Canada, the Province of Quebec, the United States, and Mexico as well as representation from Costa Rica, the Australian Forest Commission Forest Fire Working Group, and the Association of State Foresters. A main topic of discussion was the possible drafting of a trilateral agreement between the US/Mexico/Canada for international fire support. It was the group's opinion that coordination and support should definitely occur between countries but that agreements or arrangements should be of a bilateral nature between two countries. A letter was drafted and was transmitted by the chair of the NAFC-FMWG to officials within each country stating that opinion.

No Change: International Fire Program: OWFC operations and NIFC External Affairs coordinated Murray Carter's visit on October 11-12. Mr. Carter is the Manager, Fire Management Services Branch, Department of Environment and Conservation, Government of Western Australia. The agenda included a tour of NIFC operations, meeting with Fire Directors, and NICC's role in the national mobilization/coordination of fire resources, NWCG fire training, and a field trip to a hazardous fuels reduction project to learn about community assistance, partnerships and treatments in the wildland urban interface.

No Change: Interior Burned Area Emergency Response: Interior Burned Area Emergency Response Coordinators provided the 1st quarter FY 2012 Burned Area Rehabilitation project proposals. Using criteria set by the Department; projects were ranked and received technical approval. The requested funding approval is $14,774,000 and includes rehabilitation treatments for the Las Conchas and High Cascades Complex fires. The funding request was submitted to OWFC for approval.

No Change: National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy – The Wildland Fire Executive Council (WFEC) met October 11-13 in Washington, DC at the MIB to listen to Phase

II reports and prepare for the Wildland Fire Leadership Council meeting in November. Each of the Regional Strategy Committee chairs presented their regional assessments to WFEC, and the Cohesive Strategy Subcommittee presented the National Cohesive Strategy Report that combined the common elements from each of the regions as well as the unique regional values and opportunities. WFEC discussed the proposed outcomes of Phase III of the Cohesive Strategy presented by the National Science and Analysis Team, and prepared the agenda for the Wildland Fire Leadership Council (WFLC) meeting. WFEC will forward the final draft of the National Cohesive Strategy and supporting documents to WFLC on October 28.

No Change: Authorization for Home-to-Work Transportation. OWFC and Bureau Fire Directors are developing a draft *Authorization for Use of Government Passenger Carrier(s) for Home-to-Work Transportation of Those Employees Essential for the Safe and Efficient Performance Wildland Fire Response Duties*. The recommended authorization guidance was discussed at the August 29 Interior Fire Executive Council conference call and a final was submitted in September 2011.

No Change: LANDFIRE – Business Leadership Group Meeting.
The Business and Technical leadership of the LANDFIRE Program met last week in Salt Lake City, Utah at the U.S. Forest Service – Remote Sensing Applications Center. The LANDFIRE 2010 update plan (evaluating annual vs. biennial schedule) is progressing and should be provided to Executive Fire Leadership near the end of October or the first of November. Meetings will be scheduled with executives to discuss the plan as well as review the LANDFIRE 2001/2008 Refresh Completion & Close Out reports.

No Change: LANDFIRE 2008 Refresh Production - Work on LANDFIRE Group "B" deliverables will wrap up for Alaska and Hawaii by the end of October. With the delivery of these geographic areas all 50 states will have updated geospatial data for the years 1999 – 2008. Updating LANDFIRE data products as part of the Refresh project focused on areas where vegetation composition and structure changed due to activities such as: wildland fires, fuel treatments, or vegetation management.

BUDGET, FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND ACQUISITION

Office of Acquisition and Property Management

Update: Real Property Cost Savings and Innovation Plan – Meeting with BOR. On October 26, 2010, DAS Pam Haze and PAM staff will meet with Bureau of Reclamation senior executives to review the BOR Real Property Cost Savings and Innovation Plan. In support of the Administration's initiative to seek potential savings in the management of owned facilities and leased space, the Assistant Secretary – PMB requested the bureaus revise their Real Property Savings and Innovation Plans developed in FY 2010. The bureaus were tasked to identify strategies they will implement to attain higher reductions by the end of FY 2012, over reductions they identified last year. Strategies include restricting growth of the DOI space footprint, increasing the utilization of owned space, consolidation, collocation, telework, and hoteling.

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The bureaus submitted their revised plans to PAM and a consolidated DOI plan was submitted to OMB. Meetings are being held with bureaus to develop specific cost savings targets for FY 2012.

New: OMB AcqStat Meeting. On October 19, 2010, the Office of Acquisition and Property Management conducted its fall "AcqStat" briefing for the Office of Management and Budget. OMB conducts AcqStat sessions at least annually with Federal agencies to receive updates on their major acquisition initiatives. Topics of discussion at the October 19 DOI AcqStat briefing included reducing the cost of management support services, buying smarter (including strategic sourcing), managing high risk contracts, strengthening the acquisition workforce, and green procurement. In partnership with PMB, Bureau and office acquisition chiefs will be attending the AcqStat.

Office of Budget

No change: 2012 Appropriations. The House and Senate Appropriations Committees have slowly resumed moving their bills, though there is little expectation that any will be considered on the Floor. Both the House and Senate leadership have committed to completing appropriations before Thanksgiving.

- The House has passed six of its 12 fiscal 2012 spending bills so far including Energy and Water Development, and members considered the still-unfinished Interior-Environment bill (HR 2584) on the floor for several days in July. Four more measures have been approved in House Appropriations Committees or Subcommittees, but have yet to make it to the Floor. The Transportation-HUD bill was marked up in Subcommittee on September 8. The only bill yet to be marked up, the Labor-HHS-Education bill, was publically released in draft form on Thursday, September 29.
- The Senate meanwhile, has passed only one spending measure, the Military Construction-VA bill, and no others have made it to the floor. However, the Senate Appropriations Committee has worked aggressively over the last several weeks to move its bills. On September 7, the Committee approved the Homeland Security, Energy-Water and Agriculture bills, and on September 15, Defense, CJS, Financial Services, Leg Branch, and Labor-HHS were all approved by the Committee. The Senate plans to vote on a three-bill "mini-bus" when they return from recess the week of October 31, 2011. The bill includes appropriations for Agriculture, Commerce-Justice-Science, and Transporation-HUD.

No Change: 2012 Energy & Water Appropriations. The House passed the Energy and Water Development appropriations bill (HR 2354) on July 15 by a vote of 219 to 196. Reclamation and CUPCA were funded at $934 million, $117 million below the 2012 President's budget. The bill does not include the new Indian Water Rights Settlements account proposed in 2012 to implement the 2011 Claims Resolution Act ($51.5 million). The settlements are funded at $50.6 million within the Water and Related account. Funding is eliminated for San Joaquin restoration, including $9.0 million in discretionary and $66.0 million in mandatory funds. The Energy and Water bill was marked up in the Senate by the Subcommittee on September 6 and the Full

Committee on September 7. Reclamation and CUPCA were funded at $1.067 billion, $27 million below the 2011 enacted level and $133 million above the House-passed level.

Update: 2013 Budget Formulation. On September 12, the Secretary transmitted the Department's 2013 budget requesting funding at the 2011 enacted level plus full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The budget, consistent with OMB guidance, presents three funding scenarios including reductions of 5% and 10% from the FY 2011 level, as well as add-backs to a 2011 freeze level. All individual bureau/office budgets were transmitted to OMB, and bureaus are conducting briefings with OMB and responding to questions. The Office of Budget has been working with OMB examiners to provide additional information for their analysis, including revised comparison tables, bureau object class data, and comparisons to 2011 execution actual for FTEs and dollars.

Office of Financial Management

New: Improper Payment Elimination and Recovery Act (IPERA) Project. PFM met with the contractor, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), for an update on the Improper Payment Elimination and Recovery Act (IPERA) project. PwC presented observations on common methods and different processes utilized throughout the bureaus on performing risk assessments. Afterwards, PwC provided recommendations to standardize the risk assessment processes in order to respond to potential concerns from the Office of Management and Budget. PwC also performed a demonstration of the risk assessment tool that was developed in order to address the criteria of the new IPERA legislation; and anticipates that the risk assessment tool will be ready to distribute to the bureaus for completion by December.
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Update: FY11 Year-end Internal Control and Audit Follow-up Meetings. PFM held the FY 2011 year-end internal control and audit follow-up meetings with bureaus and offices during the week of October 17. The OST meeting will be rescheduled. These meetings review the progress each bureau and office made in 2011 to close OIG and GAO corrective actions and advise them on ways to strengthen their internal controls.

Update: GAO Exit Conference. PFM attended the GAO exit conference regarding their review of *Activities Associated with Recovery of Water Produced from Oil and Natural Gas Production (361237).* USGS and BOR provided technical comments to the Statement of Facts that GAO will take into consideration as they prepare the draft report. GAO expects to issue the draft report for agency comments in two weeks. No recommendations are anticipated in this report.

New: Year End Draft Agency Financial Report (AFR).

Update: FY 2011 Financial Audit Update. The Departmental financial statement audit and compilation of the Annual Financial Report (AFR) is currently on track for completion by the government-wide deadline of November 15.

- PFM distributed the year end draft AFR to KPMG and Heads of Interior Bureaus and Offices for surnaming and comment. PFM will incorporate any comments received and deliver a draft of the updated report to OMB on October 28, 2011.

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- The OIG's management challenges report has been finalized and was issued on Friday, October 14.
- The Draft Financial Reporting Package, Footnotes, Variance Analysis and Edit Checks deliverables associated with the FY 2011 Consolidated Financial Statement were submitted on October 14 from all the bureaus.
- The Trail Balance Verification Letter has been completed and submitted for all bureaus. The issues anticipated in KPMG's 2011audit reports include the following:

Financial Statement Audit Opinion - TBD

Internal Control Report

1. Information Technology Controls over Financial Management Systems (repeat significant deficiency)
2. Controls over Contingencies (new material weakness)

Status of Last Year's Significant Deficiencies

1. Information Technology Controls over Financial Management Systems - Not corrected and will be noted in this year's Internal Control Report
2. Controls over Undelivered Orders TBD
3. Monitoring Legislation TBD
4. Grant Monitoring Controls TBD

Laws & Regulations Report – Non-compliance with the Federal Financial Management Improvement Act (non-compliance with FFMIA is automatic with a material weakness)

Status of Last Year's Non-Compliances

1. Anti-Deficiency Act - TBD
2. Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 - TBD
3. Prompt Payment Act – TBD

Office of Planning and Performance Management

Update: Priority (Performance) Goals. The final status report against the FY 2010-2011 Priority Goal targets was due to PPP by Friday, October 21. These results are being integrated for use with the Deputy Secretary in the next quarterly status reviews, to be conducted in early November, and then submitted to OMB using www.performance.gov.

No change: Annual Performance Plan (APP) and Annual Performance Report (APR). In producing an integrated APP and APR, the previously received APP inputs are being further integrated and refined to reduce the length of the document, with bureau and PMB office FY 2011 performance results and corresponding assessment information expected by October 28.

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Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization

Update: Department Small Business Accomplishment. As of October 20, the Department had awarded **54.45 percent** of its Fiscal Year 2011 contract dollars to small business. Initial results reported from the Federal Procurement Data System, Next Generation (FPDS-NG) indicate that BIA, BLM, and USGS all exceeded their annual goals for small business contracting. The following chart provides the updated preliminary results.

				Pct. Of	FY'11
	Total		**Small**	**Total $'s**	**Goal**
DOI	$2,737,583,999		$1,490,630,473	54.45%	**56.69%**
BIA	$267,074,698		$130,214,024	48.76%	**47.21%**
BLM	$344,282,492		$248,716,674	72.24%	**65.96%**
BOR	$414,329,508		$197,283,234	47.62%	**55.19%**
FWS	$332,002,145		$207,334,161	62.45%	**64.57%**
BOE	$109,770,464		$37,777,803	34.42%	**36.72%**
NBC	$358,057,487		$173,541,306	48.47%	**55.53%**
NPS	$648,959,174		$377,664,514	58.20%	**62.32%**
OSM	$8,205,583		$5,622,060	68.52%	**86.29%**
USGS	$254,902,448		$112,476,697	44.13%	**42.18%**

Update: Fiscal Year 2012/2013 Small Business Goals. The Department's overall small business goal agreed upon with the Small Business Administration (SBA) is 51.5 percent. The socio-economic goals for the Department are as follow, 5% for Small Disadvantaged Business, 5% for Women-Owned Small Business, 3% for Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Zone Small Business and 3% for Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business. The Department's overall small business subcontracting goal is 44.5%.

Completed: American Express OPEN Government Contracting Program, Dallas, TX. On October 18, the OSDBU represented the Department at the OPEN Government Contracting Program. This event provides an introduction to small businesses where they may "Learn the Basics, Start Contracting and Grow their Business." Seminars are provided around the country.

Update: Scheduled Events.

- **October 26-30: Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) Conference, Anaheim, CA.** The SHPE conference is the largest Hispanic conference in the Nation. The SHPE has over 10,000 members and 70 professional chapters. The OSDBU will represent the Department at this event.
- **October 30–November 2, 2011: National Minority Supplier Development Council Conference and Business Opportunity Fair, Atlanta, GA.** The National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC) provides a direct link between corporate America and minority-owned businesses. NMSDC is one of the country's leading business membership organizations. The theme for this year's conference is "Minority

Businesses and Corporate America: Raising the Bar through Sustainable Strategies." The OSDBU will represent the Department at this event.

- **December 9, HUB Zone Small Business Outreach Event.** This event will be held at the Yates Auditorium during the evening hours. Registration for the event will open in early November.

FBMS Program Management Office (PMO)

New: FBMS Deployment 6 Instructor Led Training Courses Commence. End Users instructor led training courses for Departmental Offices (DO) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife (FWS) employees and contractors began on October 17, 2011. The instructor led courses will be taught over an 11 week period, excluding 4 blocked holidays, and will end on January 25, 2012. The courses are being taught by FBMS Program Management Office instructors assisted by business process subject matter experts from DO and FWS. Acquisition and Financial Assistance Courses are being taught by instructors from Compusearch, Inc. A total of 16 instructor led Training (ILT) courses will be taught over 130 times in 18 locations across the country. USGS, BLM, OSM, BOEM, and BSEE employees and contractors can attend these ILT courses in their local areas on a space available basis. FWS instructors are also conducting a modified FBMS training course for FWS employees and contractors whose training needs do not require the full curriculum of certain FBMS functional area topics. Concurrent with the instruction led courses, 13 D6 computer based training (CBT) courses are being taken by DO and FWS employees and contractors on FBMS functional topics that can be learned from CBT sessions.

Departmental Offices FBMS Implementation Office (OS IMO)

Update: Training for Go-Live. The FBMS IMO D6 completed week 1 of Go-live Training during which there were eight classes held with participation from approximately 176 attendees. Go-Live training is an important 10-week activity prior to and following FBMS go-live on November 7. All FBMS users are required to take training as applicable to their future FBMS roles and pass an assessment(s) in order to obtain system access. Over ***1,100 users*** have been mapped to FBMS roles, and a total of 30 training classes specific to Office of the Secretary, including 17 instructor-led training classes and 13 computer-based training classes. The IMO will assign learning plans and schedule users for classes in the DOI Learn learning management system. Subsequently, users will begin receiving automated emails from DOI Learn alerting them to take various FBMS training based on their assigned learning plans. Instructor-led training begins October 17 at various locations throughout the country. Additionally, the IMO will provide tailored, course specific communications with critical class related information from the generic mailbox – OS_FBMS_IMO@ios.doi.gov.

New: Requisitioning and Custodial Property Officer Procedural Documentation. Procedural documentation is being developed to assist end users with the most used roles for the Departmental Offices for Requisitioning, receiving goods and services, and Custodial Property Officers.

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No change: Project Status Meetings. The FBMS IMO D6 team will host weekly project status meetings with FBMS stakeholders every Friday beginning at 11:00 am – 12:00 pm in the Herndon Atrium Bldg, Mount Vernon Conference Room. WebEx and Call in will be available.

No change: Blackout Period Began on September 26. The blackout period will continue through November 6. OS will be conducting mission-critical business utilizing FFS only. Contract awards will be limited to the maximum extent practicable and emergency payments will be recorded using a separate data load spreadsheet (format to be provided by the PMO). A memo from the DAS-BFPA describing how business will be conducted during the period when legacy systems are no longer available was distributed on October 13. A copy of this memo is also available in the Technical Library on OS FBMS SharePoint.

No change: OS Implementation Office is *Tweeting*! Follow us on Twitter "*@OSFBMS*". This social media forum is an opportunity for our OS community to ask questions, send comments, and learn more about the Deployment 6 Financial and Business Management Systems and the Implementation Management Office

OFFICE OF NATURAL RESOURCES REVENUE

Office of Natural Resources Revenue

Indian Oil Negotiated Rulemaking (No Change): ONRR is in the process of forming a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee (Committee) to address the valuation of crude oil produced from Indian leases. ONRR worked with the Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution and the Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to obtain a third party neutral to serve as facilitator for the Committee. The Secretary signed a second *Federal Register* Notice of Intent, published August 22, 2011, to establish the Committee and propose the membership. The comment period on this notice expired September 21, 2011. ONRR received additional nominees for committee membership and will vet these through the White House liaison. In addition, ONRR must prepare the Notice of Establishment and the Charter for the Secretary to sign. The target date for the first meeting of the Committee is now February 2012.

Strategic Review Implementation Work Group (IWG) Update (Ongoing): The Improve Internal Communication IWG has completed a draft Communication Policy and Best Practices document to help ONRR facilitate the useful exchange of information among all employees. The IWG forwarded the draft documents to a group of employees for their input. Before finalizing, the IWG will review and incorporate comments as appropriate. The policy and best practices documents are due to the Quality Steering Committee by November 1, 2011.

Oklahoma ONRR Audit and Compliance Management (ACM) Offices to Meet with BLM (New): Audit managers from the Oklahoma City and Tulsa ACM offices will meet with the Supervisory Petroleum Engineering Technician from BLM's Oklahoma Field Office at Station-Moore on November 2, 2011. The meeting's agenda includes sharing respective FY 2012 work

plans including lease inspection strategies and audits primarily of Indian leases. Additional discussion items include 1) scheduling of future joint meetings, 2) field trips to leases scheduled for audit, and 3) improving coordination between BLM and ONRR compliance responsibilities.

Outreach with Individual Indian Mineral Owners (Ongoing): ONRR continues its outreach with individual Indian mineral owners. These meetings enable us to listen to concerns and suggestions for royalty accounting improvement, answer questions, and identify and resolve mineral-related problems in partnership with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Office of the Special Trustee. ONRR's goal is to enhance our trust responsibility and foster a positive working relationship with the Indian community. ONRR scheduled outreach sessions with mineral owners on November 1, 2011, at the Ft. Peck Agency and Trenton Service Center, Poplar, Montana; on November 2, 2011, at the Ft. Berthold Agency, New Town, North Dakota; and on November 3, 2011, at the Turtle Mountain Agency, Belcourt, North Dakota.

From:	Kemkar, Neal
To:	Neal Kemkar (CEQ) (nkemkar@ceq.eop.gov)
Subject:	FW: Bureau Reports
Date:	Friday, October 14, 2011 4:24:29 PM
Attachments:	Department-wide Reports awaiting management response as of October 14 2011.xlsx Bureau Reports 2011.10.14.pdf

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From: Anderson, James E
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2011 4:24:28 PM
To: DOI_Politicals
Subject: Bureau Reports
Auto forwarded by a Rule

Here are this week's bureau reports. Have a great weekend!

James Anderson
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OIG - Reports Awaiting Management Response

October 14, 2011

Reports	Report Title	Bureau/ Office	Status	Response Due Date	Contact	Comments	PFM Action/Remarks
Final R-GR-FWS-0004-2011	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Grants Awarded to the State of Georgia, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, From July 1, 2008, Through June 30, 2010	FWS	Extension	11/7/2011	Pat McHugh 703-358-1770		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0006-2011	Virgin Islands Dept of Natural Resources	FWS		10/15/2011	Pat McHugh 703-358-1770		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0007-2011	Maryland Dept of Natural Resources	FWS		11/14/2011	Pat McHugh 703-358-1770		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0008-2011	Michigan Dept of Natural Resources & Environment	FWS		11/5/2011	Pat McHugh 703-358-1770		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0009-2011	Hawaii Dept of Land and Natural Resources	FWS		11/3/2011	Pat McHugh 703-358-1770		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0010-2011	Maine Dept of Marine Resources	FWS		10/17/2011	Pat McHugh 703-358-1770		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0011-2011	North Dakota Game and Fish	FWS		10/31/2011	Pat McHugh 703-358-1770		
Draft WR-EV-FWS-0003-2011	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Conservation Easement Monitoring and Enforcement	FWS		11/14/2011	Pat McHugh 703-358-1770		
Final WR-EV-OST-0010-2011	Monitoring and Enforcement	OST		12/31/2011	Ray Joseph 202-208-3947		
Final VI-EV-OIA-0002-2010	Evaluation Report - Administrative Functions of the Virgin Islands Government Employees Retirement System	OIA		10/28/2011	Marina Tinitali 202-208-5920		

Early Alert - Coming up
Due - Due within 10 business days or less of the response due date.
Late - After the response due date.
Extension - Reports that have been granted a response due date extension.
Completed - Response sent to OIG.

Attorney Client Communication – Confidential & Privileged

Office of the Solicitor Weekly Report for the Week of October 17, 2011

Deepwater Horizon Matters

Multi-District Litigation

(b) (5)

INCs Issued by BSEE

(b) (5)

Defending Renewable Energy Projects

(b) (5)

Other Matters

EEOC v. Peabody Coal* and *Navajo Nation/Peabody Coal v. EchoHawk (D. AZ)

(b) (5)

Defending Secretarial Order on Wild Lands

(b) (5)

Western Oregon Timber -- Pacific Rivers Council, et al. v. Shepard (D. OR)

(b) (5)

Osage Settlement Signing

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

The Tribal Trust Cases Dismissal

(b) (5)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
THREE WEEK OUT REPORT
October 14, 2011

WEEK AHEAD

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park (MD/DC/WV) – Catoctin Aqueduct Re-Dedication Ceremony. The re-dedication ceremony for the restoration of the Catoctin Aqueduct is scheduled for October 15. This citizen-led partnership project was funded by partner funds, State of Maryland Transportation Enhancement Funds, and ARRA funds. Senator Benjamin Cardin will be among the many dignitaries speaking at the event.

ON THE HORIZON

NAGPRA Proposed Rule on Disposition of Unclaimed Cultural Items from Federal Lands. A proposed rule to provide guidance to federal agencies when there are new finds of Native American cultural items exhumed from Federal land and not claimed by a tribe, or where no tribal connection can be determined, will be circulating in the Department for a November publication date.

Minute Man National Historical Park (MA) - Adverse Development within Park. The Town of Lincoln owns property within the park boundary that is landlocked by U.S. Air Force and the NPS, and is proceeding with the development of a 5-bedroom group house. The NPS is concerned about adverse impacts to the park and is opposed to this development. According to the Solicitor's office, access to this property would require an easement which has not been granted. A draft letter to the town is being prepared. Representative Markey's office has been informed about this issue.

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park (HI) – Draft Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for Protecting and Restoring Native Ecosystems. The NPS and EPA Notices of Availability for the draft plan/EIS for Protecting and Restoring Native Ecosystems by Managing Non-Native Ungulates are expected to be published on October 28, initiating the public review and comment period. The comment period will be open until January 6, 2012, with public meetings scheduled for November 15-17.

45th Meeting of the NAGPRA Review Committee. The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Review Committee will convene their next meeting on November 8 and 9, in Reno, Nevada. The agenda includes committee comment on proposed regulations, if published, a request for a recommendation to the Secretary regarding disposition of unidentifiable Native American human remains and NAGPRA program updates from the National NAGPRA Program, tribes, museums and Federal agencies. The meeting is open to the public.

Padre Island National Seashore (TX) – EA on Beach Driving Impacts. The park has prepared a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on the analysis of beach driving and its impact on human safety and resource protection. Within the next three weeks, the NPS will select the preferred alternative, which will limit speed to 15 mph from March 1 through Labor Day. Outside of these dates, the speed limit will be 25 mph from mile marker 2.5 to Mansfield Channel. The current speed limit is 25 mph year-round.

Rock Creek Park (DC) – Park to Reinitiate Compliance with Environmental Assessment. Shortly after construction activities began on Waterside Drive in July 2011, the NPS discovered that this portion of the project was not following the preferred alternative contained in the 2006 Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Environmental Assessment. Construction was stopped in order to reinitiate the planning and compliance for this portion of the project. Due to the physical constraints of the site, accommodating the proposed safety improvements would also likely necessitate construction of a retaining wall to support this section of the roadway. In addition, the NPS will also be considering ecologically sensitive methods of stabilizing the stream bank opposite the Rock Creek Parkway, within the project area. Severe erosion took place in the project area as a result of the flooding that occurred after Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. A public scoping session for the EA will be held on October 27.

Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve (CO) – Notice of Intent for Ungulate Management Plan. A notice of intent to prepare an EIS for the park's Ungulate Management Plan is expected to be published in the Federal Register within the next three weeks. Publication of the NOI will initiate a public scoping period with public meetings scheduled for the week of November 14.

Week Ahead Report
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
October 10, 2011

Final Rule to Establish Manatee Protection Area in Citrus County, Florida: FWS published a proposed rule to designate Kings Bay (located in Citrus County, FL) as a manatee refuge on June 22, 2011; the public comment period ended on August 22, 2011. FWS Southeast Region is preparing a final rule, which will address the public comments received. FWS has been working with Endangered Species (who has the lead) to provide informal review at the staff level. The refuge designation provides a means to address concerns regarding manatee harassment, adequacy of current protection measures, and negative impacts (taking) from waterborne activities known to occur in this area. Because of the need to have these protective measures in place for the winter manatee season, The Florida manatee is a highly-visible species; FWS expects public, congressional, and media interest to be high and, therefore, does anticipate associated controversy. FWS plans to have the final rule published by November 15, 2011.

Correction and Extension of Public Comment Period for Chimpanzee 90-day Petition Finding: On September 1, 2011, FWS published a 90-day finding on a petition to list all chimpanzees as endangered under the ESA. FWS is correcting the public comment Docket Number in the 90-day finding. FWS is also extending the public comment period for an additional 30 days beyond the current October 31, 2011, deadline to allow interested parties the opportunity to submit information to the correct Docket Number. The correction and extension of the public comment period are not expected to be controversial. Target for submitting to the Federal Register on or before October 31, 2011.

Double-crested Cormorant Notice of Intent: The Service will publish a Notice of Intent (NOI) to solicit public comments to guide the preparation of a NEPA document for revisions of the regulations governing Double-crested Cormorant management. The regulations allow the take of Double-crested Cormorants without a permit to reduce human-wildlife conflicts, specifically with aquaculture and with public resources. This process is likely to be controversial because Double-crested Cormorant management has extreme views on both sides of the issue. It is expected that this notice will publish in the Federal Register by the end of October and be open for comments for 90 days.

ARRA Projects Completion Update for the National Fish Hatchery System: The FWS Fisheries Program has closed 68 percent (137 of 201) ARRA work orders for the National Fish Hatchery System (NFHS). The closed and completely finished projects represent 52 percent of the total obligated for projects by the NFHS. To date, $11.6 M was spent on mission critical water management assets, and $5.8 million was used on deferred maintenance, and energy efficiency retrofits on buildings. FWS Pacific Northwest and Pacific Southwest Regions have completely expended available ARRA funds. Other project types completed in the NFHS include road rehabilitation, safety compliance, and renewable energy.

LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT
October 16 – October 22, 2011

SENIOR OFFICIALS' ACTIVITIES

Week of October 17, 2011
Acting ASLM Burke – In the office all week.
DAS Baca – In the office all week.
DAS Farquhar – Travel to Providence, R.I. on Wednesday to deliver a clean energy speech at the National Governor's Association meeting. In the office for the remainder of the week.

Week of October 24, 2011
Acting ASLM Burke – Tentatively travel to W.Va., Pa., and Ohio to tour coal mines with OSM.
DAS Baca – In the office all week.
DAS Farquhar – In the office all week.

HOT TOPICS

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Renewable Energy

- ***Update:*** **Solar Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*****:*** *On Oct. 6, the BLM submitted a revised final Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) surname package to the SOL for final review. The ANPR and the Solar Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) are scheduled for publication on Oct. 28.*
- ***Update:*** **Palen Solar Project:** *Solar Trust of America has advised the BLM that the company may request a delay in the schedule for the proposed 484-MW Palen Solar project in Riverside County, CA, to give the company time to consider a change from parabolic trough to solar photovoltaic technology. The BLM released the Final EIS for the project in May 2011 and a Record of Decision is still pending. BLM CA received letter from Solar Trust of America on Sept. 30 requesting an opportunity for further discussions with BLM and conservation organizations before making a decision on technology changes for the Palen Solar Project. BLM-CA will be scheduling meetings with Solar Trust of America to outline the discussion process. Depending on those discussions, Solar Trust of America will decide whether to submit a revised Plan of Development (POD) for the project. The BLM would then review the revised POD to determine the scope of any supplemental or additional NEPA review that would be required for the project. A new POD and NEPA review process could involve a delay of up to 12 months for the project.*
- ***Update:*** **Walker Ridge Wind Project Postponed:** *The BLM has postponed the release of a Draft EIS for the proposed 70-MW Walker Ridge Wind Project in Lake and Colusa Counties, CA. The postponement responds to a written request from the project proponent, AltaGas Renewable Energy Pacific, Inc., for time to make unspecified revisions to their plan of development.*

Solid Minerals

- ***New:*** **Agreement with Mine, Safety and Health Administration (MSHA):** *On Oct.17, the BLM and MSHA will participate in a signing ceremony for a new MOU that will increase coordination between the two agencies. The MOU, which updates a 2008 MOU following the Crandall Canyon mine accident, will foster improved communication on geological conditions and mining practices that affect the health and safety of miners at underground coal mines on Federal and Indian lands.*

Fluid Minerals

- ***Update:*** **Hydraulic Fracturing:** *The BLM prepared a briefing paper for the Secretary that included a draft of the technical text of the hydraulic fracturing rule. The rule will require operators to publicly disclose the chemicals they intend to use the in their hydraulic fracturing operations on public lands. Applicable recommendations by the Secretary of Energy's Advisory Board Subcommittee on Natural Gas are being incorporated into the rule. Pending approval by the Secretary, the BLM anticipates scheduling tribal consultation and sending the draft out for a comprehensive, tightly-held field review. The proposed rule is expected to go to OMB in late December.*

Congressional

- ***New:*** **Wilderness Hearing:** *The House Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks plans to hold a hearing on Oct. 25 regarding wilderness issues. It will either be an oversight hearing on the Oct. 15 Report to Congress detailing Proposed Wilderness Designations, or a legislative hearing on individual wilderness bills. The BLM's recently released NLCS Strategy is also likely to be an issue discussed at the hearing.*

- ***New:*** **Wild Horse and Burro (WH&B) Program Briefing**: *On Oct. 5, BLM WH&B Division Chief Joan Guilfoyle and Legislative Affairs staff met with the staff of Senator Barrasso (R-WY) to discuss the WH&B program. During this meeting, the Senator's staff discussed possible legislation regarding WH&B management, but did not provide any specifics concerning the legislation.*

- ***New:*** **Grazing Memorandum Inquiry**: *Sen. Feinstein requested information regarding an Instruction Memorandum (IM) on the BLM's proposed process and timeline for notifying a grazing permittee/lessee of a solar or wind energy development application that may affect a livestock grazing operation. Several grazing permittees in the CA Desert District have notified the Sen.'s office about the proposed IM and the notification timeline. Staff advised the BLM that the Senator will consider legislative options if the permittees' concerns are not addressed. The BLM revised the IM to address concerns regarding grazing mitigation and compensation. The IM states that the Plan of Development (POD) will address grazing mitigation and strongly encourages the applicant and permittee to enter into an agreement (submitted concurrent with the POD) that addresses mitigation and compensation strategies. BLM provided Sen. Feinstein's office a copy of the final IM, which was issued on Oct. 13.*

Wild Horses and Burros

- ***New:*** **Divide Basin Wild Horse Gather:** *During the week of Oct. 16, the BLM-WY Rock Springs Field Office will begin gather operations at the Great Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area (HMA), located east of Rock Springs, WY. The current population is estimated to be 1640 animals. The operation is intended to gather 1320-1476 animals, and to release approximately 123 studs and 43 fertility control-treated mares back into the HMA. The gather is expected to conclude in mid-November. Two members of the Cloud Foundation and the American Wild Horse Preservation Campaign have expressed an interest in viewing the gather. The BLM expects some level of controversy.*

Grazing Litigation:

- ***New:*** **Supreme Court Not Taking Grazing Suit:** *On Oct. 3, the Supreme Court denied the Public Lands Council's petition to hear a case challenging the 2006 proposed amendments to BLM's grazing regulations. The Plaintiffs argued that the BLM violated NEPA by failing to take the required "hard look" at the environmental effects of the revised regulations, among other issues. In 2010, the Ninth Circuit affirmed the permanent injunction against the 2006 BLM regulations issued by the U.S. District Court in Idaho. The Public Lands Council and the American Farm Bureau Federation intervened on behalf of the BLM to defend the proposed amendments.*

Miscellaneous

- ***Update*****: BLM-CO Over The River Project Final EIS:** *On Oct. 7, the Record of Decision for the final EIS for the Over the River project was cleared for publication in the Federal Register. On the same day, the CO State Board of Land Commissioners also approved two leases, one for 7.7 acres and one for 130 acres, that will permit construction work to take place, as well the creation of a wildlife corridor and alternative habitat on state trust land that would benefit bighorn sheep in the area and mitigate potential impacts from the project.*

AGO & Youth Events

- ***New: Let's Move*** **Event in Utah:** *On Oct. 22, the BLM-UT Cedar City Field Office will host a mountain bike and scavenger hunt event as part of the Let's Move initiative at the Three Peaks Recreation Area in southern Utah.*

- ***New:*** **Arizona Border Conservation:** *The new Project ROAM II (Reclaim Our Arizona Monuments) began Oct. 10, with a ten-day law enforcement surge and the first of many conservation restoration projects. During this month, youth corps and fire crews will remove smuggling-related debris and trash from the southeast corner of the Sonoran Desert National Monument. Throughout the fall, crews will repair 26 miles of livestock fence that smugglers cut between BLM lands and the Tohono O'odham Nation.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

- ***Update: Next 5-Year OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program****: The next major steps in the 5-year program preparation process are the development of the Draft EIS and the Proposed Program, which are expected be ready for publication early in Nov. The Proposed*

Program Document is currently in BOEM surnaming and will be sent to the ASLM corridor on Oct. 24.

- ***Update: U.S.: Mexico Transboundary Reservoirs Issues**: The next transboundary negotiating session is scheduled for Oct. 26-28 in Washington, D.C. This session, originally scheduled for Oct. 17, was delayed at the request of the Government of Mexico to allow for the attendance of key personnel within the Secretaría de Energía (SENER). Prior to this meeting, the drafting team, consisting of selected members of both delegations, will meet in Washington, D.C. on Oct. 17. This group will be tasked with finalizing text for some of the less complicated articles of the Agreement. Both countries seek to have a signed document by the end of 2011.*

- ***New: Cape Wind Administrative Record (AR):** The publicly available records were submitted to BOEM on Sept. 30. On Oct. 7, the District Court for the District of Columbia granted a motion to extend the filing deadline to Dec. 16 for the remainder of the AR.*

- ***Update: BOEMRE/MA OCS Renewable Energy Task Force:** On Sept. 13, the draft Call for Information and Nominations was distributed to the Commonwealth, U.S. Coast Guard, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Department of Defense for preliminary review**.** Staff distributed the draft Call to the BOEMRE/MA OCS Renewable Energy Task Force members during the week of Sep. 26 and will hold a Task Force webinar on Oct. 17 to discuss the draft Call and Task Force member comments. The next step is to put the Call into surnaming, then publish the Call with a Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment.*
- ***Update: Rhode Island and Massachusetts Call for Information and Nominations:** The comment period for the Call for Information and Nominations for Commercial Leasing closed on Oct. 3. BOEM received eight overlapping expressions of interest from eight entities and 77 comments. BOEM will undertake a completeness review of the expressions of interest and initiate review of legal, technical, and financial qualifications. BOEM will convene a Joint RI/MA Task Force meeting to present the comments and responses and discuss next steps. In response to the Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EA, which was published with the Call, BOEM received 18 comments from Federal, state and private groups. Issues include: protection of the North Atlantic right whale, information and data needs, proposed alternatives, and proposed mitigation measures.*

- ***Update: North Carolina Task Force Meeting:** The BOEM-NC Task Force meeting took place on Oct. 6 in Wilmington, NC BOEM proposes to include three areas in a Call for Information and Nominations, two off Oak Island and one off Beaufort. BOEM is awaiting the USCG vessel traffic analysis for these areas. Additionally, the earliest BOEM will publish a notice seeking information on two areas, one off Cape Hatteras and one off Kitty Hawk, is January 2012.*

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

- ***Update: Suspension of Operations (SOO) Requests:** BSEE has received 1,414 SOO requests. As of Oct. 7, approximately 1,366 requests were approved, 14 denied, and 2*

were withdrawn (96.6% complete). BSEE is continuing to process the remaining requests. BSEE anticipates 100% completion by the end of Oct. The remaining requests are the most complicated.

- ***Update: BP Application for Permit to Drill (APD) for Kaskida Discovery:*** *On Sep. 12, BP submitted information on the Well Containment Screening Tool (WCST) to the BSEE District Operations Support Section GOMR for deepwater APD Keathley Canyon Block 292, Well #2 (Kaskida). On Sept. 29, the Offices of Field Operations and Resource Evaluation met with BP to discuss technical details and the processes of the WCST review. BSEE is working with BP to complete the WCST review by the week of Oct.10-14. BP plans to drill the new well with the dynamically positioned Seadrill West Sirius semisubmersible which must receive approval for the Blowout Preventer (BOP) stack prior to returning to work in the Gulf.*

- **No Change: BSEE/U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Response Workgroup:** *The Response Workgroup, composed of staff from BSEE and the USCG, will meet on Oct.13 in Herndon to review the status of work on oil spill planning and preparedness projects. Agenda topics will include USCG review of oil spill response plans, USCG participation in BSEE unannounced oil spill drills, revisions to Area Contingency Plans, and response planning standards.*

- ***New: Shell Request Clarification on BSEE Standards for Well Containment System:*** *Shell submitted a matrix delineating BSEE and U.S. Coast Guard authorities for its proposed well containment system for Shell's proposed Beaufort and Chukchi Sea exploratory drilling programs. Shell is requesting confirmation on what the regulatory boundaries are and what design standards will apply to the system.*

- ***New: Chukchi Sea Lease Sale 193 Suspension of Operations (SOO):*** *On Oct. 3, DOI submitted a record of decision to the Alaska District Court to address the remand. The Solicitor's office is coordinating with the Department of Justice on the timing to terminate the SOO to enable BOEM to formally process both the Shell and ConocoPhillips Chukchi Sea exploration plans. BSEE will issue an action letter terminating the SOO when advised by the Solicitor's office. This could happen sometime during the week of Oct. 17.*

- ***Update: Shell Appeals BOEMRE Jul. 20, 2011 Suspension of Operations (SOO) for Beaufort Sea Leases:*** *Shell filed a notice of appeal with the IBLA on Sep. 16 requesting an extension until Nov. 15 to file a statement of reasons. Shell has been granted the extension to file the statement of reasons until Nov. 15.*

- ***New: BSEE/U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Prevention Workgroup Steering Committee Meeting:*** *On Oct. 4, the Steering Committee met via teleconference to review the status of ongoing work on various projects outlined in the workgroup charter that was approved last month. Agenda items included a review and update of the USCG/BSEE MOU and MOAs; status updates and interagency input for various BSEE and USCG rule making projects; USCG participation in BSEE's National Inspectors Meeting; the status of the BSEE reorganization; preparation of a Strategic Vision Statement for the USCG/BSEE Quarterly*

Meetings; and USCG/BSEE collaboration to inspect the mobile offshore drilling unit that is being contracted to conduct drilling operations off Cuba.

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

- ***New: Environmental Group Files Notice of Intent to Sue with OSM in TN for Alleged Clean Water Act Violations on OSM-issued SMCRA permits:*** *On Oct. 6, the Knoxville Field Office was notified of an Intent to Sue by various environmental groups alleging that two surface coal-mining permits issued by OSM violate the Clean Water Act (CWA). The plaintiffs claim that mine-related discharges of selenium, suspended solids, pH, iron, and manganese violate the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System effluent limitations and result in material damage to the hydrologic balance. The plaintiffs demand that National Coal, LLC, come into compliance or furnish remedial steps for doing so within 60 days. OSM will meet with the TN Department of Environment and Conservation, the state CWA authority responsible for issuing the NPDES permits, to discuss options.*

- ***New: Appalachian Regional Development Initiative Workshop:*** *On Oct. 14, the Appalachian Regional Development Initiative (ARDI), an interagency partnership spearheaded by the Administration to encourage and facilitate sustainable and environmentally sound economic development in Appalachia, is sponsoring a workshop in Charleston, West Virginia, with 300 participants. It will focus on funding and technical assistance for community development. OSM (which serves as DOI's representative to ARDI) will present information on reforestation through its Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative (ARRI). ARRI is part of the 'Green Forests Work for Appalachia' program, which recently received an Appalachian Regional Commission grant of $300,000 for reforestation of one million acres of reclaimed surface mining lands in eight of the Appalachian states. OSM will also provide information on its Cooperative Watershed Agreement grant programs and OSM/VISTA in local Appalachian communities.*

  Update: **Lands Unsuitable for Mining (LUM) Petition:** *OSM is working with various cooperating agencies on the development of the EIS. The U.S. Forest Service is modeling the viewscape that will illustrate the impacts of various mining scenarios on the various EIS alternatives; the EPA is addressing environmental justice issues; and the NPS is using its cooperating universities to conduct technical studies for the EIS. On Oct. 21, OSM is scheduled to brief Acting ASLM Burke.*

- ***No Change:*** **OSM to Present Excellence in Surface Mining Reclamation Awards:** *On Oct. 17, OSM Deputy Director Glenda Owens will present this year's Excellence in Surface Mining Reclamation Awards in DC. Four mine operators this year will receive awards, which recognize outstanding results in environmental protection and showcase exemplary reclamation techniques. Acting ASLM Burke plans to attend the event as well.*

WEEK AHEAD – October 16 to October 22, 2011

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Tues. – Wed., Oct. 18-19:

- ***New:*** **Wyoming Tour for State Official and Congressional Staff:** *The BLM-WY High Plains District Office will meet with Jerimiah Rieman from Governor Mead's Office to discuss BLM programs and issues in the High Plains District. The meeting will include a tour of Fortification Creek, located in Campbell, Johnson, and Sheridan Counties, encompassing 100,655 acres. Staff of the WY Congressional delegation have also been invited to participate. Fortification Creek is an area described as requiring special management in the Powder River Basin Oil and Gas Project Environmental Impact Statement. It is home to a resident elk herd, a Wilderness Study Area, a citizen-proposed expansion to the WSA, a citizen-proposed Area of Critical Environmental Concern, and has large areas of steep slopes and sensitive soils.*

- ***Update:*** **Briefing on Wild Horse and Burro (WH&B) Program for Senator Landrieu:** *On Oct. 18, BLM will brief Senator Landrieu (D-LA) on the WH&B program, including population growth suppression efforts, census methods, and ecosanctuaries. She will also meet Joan Guilfoyle, the new BLM WH&B Division Chief.*

Wed., Oct. 19:

- ***New:*** **Wilderness Society Conference:** *BLM Deputy Assistant Director for Minerals and Realty Management Tim Spisak will speak to The Wilderness Society on the BLM's Oil and Gas program. He will focus on leasing reforms and approaches to dealing with key issues on Federal lands in the West, such as disclosure and well integrity standards for hydraulic fracturing operations and royalties.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

Mon., Oct. 17:

- *Director Beaudreau and Deputy Director Cruickshank will participate in a conference call with Rep. Robert Andrews (NJ) concerning offshore wind and the process leading to a lease auction, development and commercial production.*

Thurs., Oct. 20:

- *Director Beaudreau is scheduled for a meet and greet with Senator Landrieu. The Director will be accompanied by Congressional Affairs staff.*

Fri., Oct. 21:

- *BOEM Deputy Director Walter Cruickshank will participate in a panel discussion entitled "The BP Spill and the New Future of Offshore Drilling" at the annual Society of Environmental Journalists Conference in Miami, FL. Other panelists include Elgie Holstein of the Environmental Defense Fund and Erik Milito from the American Petroleum Institute. Approximately 1,000 attendees are expected.*

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

Tues.-Thurs., Oct. 18-20; Tues.-Thurs., Oct. 25-27:

- ***New: Energy Governance and Capacity Initiative (EGCI):*** *A State Department-sponsored BOEM and BSEE team will conduct two comprehensive three-day workshops on the responsibilities and activities related to Oil and Gas Reserves classification and Economic Valuation for both discovered and undiscovered offshore oil and gas resources in Monrovia, Liberia (Oct. 18-20) and in Freetown, Sierra Leone (Oct. 25-27).*

Thurs., Oct. 20:

- **No Change: International Offshore Drilling Response Plan:** *Staff from BSEE's Oil Spill Response Division will participate in a U.S. Coast Guard workshop that will review, test, and validate the general concepts of the International Offshore Drilling Response Plan that is under development. The scenario will involve a major oil spill originating in foreign waters.*

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

Sun., Oct. 22:

- ***No Change:*** **Publication of an Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Kayenta Mine Permit Renewal:** *OSM has received Peabody Western Coal Company's application to renew the permit for the Kayenta Mine, located on the Navajo and Hopi Reservations. OSM prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to support its decision and placed it and an unsigned Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on its Western Region web site for public review through Oct. 22. The Kayenta Mine has generated considerable public interest in the past from various environmental and conservation groups. It is highly likely that the EA and FONSI for the permit renewal will result in renewed controversy.*

WEEKS AHEAD

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Tues., Oct. 25:

- ***Update:*** **Oregon Timber Pilot Project:** *BLM Oregon will hold the first public meeting on the Medford Secretarial Pilot Project. The BLM will also release a scoping notice, initiating a 30-day public comment period. A second scoping notice will be sent to interested stakeholders when the details of the Proposed Action are determined. The first scoping notice is general in nature and does not identify specific unit/projects locations. The second scoping notice will provide a Proposed Action for the public to comment on site-specific matters.*

Wed., Oct. 26:

- ***New:*** **Powder River Basin Coal Meeting:** *The Powder River Regional Coal Team (RCT) will meet in Casper, WY to review current and proposed activities in the Powder River*

Coal Region. The RCT consists of Govs. Schweitzer (MT) and Mead (WY), BLM-MT State Director Jamie Connell, BLM-WY State Director Don Simpson, and BLM-WY Deputy State Director of Minerals and Lands Larry Claypool.

Thurs., Oct. 27:

- ***New:*** **Colorado Resource Management Plan (RMP) Open Houses:** *BLM-CO will hold the first open house for the Draft RMP and EIS in Granby, CO for public lands located in northwestern CO administered by the Kremmling Field Office. Two more open houses are planned, one in Walden (Nov. 3) and one in Kremmling (Nov. 8). The plan will provide a framework to guide subsequent management decisions for 377,900 surface acres and 653,500 subsurface acres in six CO counties. The Draft RMP analyzes four alternatives covering all aspects of BLM land and minerals management within the Kremmling Field Office.*

Fri., Oct. 28:

- ***No change:*** **Northern Arizona Withdrawal:** *The notice announcing the availability of the Final EIS for the withdrawal of nearly one million acres in Northern Arizona is expected to be published in the Federal Register on Oct. 28. The Draft EIS assesses the environmental, social, and economic impacts associated with the withdrawal of lands in the Grand Canyon watershed. The withdrawal would affect uranium and other hardrock mining.*

Sun., Oct. 30:

- ***No change:*** **Public Comment Colorado Mining Plan:** *The 30-day public comment period on the Draft EA for the Destiny Mine will end. The BLM received a proposal in 2009 from Destiny Mining, LLC, for mining a claim within a five-acre area of an 80-acre BLM parcel near Fairplay, CO. The proposal is for a small placer mining operation that combines gold, sand, and gravel. BLM-CO held a public scoping meeting in Sept. 2009 to identify potential issues and environmental concerns. Extensive complications associated with various aspects of the application prolonged preparation of the Draft EA.*

Tues., Nov. 1:

- ***No change:*** **Oil and Gas Lease Sale in Wyoming:** *BLM-WY will offer 92 parcels covering 104,042 acres in an oil and gas lease sale. The protest period on the sale ended Sept. 2. BLM received four protests. Issues cited in the protests include: parcels offered in Citizen Proposed Wilderness Areas; parcels offered in big game migration corridors; and parcels offered in sage-grouse habitat. BLM-WY is processing protest responses.*

Thurs., Nov. 10:

- ***New:*** **Oil and Gas Lease Sale in Colorado:** *BLM-CO will auction 54 parcels covering 41,548 acres. The protest deadline closed on Sept. 12. The BLM received nine protests. Issues cited in the protests include: leasing near Bald and Golden Eagles; NEPA compliance; Endangered Species Act compliance; hydraulic fracturing concerns; air and water quality concerns; and greenhouse gases. BLM-CO is processing protest responses. Some of the issues (including greenhouse gases and air and water quality concerns) were already addressed in the relevant planning documents.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

Mon., Oct. 24 – 27

- ***New: All Hands Meetings:*** *Director Beaudreau will travel to BOEM's CA and AK Regional Offices for all-hands meetings.*

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

Mon.-Fri., Oct. 24-28:

- ***New: Safety and Environmental Management System (SEMS) Audit Training:*** *SEMS auditor training will be held in New Orleans. In anticipation of the Nov. 15 SEMS compliance date, BSEE is sending Safety Inspectors and Environmental Enforcement Officers to the training to ensure BSEE readiness to implement the program.*

Wed.-Thurs., Nov. 2-3:

- ***Update: Technology Assessment and Research (TA&R) Study 684 - "Effects of Water Depth on Equipment and Operations" Workshop:*** *BSEE will conduct a workshop in Galveston on the Effects of Water Depth on Equipment and Operations in response to a recommendation in the OCS Safety Oversight Board Report. As of Oct. 14, 120 industry attendees and regulators had applied for the workshop.*

Weekly Issues Report
October 14, 2011

Memorandum

To: Mehgan Conklin
Associate Deputy Secretary

From: Anne J. Castle
Assistant Secretary for Water and Science

Subject: Weekly Meeting Issues

Senior Officials' Activities Oct 17-21:
Anne J. Castle- Oct 17, providing keynote to Woods Institute (Stanford) Comparative Groundwater Law & Policy Workshop, Palo Alto, CA; Oct 18 with USGS in Menlo Park/Bay & Delta; Oct 19 at Jet Propulsion Lab on Colorado River issues, Pasadena, CA; Oct 20, participating in Great ShakeOut 2011 activities in Los Angeles area; Oct 21 in DC. Oct 24, in Big Bend National Park, TX, with the Secretary; Oct 25-28 in DC.
John Tubbs – (b) (6) ; Oct. 20-28 in DC.
Lori Caramanian - Oct 17-20 traveling with ASWS; Oct 21-28 in DC.
Tanya Trujillo - Oct 17-28 in DC; Oct 18 attending the Chesapeake FLCD meeting.
Marcia McNutt - October 20-21 in Miami, FL—Society of Environmental Journalists 21st Annual Conference.
Mike Connor - Oct. 17-25, in DC attending various meetings; Oct. 26, in Sacramento for BDCP meetings; Oct. 27-28, in El Paso for bi-national meetings.

Reclamation

Klamath Dams Secretarial Determination Draft EIS/EIR Public Hearings (CA/OR)
The Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIS/EIR) for dam removal and implementation of the KBRA as well as several other alternatives is currently available for public comment. Six hearings are scheduled for Oct. 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, and 27. The hearings will allow stakeholders and members of the community an opportunity to submit oral and written comment and ask questions about the documents' contents.

Klamath Dams Secretarial Determination ESA Consultation (CA/OR)
On October 7, Reclamation initiated consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service pursuant to section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. The Biological Assessment submitted with the request identified nine individual species that may be affected by dam removal actions in the Klamath Basin. These species are Coho salmon, Stellar Sea Lion, Southern DPS Resident killer whale, Green sturgeon, Pacific eulachon, Lost River sucker, Shortnose sucker, Bull trout, and Northern spotted owl. Reclamation worked closely with the Services during preparation of the Biological Assessment to address all species, including those species where the determination was no effect.

Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement Tribal Discussions (California)
Reclamation's Mid-Pacific Deputy Regional Director Pablo Arroyave, Klamath Basin Area Manager Jason Phillips, Northern California Area Manager Brian Person, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service regional directors, and John Bezdek of the Solicitor's Office will meet with the Yurok Tribe to discuss Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement issues in Klamath, CA. The Yurok Tribe is concerned that narrowing the focus to analyze only the effects to ESA-listed coho salmon will reduce required flows and have adverse impacts on other species of interest to them. The Tribe is interested in expressing these concerns and exploring various options that may be available.

Bighorn River System Issues Group (Montana)
The Bighorn River System Issues Group met on October 13, in Billings, MT, to hear feedback from interested parties on water operations during the past water year and to discuss potential changes to Reclamation's draft operating criteria for Yellowtail Dam. The Bighorn River System Issues Group (Group) was formed in 2007 to identify, explore, and recommend long-term, strategic courses of action to local, tribal, state, and federal entities that are responsible for managing the Bighorn River system resources. Previous meeting discussions and topics are available at http://www.usbr.gov/gp/mtao/yellowtail/bighorn_longterm.cfm.

Reclamation and NPS to Publish Scoping Notice on Glen Canyon Dam EIS (Arizona)
Reclamation's Upper Colorado Regional Office reports that work continues between Reclamation and the National Park Service as joint leads on the Glen Canyon Dam Long-term Experimental and Management Plan Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The two agencies intend to publish a Notice to Solicit Comments and Hold Public Scoping Meetings in the *Federal Register* on October 17. Six public scoping meetings and one web-based meeting will be held to solicit public input on the scope of the EIS, potential alternatives, and issues to be addressed in the EIS. Meetings will be held from November 7 to November 17 in Phoenix, Flagstaff, Page, Salt Lake City, Las Vegas, and Lakewood, Colorado. Comments on the scope of the EIS will be accepted until the close of business on December 30, 2011.

Reclamation Managers to Attend Ten Cities Mayors Meeting (Utah)
On October 20, the Area and Deputy Area Manager of Reclamation's Provo Area Office have been invited to speak at the monthly meeting of mayors of the ten cities in south Utah County. The purpose of the presentation is to provide Reclamation and Central Utah Project Completion Act Office perspective on four power issues: (1) proposed transfer of the Strawberry Valley Project's power distribution system to the South Utah Valley Electric Service District, (2) proposed lease of power privilege at the Spanish Fork Flow Control Structure, (3) prospects for a lease of power privilege at Diamond Fork, and (4) limits to power development on facilities of the Strawberry Valley Project.

Assessment of Increased Groundwater Levels near the New York Canal in Boise (Idaho)
Reclamation and the Boise Project Board of Control (BPBOC) continue to investigate potential sources that may be contributing to the elevated groundwater in a southeast Boise neighborhood. On August 3, homeowners along South Minuteman Way reported water collecting in their backyards and crawlspaces. Reclamation and BPBOC crews were dispatched to inspect the canal and surrounding area. A thorough inspection and subsequent monitoring efforts indicate

the canal is structurally stable. During the week of October 10, Reclamation began drilling to install ten monitoring wells above and below the New York Canal and along South Minuteman Way. The investigations will provide water level data to help determine the sources of elevated groundwater. Reclamation and BPBOC officials are in ongoing contact with the homeowners to provide them with updates on the investigative work. They are also briefing local emergency officials, as a precautionary measure. The New York Canal is a feature of Reclamation's Boise Project, which furnishes irrigation water supplies to lands in southwestern Idaho and eastern Oregon.

US Geological Survey

USGS science supports 2011 Great California ShakeOut
On Oct. 20, local, national, and international news media will descend on a Target store in Northridge (Los Angeles), California--the primary media venue for the 2011 Great California ShakeOut, the largest Earthquake Drill in U.S. History. Over 8.2 million Californians are expected to practice "drop, cover, and hold on" along with participants of five other ShakeOut drills on the same day (Guam, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, and British Columbia). FEMA Administrator Fugate and DHS Secretary Napolitano have been invited to attend. The "Big Shaker" earthquake simulator will be on site and there will be demonstrations of earthquake mitigation and preparedness products. Following the store drill, invited national, state, and local leaders will brief the media on the exercise. This event highlights public private partnerships between government, communities, and the private sector. The ShakeOut is based on a 2008 USGS scenario and has since grown to include 15 other ShakeOuts around the country and internationally, with four more in development.

Monitoring Fallout from Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Facility: The USGS and National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP), comprising over 100 Federal, state, and local agencies and organizations, monitored radioactive fallout from the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power facility incident on March 11, 2011. The USGS provided observations of fission-product isotopes in precipitation over North America from 168 NADP sites. Fission product radionuclides were observed at approximately 25% of the locations. This is the second time samples from the NADP network have been used to measure radioactive fallout, the first being after the Chernobyl reactor failure in 1986. A USGS report is planned for online publication, and an article has been submitted to a peer-reviewed journal. A news release will be distributed at the time of publication.

Memory of the World Register: The Landsat Multispectral Scanner (MSS) dataset has been selected to be included in the Memory of the World International Register. The Memory of the World Programme was established by UNESCO in 1992 with the goal of preserving humanity's documentary heritage. The Landsat MSS dataset has over 650,000 scenes collected from 1972 to 1994 from around the world and is an irreplaceable record of the Earth's land surfaces, shallow coastal regions, and reefs.

PECASE Awards: Three USGS employees will be honored by President Obama with a PECASE award (Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers) on Oct. 14. PECASE is the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. on science and engineering professionals in

the early stages of their independent research careers. Presentation of the awards will take place in the Baird Auditorium, Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, at 10:00 am. Tanya Trujillo, Counselor for Water and Science, will attend for Interior and will present the awards to the USGS recipients.

USGS Christens *R/V Muskie*: The USGS is celebrating the christening and commissioning of the new *Research Vessel (R/V) Muskie* in Sandusky, Ohio, on Oct. 19th. The *R/V Muskie* is one of two new large vessels recently constructed under an ARRA–funded $8.2 million contract. The new vessels will replace the aging vessels on lakes Erie and Ontario.

Society of Environmental Journalists: USGS will have a major presence at this year's Society of Environmental Journalists' conference in Miami Oct. 19-23. USGS Director McNutt is a panelist with other top-level scientists and reporters in a plenary on communicating science. Other USGS scientists will participate in roundtables on hydrofracking, carbon sequestration, genetics and genomics in wildlife conservation, and declining reptile populations.

DOI Climate Science Centers: On Oct. 7, Secretary Salazar announced the universities selected to host, contingent on future appropriated funding, DOI Climate Science Centers (CSCs) in the Northeast, South Central, and Pacific Islands regions. The universities are: the University of Massachusetts-Amherst (Northeast CSC); the University of Oklahoma (South Central CSC); and the University of Hawaii-Manoa in Honolulu (Pacific Islands CSC). Secretary Salazar also announced the first permanent directors for three existing CSCs: Gerard McMahon will serve as Director for the Southeast CSC; Stephen Gray will serve as Director of the Alaska CSC; and Gustavo Bisbal will serve as Director of the Northwest CSC.

Wolves in the High Arctic: USGS and Canadian researchers have authored a new paper on wolf movements in the High Arctic. The paper is published in PLoS One, and provides the first detailed movement information about any large mammal in the High Arctic. These wolves must survive 4 months of complete winter darkness and temperatures that fall to -53C. The authors discovered the movement of the wolves, sometimes involving travel of long distances, did not differ during the dark months. A press release is planned for Oct. 17.

Dust Storms: A USGS press release issued on Oct. 12 explains the most likely causes of a dust storm that rolled across the Arizona desert last week. The dust storm effectively blinded motorists, caused many motor vehicle crashes, multiple injuries, and at least one death. USGS and partner science shows that two contributing factors to dust storms are low vegetation cover and soil surface disturbance. In places where land-use activities have destroyed or reduced soil crusts and weakened soil stability, researchers forecast higher dust storm activities than in undisturbed areas.

Mineral Mining in Sub-Saharan Africa: USGS has recently published a report that estimates, for Sub-Saharan Africa, the amount of electricity and the basic infrastructure requirements necessary for mining a variety of mineral commodities. A technical announcement will be issued the week of Oct. 17.

Sage-Grouse Nesting Habitat: A USGS article is forthcoming in the *Journal of Wildlife Management* about nesting habitat requirements for the listed Gunnison Sage-Grouse. Release of the early online version is expected this fall.

Razorback Sucker: Little is known about the physiology of the seasonal reproductive cycles of the endangered razorback sucker, a rare fresh water fish of rivers in the Colorado River basin. A recently published USGS report in the North American Journal of Fisheries Management describes the biochemical intricacies of razorback reproduction and provides baseline physiological conditions that could be used as recovery metrics.

Sightline Institute Blog Cites USGS Water Use Estimates: A blog post published Oct. 3 on the website of Seattle-based think tank Sightline Institute cites USGS Circular 1344, "Estimated Use of Water in the United States in 2005." The post discusses how Pacific Northwest states and the Canadian province of British Columbia are easing restrictions against water recycling. The authors cite the USGS Circular for data about per-capita use of clean water, some of which might be replaced by using graywater.

West Africa Environmental Program: USAID has confirmed multi-year support to the USGS to provide technical assistance and capacity building in West Africa's Upper Guinean Forest Ecosystem. These fragile forests are fundamental to the welfare of West African societies, have great cultural importance, are biodiversity "hotspots," and have considerable value for mitigating climate change. USGS will work with numerous partners, including national counterparts in Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Côte d'Ivoire, along with the Forest Service, the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation, and USAID. The group will focus on three transboundary areas to monitor land cover, biodiversity, and deforestation; and help track impacts of land management and conservation efforts that balance wilderness protection with sustainable livelihoods.

Congressional

- **Afghan Minerals Report:** The office of Sen. Joe Manchin has requested a briefing on the recent USGS assessment of mineral resources in Afghanistan, which found significant potential for rare-earths. USGS is working to schedule the meeting.

- **House Briefing on Hyperspectral Imagery**: As requested, USGS will brief majority staff of the House Natural Resources Committee Oct. 14 on the potential for use of hyperspectral imagery to survey for minerals in the U.S. The method was used for the Afghan minerals assessment; however it has not been used broadly in the U.S. largely because it is expensive and limited to surficial surveys of exposed rock. In addition, most of the mineral endowment of the U.S. is already known.

- **Shale Gas Senate Hearing:** The Senate Energy & Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water & Power will hold a hearing Oct. 20 on shale gas development and impacts to water resources in the Eastern U.S. It would follow up on the full-committee hearing held Oct. 4 on the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board's Shale Gas Production Subcommittee's 90-day report. Dr. Dave Russ will be the DOI witness.

- **Nevada Seismological Lab:** USGS briefed staff of Sen. Harry Reid about the Nevada Seismological Laboratory on Oct. 6. Sen. Reid is concerned about a loss of funding for the lab due to closure of the Yucca Mountain project, which will likely require layoffs. USGS explained that bridge funding had been arranged for one year, but will not be able to continue. On hearing that Reno and Las Vegas are on the USGS list of 26 urban areas at highest risk of earthquake damage, staffers requested more information and were given a link to USGS Circular 1188, An Assessment of Seismic Monitoring in the United States.

- **Patuxent Wildlife Research Center Anniversary:** Cong. Sarbanes is scheduled to attend the 75th anniversary celebration of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center on Oct. 15, in Laurel, Md. The event is open to the public, and will include children's crafts, tram tours, live music, scientific demonstrations, and behind-the-scenes research tours.

Memorandum

To: Chief of Staff

From: Chief of Staff, Indian Affairs

Subject: Indian Affairs Weekly Look Ahead Update

FOCUS FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 14, 2011

INDIAN AFFAIRS

Government to Government

Tribal Consultation: The Deputy Assistant Secretary – Policy and Economic Development will be attending the third Tribal consultation on the Cobell Settlement land consolidation program on October 26, 2011.

Federal Acknowledgement: The Office of Federal Acknowledgement (OFA) staff continues to work on the following cases:

- [1] Petitioner #84a, Juaneno Band of Mission Indians, CA.
- [2] Petitioner #5, Piro-Manso-Tiwa Indian Tribe, NM.
- [3] Petitioner #119b, Meherrin Tribe, NC.
- [4] Petitioner #82, Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation, CA.
- [5] Petitioner #288, Choctaw Nation of Florida, FL.
- [6] Petitioner #31, Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana.
- The Pamunkey Indian tribe (Petitioner #323.

Healthy and Safe Communities

Homeland Security:

- OHSES officials attended the Department of Defense and Department of Homeland security jointly sponsored *Introduction to Homeland Security/Homeland Defense Planning* course on October 4-6, 2011.

- 10/5/11 - Monthly DOI Emergency Management Council meeting – Topics of discussion included DOI all-hazard dispatch and credentialing program status, new FEMA/DHS National Exercise Program, Continuity Program updates and bureau reports. BIA has no outstanding deliverables to DOI at this time.

- 10/5/11 – Outreach for mental health assistance on Crow Reservation – OHSES facilitated outreach of support from the HHS, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration, Disaster Technical Assistance Center for the aftermath of the shooting on

the Crow Reservation on 10/4/11. Assistance includes crisis counseling materials and training available at the request of the tribe.

- 10/7/11 – Meeting with DHS-Homeland Infrastructure Threat and Risk Analysis Center (HITRAC) – Meeting was requested through DHS CRD and Intelligence and Analysis based on current partnership with those programs. HITRAC is requesting assistance with identifying tribal land boundaries and facilities that are in close proximity to national and regional level Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources. OHSES will facilitate GIS coordination for tribal land boundaries and assistance in coordination efforts where appropriate between tribal, state and federal agency stakeholders.

- Missouri River Flood Fight coordination by OHSES continued. All affected tribes are in recovery operations phase. No un-met needs reported to OHSES at this time. Oklahoma tornado recovery coordination with FEMA and local government to assist tribal members with funding is ongoing. OHSES provided Critical Incident Counseling contact information and Active Shooter training to the Crow Tribe and BIA RMRO in response to a three fatality shooting. OHSES assisted the NWRO in developing refresher training for EMT/ERG and all employees for required COOP and Environmental Safeguards Plan (ESP) annual refresher training.

- Conducted first monthly IA/OHSES Emergency Management Coordinators meeting (EMC) of the FY. Topics included incident SitRep updates, testing EMT/ERG GETS card # and WPS access from their mobile phones.

High Priority Performance Goal

The Office of Justice Services (OJS) completed a briefing for the Deputy Secretary during the Tri-weekly meeting on the HPPG. The OJS in coordination with our federal partners and the elected tribal leadership has achieved a cumulative reduction of 37% at all four sites combined during the past 24-months. Our Wind River HPPG site was recognized by the Attorney General-DOJ for their extraordinary efforts and commitment to fight crime in Indian Country.

The OJS has selected The Rosebud Sioux Tribe and the San Carlos Apache Tribe as the two next HPPG sites. The OJS has scheduled meetings with the elected Tribal leaders to discuss to discuss next steps. The OJS is conducting a baseline analysis of violent crime; staffing and Tribal programs that will support the community oriented policing in the development of crime reduction strategies for these two locations.

Strengthening BIA Law Enforcement Training on Domestic Violence in Indian Country

On December 8, 2010, the Assistant Secretary announced this initiative, to increase the training of BIA and Tribal Law Enforcement officers to aid them in their response to domestic violence incidents to Tribal Communities we serve. The training has enhanced officers' and tribal court advocates skill in working with victims suffering from the emotional and physical effects of domestic violence. During FY 2011, we have trained 396 officers, trainers and tribal court advocates. We will expand this initiative during FY 2012.

<u>Organizational Improvement</u>

- *Administration Assessment:* Bronner's draft Task 2 report is under consideration by the IA/DOI Team; the draft Task 3 was also received this past week. The draft Task 2 report starts laying the groundwork for potential options for improving administrative efficiencies.

- *Administrative Backlogs*: All IA organizations (BIE, BIA, DASM and DAS-PED) have eliminated their OIG administrative referral backlogs for FY 2011. For FY 2012, monitoring efforts are underway to institutionalize the tracking and priority of completing all incoming inquiries by established deadlines.

- *Labor Relations:* The new Consolidated Bargaining Agreement between AS-IA, BIA, BIE, and OST and the Federation of Indian Service Employees has been approved by the Department. Next steps include the development of a training session for managers and employees and a planned roll out of the new contract.

- *Facilities:* The House Committee on Energy and Commerce has called a meeting for an update on the 5-year plan for addressing uranium issues in Indian Country. Indian Affairs will address the Tuba City Dump site as a part of the federal government program led by EPA. The meeting will include staff members of the Committee, especially representing Rep. Waxman, Chairman. This is another in a long series of meetings and is scheduled afternoon of October 31.

- *Facilities Policy Issues*: Beginning the week of September 6, OFMC will host successive meetings to include OJS, IHS, DOJ, and others as appropriate to discuss solutions to funding of functional operations for juvenile service facilities at Standing Rock and Red Lake, where two such facilities have not been opened due to lack of funding support.

Education

Elementary and Secondary Education:

- *EPA Settlement Agreement:* The three Associate Deputy Directors continue to address the EPA violations with each of the Education Line Officers (ELOs). Schools are working with facilities and environmental personnel. The deadline for compliance is approaching. BIE school safety specialists and facility managers continue to work with the schools to ensure that proper information and documentation are uploaded into the Environmental Management System (EMS) and/or the Facilities Management Information System (FMIS).
- *Safety:* The School Safety Specialist conducted training at the Pine Ridge High School on the Emergency preparedness; conducted a "lockdown" drill at the dorm; met with the school safety committee, and provided technical assistance in both areas, establishing the commander, a lead security contact, and strengthened the protocols. Bi-weekly conferences with the safety committee will occur to continue implementing recommendations; a follow-up visit will have to be made to the elementary school to train and observe lockdown drills at all sections of the school.
- *Osage:* Osage Judgment Funds for Education; the President of the Osage Tribal Education Committee submitted her resignation. According to the Plan of Operation, the advertisement for the replacement member from Hominy has to be published in the Federal Register. The Director's Office will be working with the Solicitor's office to ensure the language is correct before finalizing the announcement in the Federal Register. See 25 CFR Part 122 Management of Osage Judgment Funds for Education

NWEA

- NWEA Testing Status – Some schools have not submitted a Class Roster File (CRF) at this late date, while other schools have not uploaded test results. Many of our schools are not testing at the 100 percent level.

NWEA Master Service Agreements – BIE continues to obtain NWEA Master Service Agreements from schools so that the school's data can be included in the roll-up reports. Inclusion of school data will facilitate an analysis of the MAP data at all levels.

Post Secondary Education

Haskell Indian Nations University

- The Office of the President met with the National Haskell Board of Regents for their fall meeting. Positive discussion and five resolutions of support were forthcoming from the Regents, which included support for collaboration on Strategic Planning, for conducting a study on Haskell's Fee structure, approval of the proposed Organizational Chart and a resolution to the Regents area congressional delegates regarding proposed funding reductions to Tribal colleges, historically Black colleges and Hispanic serving institutions.
- The Honorable Bill Anoatubby, Governor of the Chickasaw Nation, hosted an inauguration dinner in honor of Mr. Redman on Thursday, October 6th in downtown Lawrence, KS. Two hundred individuals attended the event. Mr. Redman and his family were very moved by the Haskell community's outpouring of support.
- On Friday, October 7th Haskell held its Inauguration Ceremony for Mr. Redman in the Haskell Auditorium. Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs Larry Echo Hawk administered the oath of office, and he and Mr. Keith Moore, BIE Director, voiced their strong support for Haskell's future. Governor Bill Anoatubby of the Chickasaw Nation addressed the audience, praising Mr. Redman's long record of work in Indian Education.
- Haskell hosted the City of Lawrence's Hirasuka Japan Sister City at the Cultural Center. Over 15 visitors from Hirasuka were given a tour and learned the history of Haskell.
- Haskell's School of Business had the rare pleasure of having Mr. Echo Hawk as a guest lecturer with Mr. Keith Moore providing encouragement to the students in a combined Organizational Management, Tribal Law and Human Resources class. The students received Mr. Echo Hawk and Mr. Moore very well and faculty received positive feedback on the event.
- The Haskell Athletic Department hosted the Haskell Invitational Cross Country Meet on Saturday, October 8th with over 700 participants and dozens for schools on campus. Schools came for both college and high schools ranks including the high school from Eagle Butte South Dakota.
- The Athletic department hosted the annual alumni volleyball and softball games with many former Haskell athletes returning to participant in the annual event.

Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

Accreditation Update

- On October 6, per Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute SIPI's invitation, Dr. Andrew Lootens-White, Vice President, Higher Learning Commission (HLC) visited SIPI. Dr. Lootens-White serves as SIPI's Liaison to the HLC, this was his first visit to New Mexico and SIPI. The purpose of his visit was to get to know SIPI while giving us the opportunity to show case our progress. While this visit was not a monitoring visit, Dr. Lootens-White was very pleased with the progress that our college has made. He confirmed that SIPI can apply for accreditation in 2013-2014.

Restoration of Tribal Homelands

The Fee to Trust Handbook was released to the field on July 13, 2011. The handbook will be implemented for use by BIA field staff. The BIA on behalf of the Department has accepted 31,349 acres into trust for the benefit of Tribal Nations during the 2011 calendar year. The restoration initiative was prioritized and supported by the Secretary and Assistant Secretary to further self-determination and tribal sovereignty. The BIA's collective efforts have translated into 541 applications processed and accepted 122,213 acres in total for the initiative under the Obama Administration.

Outreach

- Planned Events:

Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

October 25, 2011, the Suicide Prevention Summit in Anchorage, AK.

October 28, the Indian Law Conference sponsored by the Idaho Chapter of the Federal Bar Association in Fort Hall, ID.

Week of October 30, 2011, National Congress of American Indians session, Portland, OR.

Bureau of Indian Education

October 17 – 20, 2011, BIE Leadership Development Training , Wild Horse Pass Hotel and Casino in Chandler, Arizona.

October 25 – 27, 2011, Alaska Area Action Summit, Anchorage, AK.

October 26 – 30, 2011, 42nd Annual National Indian Education Association (NIEA) Conference, Albuquerque, NM.

October 26, 2011, National Tribal Education Education Department, Tribal Education Departments National Assembly (TEDNA) , Albuquerque, NM.

Week of October 30, 2011, BIE Human Resources and LMIC will man a booth during the National Congress of American Indians session to answer questions and provide flyers about the opportunities within the BIE, and to discuss the youth activities under the First Lady's *Let's Move* initiative.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

October 17, 2011, Navajo Nation, Tribal Council session.

CONFIDENTIAL

October 14, 2011

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
Attn: James E. Anderson, Special Assistant

From: Ray Joseph, Principal Deputy Special Trustee

Re: Assistant Secretary Report for October 17 to October 23, 2011

Office of the Special Trustee (OST)
Assistant Secretary Weekly Report
October 17, 2011

Schedule and Activities
Principal Deputy Special Trustee Ray Joseph

- Management meetings in Washington (10/17-21, 10/24-28)

Review – October 10 to October 14

- **New:** The Principal Deputy Special Trustee and staff members met with the Director and Associate Director of the Department of Energy Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs (OIEPP) on October 11 to discuss ways to collaborate on renewable energy projects in Indian country. OST's Office of Appraisal Services and Field Operations will work with OIEPP and BIA Realty Services to provide technical assistance to tribes and inform OIEPP about Individual Indian beneficiaries interested in renewable energy projects.

- **Update:** The annual audit of the Individual Indian Money and tribal and other trust funds is scheduled for release early in November. KPMG personnel met with the Principal Deputy Special Trustee on October 13 with the initial draft of the financial statements and footnotes. On October 20, KPMG is to provide drafts of the auditors' report on internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the letter to management and OIG.

- **Update:** The Taos Pueblo requested a joint agreement to reprogram unused appraisal program funds to other trust functions. A conference between SOL and OST personnel was scheduled for October 12 for SOL to provide additional legal guidance about the proposed agreement. Personnel from BIA and AS-IA's Office of Self-Governance were asked to join the call. OST personnel will attend the October 17-18 annual self-governance negotiation to finalize the agreement with the Pueblo.

Week Ahead – October 17 to October 21

- **New:** The Fiduciary Trust Officer (FTO) at the Northern Cheyenne Agency and Acting FTO at the Crow Agency will provide financial skills training about checking and savings accounts on October 19. Participants are in the Second Season program, which is funded through a government grant to redirect youth involved with the Northern Cheyenne Prosecution Office.

- **New:** In 2010, a routine audit was done of BIA Great Plains Region files. Complete records for two procurement actions pertaining to fiscal year 2003 were not located. In order to tie up the outstanding compliance recommendation from the audit, the Great Plains Acting Regional Director gave OST authority to search pertinent BIA records at AIRR for retired appraisal case file records transferred to AIRR from 2003 to 2006. On September 30, AIRR responded with search results. OAS is preparing a report regarding the search process and its results.

- **New:** BIA and OST are working with USDA to create a central point of access and a uniform loan application for tribes. On October 5, conference call participants formed teams that will identify goals and how to achieve those goals to improve the loan process in Indian country. Team members will confer again on October 25 to develop a plan of action for this initiative.

- **Update:** OST is concerned about the 638 appraisal program managed by the Yakama Nation. There has been (since 2003) and continues to be a backlog of appraisal requests. A BIA-OST team drafted a letter with best practices to be implemented by the tribe to reduce the appraisal request backlog. The letter also suggests that the Nation voluntarily return the program if it cannot implement the best practices. The letter, when signed by Principal Deputy Special Trustee Ray Joseph, will be forwarded to the BIA Awarding Official.

- **Update:** Nemont Utility Co. received a USDA grant to use ARRA funds to install a fiber optic infrastructure across the Crow Reservation, the Ft. Peck Reservation and on intervening private lands. OST provided the BIA Real Estate Appraisal Handbook to the contractor to convey information pertinent to the application of the Direct Comparison Method for right-of-way easement appraisals. Nemont's contract appraiser is working with OST's Review Appraiser in Montana to be sure the work complies with OST standards. On October 7, the USDA representative working with Nemont and OST briefed USDA Deputy Secretary Kathleen A. Merrigan on the results of the agencies' combined effort. Deputy Secretary Merrigan will be contacting Deputy Secretary Hayes to review the resolution of the project.

- **No Change:** On October 3, Treasury transferred the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Act funds of $290 million principal and $144 million interest for OST to invest. The funds will be invested per their investment objectives. Pursuant to the Economy Act, Treasury requested that OST invest and manage the transferred principal and has proposed an interagency agreement, which is currently under legal review.

- **No Change:** Tribes raised the issue last winter about deposits of successful oil and gas bidders being held in interest bearing accounts while leases await approval. On October 4, BIA and OST personnel met with members of the Fort Peck Tribe to advance resolution of this issue. To reconcile concerns raised by the tribe, there will be ongoing discussions between the tribe and SOL on draft statutory language.

- **No Change:** The Acting FTO at the Great Lakes Agency will provide financial skills training on October 18 for members of the Sokaogon Chippewa tribal council and other employees or tribal members who choose to attend. The training will be held in the tribe's administration building in Crandon, Wisconsin.

- **No Change:** The FTO at the Palm Springs Agency will partner with First Nations Development Institute to provide financial skills training to the Santa Rosa Band in Hemet, California. The training will be held October 20-21 and will focus on investment skills.

On the Horizon

- **New:** The FTO at the Blackfeet Agency will partner with the Financial Literacy Coordinator of the Browning Community Development Corporation to provide financial skills training to tribal members, with particular emphasis on elders. The event will be held in Browning, Montana on October 27.

- **Update:** OST's Field Operations schedules outreach events, training seminars and meetings at powwows, schools and other venues. In October, more than six activities have been scheduled to date.

- **No Change:** OST's tribal litigation team met with SOL on September 22 to discuss the Jicarilla Apache Nation trial scheduled for November 7. The Nation is seeking an accounting and to recover monetary loss and damages related to the U.S. government's breach of its fiduciary duty in allegedly mismanaging the Nation's trust assets and other funds.

- **No Change:** Treasury's Financial Literacy and Education Commission (FLEC) will meet with OST personnel in November to discuss OST's culturally sensitive financial skills training. OST is seeking to emulate Treasury's best practices and to determine if an OST-Treasury relationship would result in this audience-specific financial skills training being implemented through other agencies.

U N I T E D S T A T E S
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

October 14, 2011

Memorandum

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
c/o James Anderson, Special Assistant

From: Rhea Suh, Assistant Secretary-Policy, Management and Budget

Subject: October 14, 2011, Policy and Other Issues

This provides major policy and other issues that fall under the purview of the Assistant Secretary – PMB.

POLICY

International Meetings. PMB is engaged in planning for two major international meetings that will take place this month.

On October 18-19, DOI is hosting the first meeting of the Arctic Council Ecosystem Based Management (EBM) Experts group. We will have representation from all the Arctic Nations and at least three Permanent Participants. It is an excellent opportunity to underscore DOI's leadership role in ensuring EBM discussions reflect terrestrial and marine environments.

On October 24, Big Bend National Park will host a joint celebration of the Big Bend/Rio Bravo Initiative - a landmark binational conservation effort along the US/Mexico border in Texas. During the event Secretaries Salazar and Elvira will sign a statement memorializing the conservation effort. In addition, there will be a release of silvery minnows and recognition of the great progress that the United States and Mexico have made to designate the Big Bend/Río Bravo region a "natural area of binational interest." Invitations have been extended to EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson, Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano and US Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Alan Bersin as well as the Canadian Minister of the Environment, Peter Kent.

Youth: 21st Century Conservation Service Corps Advisory Committee (FACA). Vetting of nominees for the committee is complete, and letters of appointment are expected to be sent to individuals by the end of the week. The first meeting of the FACA committee is expected to be mid-November.

Payments in Lieu of Taxes Hearing. Pam Haze, the DAS for Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition will be testifying October 14 on behalf of the Department in a hearing with the House Subcommittee on National Parks, Forest and Public Lands on the Payments in Lieu of Taxes Act.

MANAGEMENT

Energy and Water Management Awards. On October 13, the Department of Energy recognized four Department of the Interior nominations as recipients of the 30th Annual Federal Energy and Water Management Awards. These awards recognize outstanding achievements in the conservation and efficient use of energy and water, development of renewable energy at Federal facilities, and the replication and institutionalization of these efforts throughout the government. The Department of the Interior's four awards include:

- An Exceptional Service Award for Mr. David Guthrie, Energy Coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service;
- And three Project Awards for:
    - U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge in Sudbury, Massachusetts, Visitor Center;
    - U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, Benton Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Great Falls, Montana, Hybrid Solar Photovoltaic and Wind Energy System;
    - U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex in Fremont, California, Headquarters Office Renovation.

In a surprise announcement at the October 13th awards ceremony, Mr. David Guthrie was further honored as the Energy Program Manager of the Year specifically selected by the Department of Energy Federal Energy Management Program.

Presidential Rank Awards. Following an extensive nomination process in the spring and a government-wide competition that occurred over the summer months, on September 30, the President approved two Rank Awards for DOI Executives. Rowan Gould (FWS) will receive the President's rank of Distinguished Executive, and William Dickinson (NPS) will receive the President's rank of Meritorious Executive. Congratulations may be offered now to these deserving executives, however, no public announcements (such as a Departmental Notice or a Press Release) are permitted until the Office of Personnel Management grants permission.

During FY11 DOI Achieved the Lowest Aviation Mishap Rate Ever - The FY11 aviation accident rate (3.1 per 100,000 hours of flight time) marks the safest flying year in the history of the Department. More importantly FY11 saw NO aviation fatalities while flying 64,552 total flight hours. The FY11 rate is 43% lower than FY10 and comes at the end of the **6** safest years in the Department's history. Since 1975, the aviation Safety Management System (SMS) has

resulted in an estimated savings of $579M to the Department and its supporting vendors in reduced losses.

White House Small Business Meeting - On October 12, David Hayes, Pam Haze and Mark Oliver represented the Department at a meeting on small business contracting at the White House. The meeting was hosted by Valerie Jarrett and Karen Mills (the Administrator of SBA), and Bill Daley stopped in to talk with the group for 20 minutes. The meeting was a review of accomplishments for 2011 and a forum to set expectations for 2012. Interior was one of three agencies recognized for superior performance in small business contracting and David Hayes was able to give a brief overview of accomplishments including awarding 54.4 percent of the contracting portfolio to small businesses in 2011.

BUDGET

2012 Continuing Resolution. On Tuesday, October 4, the House cleared HR 2608, the Senate-passed CR, and on October 5, it was signed into law by the President as PL 112-36. This continuing resolution funds government operations through November 18 and contains an across the board reduction of 1.503%. The Office of Budget issued guidance to bureaus and offices on operating under the CR and on apportioning the needed funds.

OTHER

2011 Combined Federal Campaign for the National Capital Area (CFCNCA). Interior's 2011 CFCNCA officially kicked off with three events during the week of October 3. On October 4, the CFC charity fair and auction netted $5,445 towards Interior's CFCNCA goal of $600,000. On October 5, the kickoff program highlights included presentation of awards from the 2010 CFCNCA, a charity speaker with a demonstration by a trained service dog that will be given to a disabled veteran, and previews of this fall's new "DOI's Got Brains" and returning "DOI's Got Talent!" Under picture perfect blue skies on the front lawn of the South Interior Building, the fall tailgate lunches kicked off on October 7 with the first lunch hosted by Indian Affairs which netted $815 towards its goal. The Office of the Inspector General will host the next lunch on October 14 at noon at the South Interior Building with a menu that includes fried chicken wings, potato salad, baked beans and a bake sale. As of October 11, donations towards the 2011 CFCNCA campaign total $21,417. The CFCNCA will run through the end of the year.

IG/GAO Reports. The list of current reports and their status is attached.

Attachments:
PMB Office Reports

cc: Deputy Assistant Secretaries—Policy, Management and Budget

Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget
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POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

New: National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Status and Progress for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance (OEPC) is preparing the eleventh and final ARRA report for NEPA. The Department has completed all NEPA actions under the ARRA. The bureaus have obligated the majority of their appropriations, and can continue spending those obligated funds beyond the ending reporting period. Bureaus are being asked to close out their reports and include projections for remaining appropriations. Bureaus are also being asked to highlight the benefits received from the ARRA. The final ARRA NEPA reporting period ended on September 30, 2011. Bureaus reports are due to OPEC on October 7, 2011, and OEPC will transmit the Department's final report to the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) on October 14, 2011. The Department's final report will be included in CEQ's report to Congress.

New: Environmental Information Management segment. The Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance is currently working on developing a segment roadmap for the Environmental Information Management Line of Business as part of the Department's efforts to create an actionable plan, focused on improving business services and reducing Information Technology spending over the next five years. As business segment advisors for the Environmental Information Management segment, OEPC has created a core team of subject matter experts in the environmental area from all of the Department's bureaus. This core team has a target date of the end of December for developing the road map. Currently, representatives are responding to a data call due by October 28th on their environmental IT systems which will help in developing a comprehensive inventory. This information will then be analyzed to determine any gaps and where standardization and/or optimization across bureaus IT systems is needed.

Update: DEEPWATER HORIZON Oil Spill Response. Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance (OEPC) headquarters and regional staff continue to provide support to senior DOI officials, and the Gulf Coast Incident Management Team (GCIMT) based in New Orleans. The GCIMT is targeting an end of phase 3 and 4 operations by the end of this hurricane season, and an end to response operations by late November.

- OEPC continues to work with the DOI Pollution Funding Removal Authorizations (PRFA's) Cost Documentation Team to review and improve DOI bureaus/offices' reimbursable cost documentation packages and submit them to the US Coast Guard (USCG) National Pollution Fund Center (NPFC). DOI bureaus and offices have received PRFAs totaling $92.3 Million in reimbursable budget authority. So far, DOI has submitted cost documentation packages totaling $51.49 Million and the USCG has processed and reimbursed in full a total of $12.69 Million.

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Update: Draft Environmental Justice Strategic Plan. A revised draft of the Department's Environmental Justice Strategic Plan was circulated to Assistant Secretaries and the Heads of Bureaus and Offices for review and surname by October 7, 2011. Many excellent comments received in response to a recent draft are incorporated in this revised version. OEPC has received surnames from most Bureaus and Offices and is tracking down the few that are overdue. Once this document is surnamed, public comments will be requested through a notice in the *Federal Register*. It will also be available on the Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance's web site and the EPA website for the Interagency Work Group on Environmental Justice. Finally, an announcement concerning the availability of the document will be made to the members of EPA's EJ list serve. Comments will be taken for 30 days.

The Draft Plan sets forth an integrated strategy with five important goals and associated measurements to guide the Department in its pursuit of environmental justice. The Draft Plan also includes metrics to gauge progress in achieving environmental justice.

Office of Policy Analysis

New: Continental Dialogue on Non-Native Forest Insects and Diseases. The seventh meeting of the Continental Dialogue on Non-native Forest Insects and Diseases convened in Boulder, Colorado, October 5-6. Discussions focused on reducing the risk of firewood as a pathway for the movement of invasive species, climate change and forest pests, and new technologies and collaborative partnerships. Follow-up includes monitoring the development of an independent firewood certification process, input into National Invasive Species Council/Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force prevention efforts, and participation in the National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW) 2012.

New: Economic Benefits of Conservation. Policy Analysis Economics staff is continuing to review recent reports prepared by consultants on the economic benefits and economic impacts associated with recreation and conservation.

Update: Arctic Council Ecosystem-Based Management Meeting. Planning is nearing completion for the DOI-hosted international meeting of Arctic ecosystem-based management (EBM) experts on October 17-19. Delegates from the Arctic States, as well representatives from several indigenous Permanent Participant groups, are expected to attend. The meeting will seek a common understanding of EBM and set of principles for applying EBM in the Arctic, while also addressing the possibility of Arctic Council EBM guidelines in the future. The Policy Analysis Director is co-Head of Delegation for the U.S with NOAA. The EBM Experts Meeting was called for by the 2011 Arctic Council Ministerial Declaration.

Update: Technology Transfer. The new Departmental Manual chapter delegating the Secretary's technology transfer authority to Assistant Secretaries and Bureau Directors was signed on October 6. Policy Analysis has coordinated a workshop for the Technology Transfer Policy Workgroup, comprised of DOI Bureaus and Offices, on October 14, to develop a work

plan and outline for a new DOI technology transfer policy that would outline procedures, roles, and responsibilities.

Ongoing: U.S. Coral Reef Task Force Meeting. The 26th meeting of the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force (USCRTF) will be held **October 17-21, 2011**, in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, in conjunction with the 2nd Reef Resilience Conference. The Reef Resilience Conference theme will be "Planning for Resilience" and will address spatial planning within Florida and in the Wider Caribbean/Gulf of Mexico context. Outcomes from this conference will be presented to the USCRTF. The focus of the Task Force Meeting is "Integrating Management of the Florida Reef Tract," which will address coastal and marine spatial planning, water management, and coral reef restoration. Deputy Assistant Secretary Eileen Sobeck will co-chair the Task Force meeting for DOI in place of permanent co-chair Laura Davis. Policy Analysis staffs the Task Force for the Department.

Ongoing: Klamath: Economic Support. The Economics staff is continuing to review preliminary data from the non use survey and providing additional comments on the economic analysis included in the draft Secretarial Decision Overview Report, which is currently scheduled for release in early October.

Ongoing: Economic Report. Over the coming weeks, Policy Analysis will continue to hold meetings with bureau staff to discuss various technical issues related to preparation of the FY 2011 Economic Report. Drafting of some of the chapters has been initiated. Policy Analysis held a conference call with USGS, BLM, and BOEM on October 4 to discuss progress on the analysis and write-up for the restoration chapter. The USGS and the USFS are leading a survey-based study to estimate jobs and economic contribution from DOI restoration. The preliminary result will be a series of case studies to be included in the restoration chapter. The next call will take place in November.

Office of Native Hawaiian Relations

New: The Office of Native Hawaiian Relations Joins the Interagency Working Group on Indian Affairs. The Office of Native Hawaiian Relations has joined the Interagency Working Group on Indian Affairs (IWGIA). The purpose of the IWGIA is to foster interagency collaboration and coordination and to improve federal-tribal consultation and the delivery of services to Indian Tribes. The White House has identified inter-agency collaboration as a necessary element of developing comprehensive policy initiatives to improve conditions in Indian Country. Additionally, agencies incorporate this position in their tribal consultation implementation plans and other Indian policy statements. It is under these directives that the IWGIA members coordinate their individual efforts and collaborate across agencies on policy issues affecting tribal and Indian communities.

Office of International Affairs

New: Disaster Management in U.S./Brazil Dialogue: The OIA will participate in a meeting of the U.S./Brazil Economic Policy Dialogue on Friday, October 14, to discuss possible

collaboration on disaster management. Brazil is progressing toward creating a national Natural Disasters Center – with a high priority on addressing flooding. Brazil's inclusion of disaster management on this week's agenda follows a meeting DOI hosted in June on with representatives of Brazil's Science and Technology Ministry, to discuss how DOI's scientific and operational capabilities on disaster management could support Brazil's efforts to develop a Natural Disasters Center.

New: Conflict Resolution Training to Tri-National Park Staff in Peru: A DOI technical expert in geographic information systems (GIS) will travel to Iquitos, Peru October 17-21 to lead training for park guards drawn from three cross-boundary protected areas: La Paya (Colombia), Gueppi (Peru), and Cuyabeno (Ecuador). The training will include basic GIS concepts and techniques to strengthen monitoring capacities for the protected areas, the adjacent buffer zones and the trans-boundary corridor. The conflict resolution training will emphasize strategies to develop and consolidate alliances between governmental and civil society organizations to resolve the conflicts due to proposed and ongoing natural resource extraction projects (e.g., oil, mining, roads, logging), illegal human settlements, etc.

Update: Beringia: The OIA staff met with the Special Assistant to the Secretary for Alaska Affairs to discuss the next steps for NPS's work to establish some type of international shared heritage area across the Bering Strait. NPS is preparing a framework proposal for the State Department to discuss with Russian counterparts in late October. In addition to preparing that framework, DOS has requested that NPS personnel join the visit to Russia.

Update: Big Bend/Río Bravo Protected Areas Project: The OIA staff continue to coordinate and support planning for the October 24 joint celebration ceremony in Big Bend National Park on October 24 involving Secretary Salazar and his Mexican counterpart. This involves coordination and communication with the State Department, Embassy and NPS, as well as Mexican counterparts; and preparation of invitation lists and formal invitations.

Office of Restoration and Damage Assessment

New: Annual Damage Assessment Funding Requests Received for CY2012. The Office of Restoration and Damage Assessment has received 52 funding requests and/or reports concerning Damage Assessments by the five Bureaus associated with the Department's Restoration and Damage Assessment Program for consideration in CY 2012. The funding requests total $7.4 million in new funding for damage assessment activities in CY 2012 representing a case distribution of 30 ongoing cases, one case currently in litigation, and 4 new cases. The other 17 case related documents received this year were reports supporting the CY 2011 funding. The ORDA and the Restoration Program Workgroup, consisting of senior staff from the involved bureaus, are now reviewing the funding proposals in preparation for making funding recommendations to the Deputy Assistant Secretary in December.

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YOUTH, PARTNERSHIPS AND SERVICE

New: DOI Youth in the Great Outdoors Initiative—Conference Presentation. For the Youth Office, Maria Arnold attended and presented at the North American Association for Environmental Educators (NAAEE). The workshop presentation covered DOI's youth initiative and the federal government's response to connecting youth with public lands through America's Great Outdoors.

Ongoing: MOU between DOI, USDA, U.S. Army Corps and Wilderness Inquiry. Five year Memorandum of Understanding undergoing revisions to renew agreement between DOI (BLM, BOR, NPS, FWS), Forest Service and the Army Corps of Engineers to cooperate on providing increased opportunities for outdoor recreation for people of all abilities, economic circumstances and cultural backgrounds.

Ongoing: MOU between DOI, USDA and HistoriCorps. DOI SOL and USDA attorneys have completed review of a new MOU between DOI (BLM, FWS, NPS), USDA (Forest Service), HistoriCorps, The Corps Network and the Student Conservation Association to cooperate on projects and activities related to preservation of historic structures, sites, artifacts, landscapes, and other resources and to conduct heritage education at the national, regional, and local levels.

Ongoing: LMIC Service-Learning Training. The Office of Youth has identified 6 BIE Boarding schools that we will work with to provide LMIC service-learning training and technical assistance throughout the Fall Semester in order to implement LMIC service projects in the Spring and Summer. LMIC service projects will include school/community gardens, physical activity clinics, health/nutrition education, among other school and community-based efforts.

Ongoing: AGO Education Work Group. On behalf of this interagency work group, the Youth Office forwarded a focused inventory request to AGO Education Work Group members to capture federal funding streams and programs that will inform action item 3.3a (support and expand federal programs that emphasize place-based, experiential learning). The Work Group will use the data (due October 31) to identify opportunities for cross-agency collaboration.

Ongoing: Federal Pathways Advisory Council. The Office of Youth in the Great Outdoors has a representative on the new Federal Pathways Advisory Council. The Office plays a key role in advising OPM on the history and future of Federal Internships. The Youth Office representative is chairing a subcommittee on implementation guidance for the Pathways Program.

Ongoing: AGO Interagency Work Group on Youth, Jobs and Service. The Youth Office representative will chair a 21st Century Conservation Service Corps (21CSC) Implementation subcommittee meeting to advance planning for a working agenda for the Federal Advisory Committee on the 21CSC.

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Ongoing: DOI STEM Education Strategic Plan. The Youth Office met with Bureau Science Advisors, during their monthly lunch, to inform the Science Advisors of the strategic plan work underway and to receive feedback.

New: Take Pride in America C.A.S.T. for Kids Event. We are finalizing details and planning for an upcoming Take Pride in America C.A.S.T. for Kids Event at Camp Letts in Annapolis, MD on Sunday, October 23.

Renewed: Veteran/Youth Fire Corps. The Office of Wildland Fire, Youth Office, SOL staff and ASPMB Acquisitions & Property Management are working together to develop guidance to DOI Offices and Bureaus on the use of "multi-bureau cooperative agreements." A pilot agreement focused on Veteran/Youth Fire Corps will be one of the first model agreements to distribute as an example.

Ongoing: Take Pride in America Fundraising Authority: Meetings and discussions continued this week to discuss potential legal agreements with private foundations to leverage funds.

Ongoing: DOI Partnerships Website. Migration of the old ASPMB Partnerships website will be converted to DOI.Gov by early August. Partnerships Coordinator trained by Figleaf contractor with PMB staff to convert website and train other Bureau Partnership Coordinators on how to edit and manage site. New Partnerships website will have fewer pages and less content as requested for all government websites by the Administration.

TECHNOLOGY, INFORMATION AND BUSINESS SERVICES

Office of Hearings and Appeals

Update: Delegated Personnel Matter. Based on discussions with the Solicitor's Office and other managers within PMB, the OHA Director terminated the mediation in the personnel matter in which he is serving as the designated management official by delegation from AS-PMB. The Solicitor's Office will proceed with depositions, and other aspects of the case remain pending with the Director.

Office of the Chief Information Office

New: Asset Management Discovery Initiative (AMD). The Office of the Chief Information Officer contracted with BDNA to engage in the discovery of Information Technology assets for the entire DOI enterprise. The engagement may last 12 months and will be delivered in three distinct phases (Proof of Concept, Implementation and Steady-State), all contingent upon the successful demonstration of the proof of concept. BDNA met with technical representatives from OCIO to discuss details associated with the execution of the proof of concept.

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New: OMB Meeting to Increase the Efficiency of Permitting and Environmental Reviews. In support of the Presidential Memorandum, "Speeding Infrastructure Development through More Efficient and Effective Permitting and Environmental Review" dated August 31, 2011, OCIO attended a two-day Joint Application Development session with OMB and four other agencies to begin the definitions phase to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the permitting and environmental review process through the creation of a dashboard program. The team completed the preliminary project definitions and has moved to the selection of the DOI dashboard platform.

New: NARA FY2011 E-Records Semi-Annual Survey Completed. OCIO completed and submitted the mandatory National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) Semi-Annual E-Records Survey for all of the DOI bureaus and offices. For FY2011, DOI achieved a records schedule completion rate of 100% for systems that contain electronic records.

Update: Portal for IT Transformation Volunteer Opportunities. OCIO leadership submitted approximately ten volunteer opportunities to be added to the volunteer portal. The "Call for Volunteers" message is being finalized and will be sent out by DAS TIBS Andrew Jackson. Once the message is transmitted, the volunteer portal will go "live."

Update: Innovations Incubator. An all employee email was sent on October 6, 2011 on IT Transformation "Quick Wins". The email provided details on the following five Quick Win areas:

- Cross-organizational IT Support in the Field
- Interim Unified Messaging Solution
- Mobile Device Management
- Enabling Telework through the expanded use of personally owned equipment
- External SharePoint Migration (to facilitate partner collaboration)

The IT Transformation website was refreshed to reflect these new developments. The OCIO is engaged in researching tools to implement polling methods to determine customer interests and the number of hits per designated site.

Update: FY 2011 Closure of Open Audit Recommendations. In FY2011 OCIO completed and closed eleven (11) separate open audit recommendations from three (3) different auditing organizations as follows:

- Seven (7) GAO recommendations;
- One (1) OIG joint recommendation with the Office of Acquisition & Property Management (PAM); and
- Three (3) Emergency Management (EM) Council / Office of Emergency Management (OEM) recommendations.

In addition, two (2) Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Federal Network Security (FNS) Trusted Internet Connection (TIC) recommendations are pending DHS closure confirmation.

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Update: GAO-11-565 Data Center Consolidation (DCC) Recommendations #1 and 2. The final DOI DCC plan was transmitted to OMB on September 30, 2011, ahead of the October 6, 2011 deadline, as well as a publicly releasable DCCI plan (see http://www.doi.gov/open/upload/DOI-Department-Master-Plan-20110922-v1_0_0r.pdf). The plan included an updated schedule and missing information on challenges and lessons learned. This submission resulted in the closure of two (2) OCIO FY 2011 Goal Base audit recommendations.

Update: GAO-10-202 Information Security: Agencies Need to Implement Federal Desktop Core Configuration Requirements Recommendations #1 & 2. On September 23, 2011, the OCIO provided the Office of Financial Management (PFM) with artifacts to support the closure of these two (2) FY 2011 OCIO Goal Base recommendations. On October 5, 2011, PFM confirmed closure and completion of both of these recommendations.

Update: GAO-11-43 Information Security: Federal Agencies Have Taken Steps to Secure Wireless Networks, Recommendations #1 & 4. On October 1, 2011, the OCIO provided the Office of Financial Management (PFM) with artifacts to support closure of these two (2) FY 2011 OCIO Goal Base recommendations. On October 6, 2011, PFM confirmed closure and completion of both of these recommendations.

Update: OIG WR-EV-MOA-0004-2010 U.S. Department of the Interior's Video Teleconferencing Usage. This correspondence was signed out by acting AS PMB Pam Haze for Rhea Suh and sent to Kimberly Elmore at the Office of the Inspector General on September 30, 2011 as required.

Update: Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Emergency Management (EM) Council Corrective Action Program (CAP) Recommendations #4 & 17 (DTS #146 & #156). On September 30, 2011, the OCIO provided its Q4 FY 2011 status report to EM requesting closure and completion of recommendations #4 & #17. On October 5, 2011, OEM confirmed closure and completion of both of these recommendations.

Office of Valuation Services

Update: OVS Management Staff. OVS management will meet in Milwaukee this week and will conduct sessions with the FWS realty chiefs and representatives of land trusts from around the US.

National Business Center

Update: NBC Strategic Assessment. The NBC Director held a series of all-hands meetings with employees in Denver and DC to review initial recommendations by McKinsey & Company as a result of the Strategic Assessment. Additionally, two deep-dive teams were initiated. The first team will focus on improving NBC's capabilities in the areas of performance measurement, financial transparency and pricing, and customer relationship management. The second team will pilot an IT Acquisitions Center of Excellence.

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Update: AMD completes joint NPS/AMD aviation safety video. AMD completed work on a video highlighting the importance of the NPS/AMD partnership in achieving aviation safety goals. The video is a joint leadership message from the NPS Associate Director for Resource and Visitor Protection and the Associate Director, AMD and will be used as an introduction to aviation safety training.

Update: **Fiscal year-end close.** The Office of the Secretary, Office of Special Trustee, and Office of the Inspector General successfully closed Accounting Period 12 with all entries on the Annual Close Error Report resolved by National Business Center personnel. All Departmental Offices instances of the Federal Financial System are on schedule for annual close on October 4, 2011. This is the final annual close for these offices within the Federal Financial System.

Update: **Financial and Business Management System implementation.** Data from Accounting Period 12 has been captured for conversion to the Financial and Business Management System to support the System Deployment Six go-live date of November 7, 2011.

Update: **Financial Services.** The National Business Center completed the transition for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to their new financial management service provider. Data was delivered and deactivation of user accounts was completed. EEOC has entered into an agreement with NBC to provide three months of support as they prepare and deliver their year-end financial statements.

New: Wing 1 Modernization Move Meeting. A wing 1 move meeting was held with the program office move coordinators who received space assignments and floor plans.

HUMAN CAPITAL AND DIVERSITY

Office of Human Resources

New: Close-out of the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) Denver Office Corrective Action Plan. The Department closed out its review of the BOR Denver Office. Corrective Action Plan from the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) Denver Office, based on its satisfactory completion of corrective actions taken in response to the Department's accountability review report issued in May 2011.

New: The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) Upper Colorado Region Human Capital Accountability Review, Salt Lake City, Utah. A representative from the Accountability team is participating on an accountability review of the Bureau of Reclamation's (BOR's) Upper Colorado Region in Salt Lake City, Utah. The Upper Colorado Region is currently in the process of migrating to eOPF, however, full implementation will not be complete prior to the on-site review. The Department is providing assistance to the BOR lead, as well as, serving as a team member responsible for the review of awards under performance culture, analyzing the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) reports and Employee Viewpoint Survey (EVS) results,

Federal Personnel Payroll System (FPPS) data reports, and participating in the individual and focus group interviews that will be conducted. OPM will not be participating in this review as a review of the region's Delegated Examining (DE) functions was completed in March 2011.

New: 2011 Human Capital Management Report using Max Collect. Representatives from the Accountability team participated in a webinar provided by OPM providing information on how to complete the 2011 Human Capital Management Report using Max Collect.

Update: National Business Center (NBC) East Human Capital Accountability Review. The Accountability team continues to assist the National Business Center (NBC) East in response to the Department's accountability review report issued June 10, 2011. Additional documentation has been received from NBC East and is presently being reviewed by the team to ensure satisfactory action has been taken to address findings and close-out the review as soon as possible. Additional clarification is needed before a close-out can be done.

Update: Upcoming Accountability Reviews. In addition to the BOR Upper Colorado Region, the accountability team will be participating in the following reviews scheduled over the next several months:

- Bureau of Indian Affairs Center for Recruitment, Anadarko, OK, October 24 - 28, 2011
- Office of Surface Mining, Washington, DC, December 5-9, 2011

Ongoing: Accountability Checklists. The Accountability team continues to update checklists used on accountability reviews to take into consideration hiring reform changes, as well as to streamline them for easier use. These will be saved to the Accountability *SharePoint* site.

Ongoing: Overdue Accountability Reports. The accountability team continues to work with the bureaus to reduce the backlog of overdue accountability reports.

Office of Civil Rights

New: Maryland Department of Natural Resources Award Ceremony. On Tuesday October 11, 2011, at 11:00 a.m., Equal Opportunity Specialist Michael Zimmerman, Public Civil Rights Division accompanied Civil Rights Coordinator Doug Gentile (FWS) to an awards ceremony hosted by the FWS in Annapolis, Maryland, where the Maryland Department of Natural Resources was recognized for best practices in public civil rights. This is the first year that the Fish and Wildlife Service has recognized civil rights best practices for one or more Federal aid recipients. Having a representative from the Department of the Interior, Office of Civil Rights, Public Civil Rights Division demonstrated Agency support for to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Award Ceremony.

New: Minority Serving Institutions-Community of Partners Council (MSI COPC). On October 12, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) represented the Department at a meeting of the MSI COPC. COPC is a Federal Inter-agency group that meets regularly to share best practices and devise methods to strengthen existing or develop new partnerships between the Federal Government and minority serving colleges and universities. The meeting was held at the

Department of Commerce located in Washington, DC. Topics of discussion included policies for managing MSI programs.

New: **Office of Personnel Management Partners in Diversity & Inclusion.** On October 13, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights participated in a meeting with OPM, Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Department of Justice, U.S. Department of Affairs (Veterans Administration), Department of Defense, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Agriculture, and National Aeronautic and Space Administration, to discuss a partnership in promoting the Diversity & Inclusion Initiative. This was the first meeting of the group, and the discussion focused on "what's working, leveraging the work of partners, and sharing resources."

Update: National Disability Employment Awareness Month. The Department of the Interior joins the Nation in observing National Disability Employment Awareness Month, October 1-31, 2011. The theme for the observance is "Profit by Investing in Workers with Disabilities." The theme honors the contributions of workers with disabilities and serves to inform the public that they represent a highly skilled talent pool that can help employers compete in today's global economy. In observance of Disability Employment Awareness Month, the Office of Civil Rights and the Bureau of Reclamation are sponsoring a program on October 20, 2011, 10:00a.m. to 11:30 a.m., in the Rachel Carson Room, Main Interior Building. The keynote speaker is BOR employee AlejAndro Anastasio. Mr. Anastasio's presentation, "My One Handed Life," is designed to empower individuals to move beyond their real or perceived limitations and dispel misperceptions about the abilities of individuals. In addition, the program will include presentations on DOI's participation in Project Search and best practices from the FWS Disability Program.

Update: National Hispanic Heritage Month. The Department of the Interior joins the Nation in observing September 15, 2011 - October 15, 2011, as National Hispanic Heritage Month. Each year during this time, we remember the many contributions of Hispanic Americans in the history of this Nation. This year's theme is "Many Backgrounds, Many Stories … One American Spirit." In observance of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Office of Civil Rights and Bureau of Land Management are sponsoring an exhibit of artifacts and information on the contributions of Hispanic Americans. The exhibit is located on the 4th floor, 4300 Corridor, Main Interior Building. Additionally, DOI is working to implement a Hispanic Initiative.

Completed: EEO Compliance Training, BOR, Boise, ID. During October 4-5, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights conducted Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Compliance Training for managers, supervisors, and non-supervisory employees of the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), Pacific Northern Region, in both the EEO and Human Resources Offices/Divisions. The training was ordered by an Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Administrative Judge, in a finding of discrimination against the Department of the Interior (DOI) and BOR.

Office of Strategic Employee Organizational Development

New: New DOIU Customer - US Department of Labor. The Office of Strategic Employee and Organizational Development (OSEOD) established a working relationship with the training

specialist at the US Department of Labor, Deborah Strauss who requested one Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR) refresher course which is going to be scheduled in Washington, DC. DOI University will be providing contract support and will be managing the training logistics.

Update: No FEAR Act. OSEOD continued oversight of the distributions of 2011 Discrimination and Whistleblowing in the Workplace (No FEAR Act) course to bureaus/offices. Since September 1, 2011, over 22,033 employees have completed the training.

LAW ENFORCEMENT, SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Immediate Office of the DAS

New: Border Management Policy Summit. Borderlands Coordinator Andrew has proposed an executive level meeting to discuss issues and challenges facing DOI, DHS and the U.S. Forest Service with regard to border security and environmental protection. The proposal is for a one day meeting in Tucson in January convening Bureau Regional Directors, the Regional Forester, BLM State Director for Arizona and USBP Sector Chiefs and Washington Office leadership. The agenda topics and outcomes are being identified.

Update: Interagency Agreement with Customs and Border Protection. DAS Thorsen and Border Coordinator Andrew met with Deputy Commissioner Aguilar and staff on September 27 to discuss the status of funding support for the mitigation of impacts resulting from construction of waived border infrastructure. It was learned at this meeting that an estimated $8 million may be available for mitigation. Availability of funds will be determined in late October or early November. Paperwork necessary to effect the obligation of funds are being prepared for Texas and California mitigation projects to allow flexibility in deciding whether to apply the funds to Texas or California or some combination of the two. Lands proposed for acquisition are within the existing acquisition boundaries for San Diego National Wildlife Refuge and the South Texas Refuge Complex. There continues to be strong interest on the part of Senators Feinstein and Boxer from CA and Senator Cornyn from TX.

Update: CBP Releases NEPA documents for Tactical Infrastructure Maintenance and Repair (TIMR) Along the Southwest Border (Arizona, New Mexico and California). A Draft Environmental Assessment was issued on September 23rd for TIMR work in Arizona. Advance copies were sent to DOI/DOA land managers on August 12 for a short review prior to public release. There will be a 30 day comment period on the draft document. Endangered species concerns were raised during the internal review and discussions are continuing during the public review phase in hopes of resolving concerns prior to finalizing the record.

Update: Fire IT Project. The second meeting of the Fire IT "Roadmap" team took place in Boise the week of October 3. The group agreed on a set of goals, objectives, principles, and strategies, and began work on developing specific actions and timeframes. The next meeting of the team takes place the week of October 24. In addition, the DOI and FS fire directors were

briefed on the status of the project and the proposed approach on setting up a new governance structure for wildland fire information and technology investments.

Update: Radio Transformation. During the week of September 26 the project directors and the contract project manager visited with radio users and service providers in the Denver area, including BLM, NPS, FWS, and BOR. Field visits were made to Rocky Mountain National Park and the BLM Upper Colorado District (Grand Junction). The goal of the trip was to help the project manager learn more about user requirements and service delivery issues in preparation for development of a detailed project plan. The senior steering group meets on October 12 to begin defining specific deliverables from the project planning contractor.

Update: Short-term Access to Government Computers for Emergency Response. Planning is underway for hosting a visit of the DOI and USDA IT security staffs to Boise the week of October 24 to see first-hand the set of use cases and business requirements that wildland fire has. We are awaiting confirmation of attendance from those staffs. The "fire team" has completed its proposal for managing various types of non-federal employees that need logical access to federal systems while responding to fires. This proposal will be supplemented with information from the personnel and IT security staffs in DOI and USDA and presented to the Chief Information Officers in both Departments for review and concurrence.

No Change: Use of National Technical Means (NTM) in Support of Wildland Fire. On August 10 an interagency meeting of representatives from wildland fire, geospatial programs, and the intelligence community took place to discuss opportunities to better utilize information from national technical means assets of the intelligence community in support of various aspects of the wildland fire program. An interagency governance group to identify requirements and opportunities and to coordinate better delivery of services will be created.

No Change: Gulf Coast Response Staffing. The DOI Level 4 staffing plan has been approved by the Coast Guard.

No Change: Interagency Interoperability. The Interagency Interoperability Oversight Group meeting scheduled for August 11 was cancelled due to many schedule conflicts. A written briefing was provided instead. A future meeting will be scheduled to discuss development of a Secretarial level MOU to guide and direct ongoing interoperability and interconnection activities.

No Change: Civil Applications Committee Coordination. The chair of the CAC (USGS Deputy Director Suzette Kimball) and the Interior CAC representative (Deputy Assistant Secretary – Water and Science) briefed the Deputies Operating Group in March on the mission and purpose of the CAC and solicited bureau input on improving coordination within Interior.

No Change: Interagency Dispatch Improvement. All bureaus/agencies have signed the charter. Plans for a meeting or conference call of the Steering Committee are underway.

Draft NEPA documents for TIMR work in California and New Mexico will be released the week of October 10th for an internal review (to include review by DOI). Public release will be 2-3

weeks following. A review for Texas TIMR work will follow when land owner issues are clarified but no date has been projected.

No Change: Northern Border EIS Being Prepared by CBP. CBP published a draft PEIS on September 16th. There will be a 45 day comment period ending on October 31 and public meetings are scheduled for the first half of October with the last meeting in Washington DC on October 17th. DOI received electronic copies of the document which have been loaded to the DOI Sharepoint site. DOI comments are due by October 21 after which a DOI consolidated response will be prepared by Borderlands Coordinator Andrew after a review of Bureau input. CBP hopes to sign a Record of Decision this year.

Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES)

New: OLES Hosts Interagency Meeting to Discuss Tracking Terrorists and Mapping Suspicious Activities in a Geographic Information Systems Format. The OLES hosted a meeting with various US government agencies and the DC Fusion Center; to showcase an innovative approach to maintaining situational awareness, especially within close proximity to critical assets and infrastructure. This project has received widespread attention and is serving as a springboard for enhanced development and use across the country.

New: OLES Submitted a Department Wide Data Call that Captures Counter-Terrorism Spending. Annually, the US Government collects information on counter-terrorism spending across all departments and agencies. After working collaboratively with the Office of Management and Budget, the National Counter Terrorism Center, the National Security Staff, our Budget Office and all DOI bureaus, we have submitted our data. This information is part of a classified report going to the White House.

Update: OLES Attended FBI Hosted Counter-Intelligence and Insider Threat Briefing. Protection of the Nation's most sensitive secrets is everyone's responsibility. The OLES is working collaboratively with the Intelligence Community and all other Non-Title 50 agencies to develop the necessary foundation upon which to build and sustain a counter-intelligence and insider threat program. The recent briefing, provided by the FBI, underscored the critical need for this. On October 7, 2011, the President signed an Executive Order directing that structural reforms be put in place to safeguard classified information and access to classified computer systems.

Update: OLES Departmental Security and Intelligence Workshop. This workshop provides required in-service training that satisfies part of the 40-hour annual training for DOI security and law enforcement personnel. The security portion of the workshop will highlight the team effort between the Golden Gate Bridge Authority, National Park Service, United States Park Police, California Highway Patrol, San Francisco Police Department and the U.S. Coast Guard in supporting the security program at one of the Nation's most iconic structures, the Golden Gate Bridge. The intelligence portion of the workshop will focus on topics that have a direct nexus to the Department, with attendees being able to leave with "tools" they can readily use upon returning to their duty stations. A tour will be given of the Northern California Regional

Intelligence Center and the Joint Terrorism Task Force. Agendas have been completed, the appropriate contracts are in draft, and logistics are being developed. The newly required conference approval document and decision memo will be completed and submitted through channels.

No Change: OLES Security Assessment of the Independence National Historic Park, Philadelphia Pa. The security division of the OLES performed a security assessment of the Liberty Bell and the Independence National Historic Park from September 26 – 28, 2011. Participants from the OLES, NPS, and NPS Regional Office worked as a team to identify vulnerabilities within the park and the surrounding support structures. Overall the security posture is good. Thirteen areas needing improvement were identified and will be included in a formal report which is currently in draft. A brief was given to the park Superintendant describing the security deficiencies that need to be mitigated to bring the park into compliance with the Department Manual.

No Change: IMARS Version 1.0 delivered to the IMARS Governance Council. The version of IMARS that contains the DOI-specific configuration changes was tested by the Council and they have returned testing results to the IMARS Project Team. The Council met on September 7th to review and prioritize change requests. The vendor is working on three critical changes to the system. These changes are needed to accept the configured version as DOI's IMARS 1.0.

Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

Update: Emergency Response Activities. The Interior Operations Center (IOC) monitored the following activities during the past week:

- *Tropical Weather:* Tropical activity in the Pacific Basin was once again significant during the past week, however, no storms have caused damage or threatened DOI or U.S. interests.
- *Kilauea and Cleveland Volcanoes:* USGS continues to closely monitor Cleveland Volcano in the Aleutian Islands and Kilauea Volcano in Hawaii, rating both volcanoes at Alert Level "Watch," Aviation Color Code "Orange."
- *Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Response:* Fifty-seven DOI personnel continued to work full-time on Deepwater Horizon cleanup planning and operations. Cleanup of DOI lands continues and the Gulf Coast Incident Management Team anticipates ending most operations by the end of November. Crews are currently working to clean up oil deposits which had been covered when Tropical Storm Lee brought large amounts of sand ashore, as well as re-starting full cleanup operations that had been suspended during wildlife nesting pauses.
- *Okreek Fire, Rosebud Reservation, South Dakota:* As of October 7, the Okreek Fire had burned 17,500 acres on the Rosebud Reservation; the fire is now 100% contained.
- *Wildland Fire Issues:* Nationally, the Wildland Fire Preparedness Level is at 2 with light Initial Fire Attack activity. The number of DOI personnel participating on Interagency Firefighting teams averaged around 700 persons daily last week.

Update: Occupant Emergency Planning (OEP). The "Building Emergencies for People with Disabilities" Brown Bag lunch, which was cancelled due to the earthquake, has been rescheduled

at 12:30 p.m., October 20 in the Rachael Carson room. The NBC modernization project office, working with OEM, has contracted an engineering firm to review additional modifications which may be required for the elevators in the MIB to be used to evacuate people with disabilities during emergencies.

Update: Continuity of Operations (COOP) Plan Update. OEM finalized coordination on the COOP Plan with bureaus and offices last week and submitted the coordination draft to the printing office. The new plan contains revisions based on new interagency requirements, lessons learned from exercises, and suggestions from bureau and office team members who have deployed to work from Site C throughout the past year. The final publication of the 2011 DOI COOP Plan will be completed in October.

Update: Indian Affairs Emergency Management Expert Study: The Director of OEM and BIA Chief of Staff met together with their planners on October 5 to discuss the status of recommendations from the Expert Study. Progress has been made to document the roles and responsibilities for emergency management within BIA and to establish policy for the program. OEM continues to work closely with BIA to provide suggestions including recommending the use of WebEOC and having the Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs, formally establish the Tribal Assistance Coordination Group (TAC-G). Additional work is also being done to develop a handbook which provides information on disaster assistance from the interagency and from BIA available to Tribes and Tribal members.

Update: Secure Video Teleconference (SVTC). Departmental headquarters maintains SVTC capabilities to coordinate interagency response during continuity events and other emergencies. Equipment now being used is becoming outdated and is not operating reliably. OCIO, OEM and OLES agree on the "way ahead" for modernizing the system; OCIO has coordinated with DISA for specifications and cost estimates and an out-of-cycle funding request has been prepared.

Update: All-Hazard Incident Management Planning. OEM met with the Incident Qualifications and Certification System (IQCS) Change Management Board in Boise and detailed the steps required to finalize the establishment of DOI-specific positions in IQCS which will be the system of record for all DOI responders. OEM also met with representatives of the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) to discuss the dispatch architecture for the Resource Ordering Status System (ROSS) for DOI responders and is working to develop guidelines to help the EMC establish business rules for implementation. These efforts continue to move the Department towards establishing a single point ordering system as mandated by the Deputies Operating Group.

Update: Multipoint Video Teleconferencing (VTC). OEM and NBC are coordinating the installation of a multipoint VTC capability in the IOC Conference Room. OCIO has provided the draft memorandum of understanding and awaits OEM and NBC review. This capability will provide for internet (IP) and ISDN video teleconferencing in the IOC conference room and at other VTC locations in the

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Update: Corrective Action Program (CAP). The FY11 CAP Status Report, including the Emergency Management Council (EMC)-approved Corrective Actions Recommendations (CARs), is currently being vetted through the surnaming process and is due back to OEM by October 13 before being presented to Assistant Secretary, PMB. The Status Report includes an overview of outstanding CARs and a summary of new items. The new CAR items emanate from the Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill, the NLE-11 catastrophic earthquake exercise, interagency exercise Dark Zephyr which explored readiness for an anthrax emergency, and lessons learned which were compiled for the National Security Staff exploring DOI emergency planning shortfalls should the U.S. suffer an event similar to the tsunami and nuclear power plant emergency in Japan.

No Change: Interagency Emergency Health Policy. LCDR Elaine Wolff, U.S. Public Health Service Officer detailed to OEM, continued to participate in the National Security Staff (NSS)-led Deployable Assets sub-Interagency Policy Committee (sub-IPC). The sub-IPC is tasked with addressing the U.S. health system preparedness, public health/medical and emergency management integration, deployable Federal health response capabilities, health preparedness and response education and training, exercises and evaluation, emergency medical services, health reform integration with preparedness efforts and Emergency Support Function (ESF) #8 annex policy considerations. OEM is the DOI Principal Planner for ESF #8 and coordinates activities with the Office of Wildland Fire, NPS and USGS.

No Change: National Preparedness Directive/Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8). OEM is working with the FEMA-led PPD-8 Implementation Team to develop the next PPD-8 deliverable: the "National Preparedness System." The System is due to the President in November and will provide guidance for building and maintaining domestic capabilities; include a series of integrated national planning frameworks and interagency operational plans; and provide resource guidance along with recommendations/guidance to support preparedness planning for businesses, communities, families, and individuals. OEM continues to work with USGS and OEPC to develop the policy to guide these activities within DOI.

No Change: Exercise Eagle Horizon-2011 (EH-11). OEM continues to follow up after action items discussed at the DOI After-Action conference on August 19. Participants included most Bureaus and several OS offices; discussions included decisions about corrective action planning as well as lessons learned during the successful exercise. OEM provided edits and comments for the report that the Site E team expects to provide the latest draft by October 3, after which OEM will review and finalize the report. Lessons learned from EH-11 will provide a framework for EH-12 planning.

No Change: Online Training Development. OEM has begun work with DOI University (DOIU) to develop two online emergency management training courses over the next several months. OEM and DOIU have completed the Reimbursable Service Agreements to produce the courses last week. Course development is scheduled to proceed over the next 4-5 months for both courses.

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Final: Upgrade of Viewer for Interior Geospatial Emergency Management System (IGEMS). OEM and our collaborators at USGS have completed the upgrade for the on-line geospatial map viewer for IGEMS. IGEMS-related links to the new version of National Hazards Support System (NHSS) are updated. The new viewer will allow end-users to quickly display customized hazard information as they relate to DOI lands and facilities.

Final: Monthly Emergency Management Council Meeting: OEM held the monthly DOI Emergency Management Council (EMC) meeting on October 4. Topics included FY12 priorities for emergency preparedness and the project management plan for implementing the Deputies Operating Group's recommendation for a single point ordering system. Additionally, the EMC reviewed the 2011 DOI Continuity of Operations (COOP) Plan and indicated there were no major show stoppers to getting it approved. Finally the yearly status report for the Corrective Action Program (CAP) was briefed.

Office of Wildland Fire (OWF)

New: International Fire Program—North American Forest Commission Fire Management Working Group (NAFC-FMWG) Meeting. A meeting of the NAFC-FMWG was held in Quebec City during the week of Oct 4-6. Attendees included high level fire management program managers from the host country of Canada, the Provence of Quebec, United States, and Mexico as well as representation from Costa Rica, the Australasian Forest Commission Forest Fire Working Group, and the Association of State Foresters. A main topic of discussion was the possible drafting of a trilateral agreement between the US/Mexico/Canada for international fire support. It was the group's opinion that coordination and support should definitely occur between countries but that agreements or arrangements should be of a bilateral nature between two countries. A letter was drafted and will be transmitted by the chair of the NAFC-FMWG to officials within each country stating that opinion.

New: GAO Draft Report Regarding Wildland Fire in the Arizona Border region. OWFC and Bureau Fire Directors are reviewing the draft report and preparing comments that are due to OFM by October 13th. The Department's comments are due to GAO by October 25th. This will be prepared for the signature of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget.

New: FPA Oversight Group (OG) Meeting October 27-28. The OG will convene their Fall 2011 coordination and Oversight meeting in Boise ID on October 27th and 28th. Topics include FY 2012 Project Budget; Project updates from staff and various Working Teams; presentation of Project Management documentation; several complimentary Fire IT projects, and an update on FIRE IT Architecture progress to date. There will be a half day discussion on future directions for FPA. OG Decisions will be provided on both the FPA Website and the 2011 Fall Wildland Fire Analysis and Decision Support Newsletter.

New: LANDFIRE 2010 – Data Contribution Opportunity. The Department, along with the USDA Forest Service, is providing data stewards and land management leaders an opportunity to contribute data to the LANDFIRE Program. The date of November 15 is quickly upon us which has been established as the annual cutoff date for data submissions along with drawing available

data from national/regional authoritative data sources. Data submitted after November 15 will be considered in future LANDFIRE update cycles.

The focus for this update is on disturbance and management activities from 2008-2010. These products will bring various map layers up to a 2010 condition, and therefore will be labeled as LANDFIRE 2010 products. Given data gathering, compiling, processing, production timelines, program scope, and funding; it takes LANDFIRE 2 to 3 years to produce an updated data set for the multiple LANDFIRE data layers. The LANDFIRE 2010 update is planned to be delivered in the 2012/2013 time period. More information on this data contribution / data draw opportunity is now available at: http://www.landfire.gov/participate_refdata.php

Update: Hazardous Fuels Reduction: A Preliminary Program of Work (PPOW) for the Department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 Hazardous Fuels Reduction (HFR) program was proposed to the Interior Fire Executive Council (IFEC) at their meeting/conference call on Monday, October 3. The PPOW is the result of the combination analysis of identifying the high priority places to treat, with the high priority treatment projects. The PPOW is considered the starting point in determining the final Bureau HFR allocations. Prioritization of projects outside the coterminous US in the PPOW, and some HFPAS Management Considerations were discussed at the IFEC meeting this week. Further discussion and a decision on the PPOW is expected at the IFEC meeting in Boise at the end of the month.

Update: National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy - Phase II ends. Each of the Regional Strategy Committees completed their qualitative assessments and reports on 30 September; officially ending Phase II and beginning Phase III of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy. The Cohesive Strategy Subcommittee combined and synthesized all three regional reports into a National Assessment and Report to present to the Wildland Fire Executive Council 11-13 October. The National Science and Analysis Team also completed their Phase II report and will present their progress to WFEC at the October face-to-face meeting. Lastly, in order to provide continuity of information flow to stakeholders, a "Communications Framework" was developed and will be presented to WFEC. WFEC will listen to presentations by all subcommittees and read their reports in order to forward a final phase II product onto WFLC by 26 October for their review.

Final: LANDFIRE – Business Leadership Group Meeting. The Business and Technical leadership of the LANDFIRE Program met last week in Salt Lake City, Utah at the Forest Service – Remote Sensing Applications Center. The LANDFIRE 2010 update plan (evaluating annual vs. biennial schedule) is progressing and should be provided to Executive Fire Leadership near the end of October / first of November. Meetings will be scheduled with executives to discuss the plan as well as review the LANDFIRE 2001/2008 Refresh Completion & Close Out reports.

Final: LANDFIRE 2008 Refresh Production - Work on LANDFIRE Group "B" deliverables is wrapping up for Alaska and Hawaii by the end of October. With the delivery of these geographic areas all 50 states will have updated geospatial data for the years 1999 – 2008. Updating LANDFIRE data products as part of the Refresh project focused on areas where

vegetation composition and structure changed due to activities such as: wildland fires, fuel treatments, or vegetation management.

Final: Processing Miscellaneous Travel Expenses for a Casual (AD) Hired Under the AD Pay Plan. The onset of GovTrip has created a huge workload, at the local unit level, when hiring casuals to support an incident. Many of the miscellaneous travel vouchers processed for mobilization of casual firefighters are for a very small sum and normally amount to less than the cost of processing them. In early 2009 the FS successfully implemented business rules for paying miscellaneous travel expenses for FS casuals off of the OF-288s (working closely with DOI to ensure they were acceptable for all agencies). The FS process has now been in place for three fires seasons with great success. OWFC and the Bureau Incident Business Leads are working with the Office of Financial Management to seek approval for exemption from GovTrip. If an exemption is approved specific instructions developed by the interagency business leads will be distributed in the 2012 AD Pay Plan.

Final: Wildland Firefighter Safety – Annual Report to Congress. Interior and the Forest Service prepared the joint report to Congress on wildland firefighter safety practices, including training programs and activities for wildfire suppression and prescribed fire during the 2009 and 2010 calendar year. The 2009 and 2010 reports have been cleared, signed and transmitted.

BUDGET, FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND ACQUISITION

Office of Acquisition and Property Management

New: Upcoming Meetings on Real Property Cost Savings Plan and Collocation Opportunities. On October 11 2011, PAM staff will meet with representatives of BOEMRE to review the BOEMRE Real Property Cost Savings and Innovation Plan. DOI bureaus have submitted their revisions to their Real Property Cost Savings and Innovation Plans, originally developed in FY 2010, and PAM is meeting with each of the bureaus to review their plans. The objective of the DOI Real Property Cost Savings and Innovation Plan is to reduce costs by reducing the DOI footprint through streamlining its inventory of real property fixed constructed assets, GSA and direct leases; and by promoting increased opportunities for collocation, telework and hoteling. The actions will in turn significantly reduce annual operating and maintenance and deferred maintenance costs for the Department. Bureaus were asked to identify strategies they will implement to attain greater reductions by the end of FY 2012 which will extend beyond those originally identified in FY 2010.

New: Facility Condition Self-Assessment Pilot meeting with VFA. A face-to-face meeting between the bureaus, DOI, and VFA (the vendor selected for the condition assessment pilot project) will take place on October 12, 2011. The pilot will focus primarily on buildings in the major categories that DOI owns (office, warehouse, labs, visitor centers, schools) but will incorporate a couple custom asset types unique to land management, such as radio facilities, levees, and recreation sites. We anticipate an overall sample of approximately 300 assets, which equates to around 50 per bureau.

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Office of Budget

No Change: 2013 Budget Formulation. On September 12, the Secretary transmitted the Department's 2013 budget requesting funding at the 2011 enacted level plus full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The budget, consistent with OMB guidance, presents three funding scenarios including reductions of 5% and 10% from the FY 2011 level, as well as add-backs to a 2011 freeze level. All individual bureau/office budgets were transmitted to OMB, and bureaus are conducting briefings with OMB and responding to questions. The Office of Budget has been working with OMB examiners to provide additional information for their analysis, including revised comparison tables and bureau object class data.

No Change: 2012 Appropriations – Allocations. The debt ceiling compromise sets new caps for discretionary spending in 2012 that will dictate the level for House and Senate negotiations for 2012 appropriations. On September 7, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved its FY 2012 302(b) allocations – these are the allocations to each appropriations subcommittee and are shown below compared to the House budget resolution that was adopted last spring.

FY 2012 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ALLOCATIONS
Dollars in Millions

SUBCOMMITTEE	2011 Enacted	2012 President's Budget	House Allocation	Senate Allocation	House Change from 2011	Percent Change	Senate Change from 2011	Percent Change
Agriculture, FDA	19,921	21,983	17,250	19,780	-2,671	-13%	-141	-1%
Commerce, Justice, Science	53,326	57,675	50,237	52,701	-3,089	-6%	-625	-1%
Defense	513,025	538,938	530,025	513,025	17,000	3%	0	0%
Energy and Water	31,682	36,540	30,639	31,625	-1,043	-3%	-57	0%
Financial Service	21,953	26,008	19,895	21,731	-2,058	-9%	-222	-1%
Homeland Security	41,666	43,577	40,592	41,000	-1,074	-3%	-666	-2%
Interior, Environment	29,559	31,291	27,473	29,275	-2,086	-7%	-284	-1%
Labor, HHS, Education	157,434	180,801	139,218	157,134	-18,216	-12%	-300	0%
Legislative Branch	4,541	4,855	4,314	4,307	-227	-5%	-234	-5%
Military Construction, VA	73,150	73,791	72,535	72,532	-615	-1%	-618	-1%
State, Foreign Operations	48,162	50,796	39,569	44,640	-8,593	-18%	-3,522	-7%
Transportation, Housing	55,367	55,927	47,655	55,250	-7,712	-14%	-117	0%
TOTAL	1,049,786	1,122,182	1,019,402	1,043,000	-30,384	-3%	-6,786	-1%

No Change: 2012 Appropriations. The House and Senate Appropriations Committees have slowly resumed moving their bills, though there is little expectation that any will be considered on the Floor. Both the House and Senate leadership have committed to completing appropriations before Thanksgiving.

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- The House has passed six of its 12 fiscal 2012 spending bills so far including Energy and Water Development, and members considered the still-unfinished Interior-Environment bill (HR 2584) on the floor for several days in July. Four more measures have been approved in House Appropriations Committees or Subcommittees, but have yet to make it to the Floor. The Transportation-HUD bill was marked up in Subcommittee on September 8. The only bill yet to be marked up, the Labor-HHS-Education bill, was publically released in draft form on Thursday, September 29.
- The Senate meanwhile, has passed only one spending measure, the Military Construction-VA bill, and no others have made it to the floor. However, the Senate Appropriations Committee has worked aggressively over the last several weeks to move its bills. On September 7, the Committee approved the Homeland Security, Energy-Water and Agriculture bills, and on September 15, Defense, CJS, Financial Services, Leg Branch, and Labor-HHS were all approved by the Committee. The Interior bill is the only bill yet to be considered.

No Change: 2012 Energy & Water Appropriations. The House passed the Energy and Water Development appropriations bill (HR 2354) on July 15 by a vote of 219 to 196. Reclamation and CUPCA were funded at $934 million, $117 million below the 2012 President's budget. The bill does not include the new Indian Water Rights Settlements account proposed in 2012 to implement the 2011 Claims Resolution Act ($51.5 million). The settlements are funded at $50.6 million within the Water and Related account. Funding is eliminated for San Joaquin restoration, including $9.0 million in discretionary and $66.0 million in mandatory funds. The Energy and Water bill was marked up in the Senate by the Subcommittee on September 6 and the Full Committee on September 7. Reclamation and CUPCA were funded at $1.067 billion, $27 million below the 2011 enacted level and $133 million above the House-passed level.

No Change: 2012 Interior Appropriations. The House began debate on the Interior Appropriations bill on July 25, but it did not finish consideration before adjourning for August recess. In total, the bill includes $9.9 billion in spending for DOI programs, a reduction in net discretionary of $704.9 million (6.7%) below the FY 2011 enacted level and $1.2 billion below the President's budget request. OMB has issued a Statement of Administration policy on the measure that states: "If the President is presented with a bill that undermines ongoing conservation, public health, and environmental protection efforts through funding limits or restrictions, his senior advisors would recommend he veto the bill."

Office of Financial Management

New: Conference Approval Process. In support of OMB memorandum M-11-35, *Eliminating Excess Conference Spending and Promoting Efficiency in Government*, PFM drafted guidance for an Assistant Secretary – Policy, Management and Budget memorandum to Assistant Secretaries, Bureau Chiefs of Staff, Chief Financial Officers, and Bureau Procurement Chiefs. This memorandum will require Bureau requests and Deputy Secretary's approval for any conference primarily funded/sponsored by another entity at which 15 or more DOI personnel will be attending; and conferences that Bureaus primarily fund or sponsor at which 30 or more attendees will be present.

Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget
Weekly Office Reports
October 13, 2011

New: New Travel Reporting Tool – TRAX. PFM conducted a WebEx demonstration and informational presentation to Bureau travel leads on the new travel reporting tool developed by the General Services Administration (GSA) called Travel Trax. According to GSA, the development of Travel Trax is intended to integrate and consolidate the reporting of data housed in the electronic travel system (ETS), GovTrip, and the charge card system - SmartPay2. Travel Trax will ultimately provide agencies the ability to obtain both travel and charge card cost data using one centralized tool for internal management use and to meet GSA reporting requirements.

Update: FY 2011 Departmental Annual Performance Goal. PFM finalized the departmental FY 2011 weighted performance score regarding implementation of audit recommendations. The Department exceeded its 85% goal and achieved 88%.

Update: Pollution Removal Funding Authority (PRFA). PFM reviewed and submitted Bill #4 of the U.S. Geological Survey and Bill #10 of the National Park Service's Pollution Removal Funding Authority (PRFA) cost documentation totaling $1,106,776 and $618,539, respectively to the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG). PFM also assisted the PRFA Cost Team in preparing the Department's response to the USCG's FY 2011 fourth quarter data request. Interior confirmed that of the $92 million in PRFA budget authority, the Department has invoiced almost $51 million and received payment of approximately $13 million.

Update: FY 2011 Financial Audit Update. The Departmental financial statement audit and compilation of the Annual Financial Report (AFR) is currently on track for completion by the government-wide deadline of November 15. The Secretary and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) letters are currently under internal review. In addition, we are pursuing the Secretary and CFO video discussions that will be linked into the AFR. This would further DOI financial transparency and leadership as no other agency has included recorded Secretary or CFO videos in their AFRs. The OIG's management challenges report has been drafted and reviewed and is nearing completion.

	Complete	Comments
Audit Completion		
	November 15, 2011	
Management Challenges		
	November 11, 2011	
Assurance Statements		
Draft Assurance Statement Review	November 9, 2011	Parallel review by management, Solicitor, and ExecSec
Final Assurance Statement	November 15, 2011	Must be signed as of November 15th
Management		

Representation Letter		
Draft Letter for Approval	November, 1, 2011	Parallel review by management, Solicitor, and ExecSec
Final Letter	November 15, 2011	Must be signed as of November 15th
Secretary and CFO Letter		
Draft for Review	November 9, 2011	
Final	November 11, 2011	Must be signed as of November 15, 2011
Agency Financial Report		
Draft AFR	October 19, 2011	
AFR Surname	November 11, 2011	Final package due to OMB on November 15.

Office of Planning and Performance Management

No change: Priority (Performance) Goals. The FY 2012-2013 Priority Goals were submitted to OMB with the Department's 2013 budget submission, including renewable energy, water conservation, cooperative landscape conservation, youth employment, safe Indian communities, and improved oversight and management of Federal oil and gas resources. OMB is now seeking finalization of these goals for 2013. The next quarterly status report on the Priority Goals will include results from the end of FY 2011 and will be conducted in late October/early November.

No change: Annual Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report. PMB met with the bureau representatives on the PMC to discuss the plan for the February 2012 release of the APP and APR and consolidation into one document. Overall, the bureaus all agreed with the consolidation of the two documents and bureaus are expected to bring back ideas to improve the presentation of information in the APP/R. The PMC will meet next week to discuss any possible input.

Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization

Update: Department Small Business Accomplishment. As of October 6, the Department had awarded 54.41 percent of its contract dollars to small business. This figure is derived from the Federal Procurement Data System, Next Generation (FPDS-NG). There may be a time lag between a contract award and data input into FPDS-NG. For that reason the final numbers for Fiscal Year 2011 will not be available for several more weeks.

Update: Fiscal Year 2012/2013 Small Business Goal Setting Process. During the week of October 11 the Small Business Administration (SBA) will send federal agencies their proposed

goals and agency specific data on derivation of the goals. Goal setting meetings will be conducted during October. The final and agreed upon goals will be established by mid-November.

Update: House Committee on Contracting and Workforce Hearing. On October 6, the House Committee held a hearing entitled "Subpar Subcontracting, Challenges for Small Business Contractors." The committee focused on problems with laws intended to prevent pass-through contracts, large contractors not fulfilling subcontracting plans and issues with data systems designed to track subcontracting.

Completed: Women-Owned Small Business National Council Fall Meeting, Washington DC. On October 5, the U.S. Women's Chamber of Commerce (USWCC) and the National Association of Small Business Contractors held the Women-Owned Small Business National Council Fall Meeting and celebration of the USWCC's tenth anniversary. The OSDBU represented the Department at this event.

Update: Scheduled Events.

- **October 18: American Express OPEN Government Contracting Program,** Dallas, TX. The OPEN Government Contracting Programs provides an introduction to small businesses where they may "Learn the Basics, Start Contracting and Grow their Business." Seminars are provided around the country. The OSDBU will represent the Department at this event.

- **October 26-30: Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) Conference**, Anaheim, CA. The SHPE conference is the largest Hispanic conference in the Nation. The SHPE has over 10,000 members and 70 professional chapters. The OSDBU will represent the Department at this event.

- **October 30 –November 2, 2011: National Minority Supplier Development Council Conference and Business Opportunity Fair**, Atlanta, GA. The National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC) provides a direct link between corporate America and minority-owned businesses. NMSDC is one of the country's leading business membership organizations. The theme for this year's conference is "Minority Businesses and Corporate America: Raising the Bar through Sustainable Strategies." The OSDBU will represent the Department at this event.

<u>FBMS Program Management Office (PMO)</u>

New: FBMS Deployment 6 (D6) Production Readiness Review (PRR). The D6 PRR was conducted on October 7, 2011. The PRR is one of the eight quality assurance reviews for each FBMS deployment. During the PRR, the FBMS System Integrator (IBM) reviewed a checklist to validate the completion of critical tasks with representatives from the Departmental Offices (DO), FWS, USGS, BLM, and BSEE. Subsequently, the NBC, the FBMS PMO, the Departmental policy offices, and the FBMS Sponsor, and co-system owners made a

recommendation on the readiness of D6's product components to be moved into the FBMS Production Environment. IBM recommended that DOI move the D6 software and data into the FBMS Production Environment. D6 stakeholders recommended to the FBMS System Sponsor that the D6 software and data be moved into the Production Environment and the system sponsor agreed. D6's software and data began being moved into the Production Environment on October 11, 2011, in preparation for USGS, BLM, BSEE, and OSM's FBMS Version 6 Go-Live on October 17, 2011, and DO and FWS's version 6 Go-live on November 7, 2011.

New: FY 2011Year-end FBMS Close Status. USGS, BLM, BOEM, and OSM completed FY 2011 Year-end close by COB on 10/7/2011. This was the first year USGS closed their financial files using FBMS and they were finished by mid-day on the 7th. System carry-forward programs were completed early morning on 10/10/2011 and the system was handed off to the technical infrastructure team to begin cutover.

Departmental Offices FBMS Implementation Office (OS IMO)

Update: OS IMO "Brown Bag Lunch and Learn." The OS IMO held the final "Brown Bag Lunch and Learn" for the OS National Business Center community on October 6, 2011 in Denver, CO. Those in attendance had an opportunity to learn more about the Financial and Business Management System (FBMS) and how it will impact their day to day operations within the Office of the Secretary. The recording and WebEx for the "Brown Bag" held in Washington, DC will be available on the Sharepoint portal. Access can be obtained by sending an email to Sandra_t_christian@ios.doi.gov or Laura_smith@ios.doi.gov.

Update: Final Preparation for Go-Live. The FBMS IMO D6 is now in the final preparation phase and we are approaching Go-live Training, an important 10-week activity prior to and following FBMS go-live on November 7. All FBMS users are required to take training as applicable to their future FBMS roles and pass an assessment(s) in order to obtain system access. Over ***1100 users*** have been mapped to FBMS roles, and a total of 30 training classes specific to Office of the Secretary, including 17 instructor-led training classes and 13 computer-based training classes. The IMO will assign learning plans and schedule users for classes in the DOI Learn learning management system. Subsequently, users will begin receiving automated emails from DOI Learn alerting them to take various FBMS training based on their assigned learning plans. Instructor-led training will begin October 17 at various locations throughout the country. Additionally, the IMO will provide tailored, course specific communications with critical class related information from the generic mailbox – OS_FBMS_IMO@ios.doi.gov.

No change: Blackout Period Began September 26. The blackout period will continue through November 6. OS will be conducting mission-critical business utilizing FFS only. Contract awards will be limited to the maximum extent practicable and emergency payments will be recorded using a separate data load spreadsheet (format to be provided by the PMO)

No change: OS Implementation Office is *Tweeting*! Follow us on Twitter "*@OSFBMS*". This social media forum is an opportunity for our OS community to ask questions, send comments,

and learn more about the Deployment 6 Financial and Business Management Systems and the Implementation Management Office.

OFFICE OF NATURAL RESOURCES REVENUE

Office of Natural Resources Revenue

Royalty Simplification – Valuation Regulations (Update): The comment period for the two Advance Notices of Proposed Rulemaking: "Federal Oil and Gas Valuation" and "Federal and Indian Coal Valuation" closed on July 26, 2011. ONRR reviewed the written comments and scheduled public meetings to discuss the comments and solicit further feedback. ONRR published the announcements for the oil and gas and coal public meetings on September 9, 2011, in the Federal Register. ONRR held Federal oil and gas public meetings in Houston, Texas, and Washington, DC, and Denver, Colorado. Additionally, ONRR held a Federal and Indian Coal public meeting in Denver, Colorado. Two meetings remain:

Federal and Indian Coal Public Meetings

- St. Louis, Missouri October 18, 2011
- Albuquerque, New Mexico October 20, 2011

Indian Oil Negotiated Rulemaking (Update): ONRR is in the process of forming a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee (Committee) to address the valuation of crude oil produced from Indian leases. ONRR worked with the Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution and the Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to obtain a third party neutral to serve as facilitator for the Committee. The Secretary signed a second *Federal Register* Notice of Intent, published August 22, 2011, to establish the Committee and propose the membership. The comment period on this notice expired September 21, 2011. ONRR has received additional nominees for committee membership and must vet these through the White House liaison. In addition, ONRR must prepare the Notice of Establishment and the Charter for the Secretary to sign. The target date for the first meeting of the Committee is now February 2012.

Independent Peer Review of ONRR's Audit Program (New): Williams, Adley & Company LLP (WA) conducted a peer review of ONRR's audit program to determine whether ONRR's system of quality control is suitably designed and to provide reasonable assurance that ONRR is complying with professional auditing standards. WA reviewed the period January 1, 2008, through December 31, 2010, and conducted field visits in Denver, Colorado; Houston, Texas; Dallas, Texas; and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. WA performed the peer review in accordance with the Government Accountability Office *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) *Guide for Conducting External Peer Reviews of the Audit Organizations of Federal Offices of Inspector General*. The WA review is the third consecutive peer review rating indicating that ONRR performs its audit functions in accordance with professional standards. ONRR plans to issue a press release announcing this success.

Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget
Weekly Office Reports
October 13, 2011

Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 (GOMESA) Disbursements (New): ONRR is preparing a press release to announce Fiscal Year 2012 disbursements to four coastal states and eligible political subdivisions under provisions of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 (GOMESA). This distribution by ONRR will mark the fourth disbursement flowing from the 2006 legislation that mandated that adjacent Gulf coast states and political subdivisions receive a benefit from certain energy lease sales in Gulf of Mexico waters. Last year, ONRR disbursed a total of $2.3 million. The FY 2012 disbursements will be significantly less since the only FY 2011 eligible revenues were rental payments.

ONRR Deputy Director to speak at the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation Short Courses (New): ONRR personnel will attend two Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation (RMMLF) Oil and Gas Short Courses in Westminster, Colorado; Federal Oil and Gas Leasing on October 17 – 21, 2011 and Oil and Gas Law on October 24-28, 2011. The courses provide valuable information on the most recent developments in oil and gas law, leasing, regulations, and practice. RMMLF designed these courses for attorneys, landmen, paralegals, government employees, and others who are relatively inexperienced in the legal and/or land problems of the oil and gas industry. The Deputy Director will co-present the Federal and Indian Oil and Gas Royalty Management segment on October 17, 2011.

ONRR Deputy Director to speak at the National Oil and Gas Royalty Conference (New): The Professional Development Institute (PDI) is holding their National Oil and Gas Royalty Conference in Houston, Texas, October 17 -18, 2011. The topics include Fraud Prevention and Detection for Royalty Owners; BOEMRE, BLM, and ONRR Updates; Royalty Determination and Operational Issues Related to the Shales; Legislative, Regulatory and Litigation issues; and more. Thirty or more personnel from ONRR will attend and the Deputy Director will provide an overview and update on ONRR. Attendance at the National Oil and Gas Royalty Conference provides up to 16 Continuing Professional Education credits.

Strategic Review Implementation Work Group (IWG) Update (Ongoing): The Integrated Approach to a Large Independent Producer IWG, also referred to as the Apache Pilot, is up and running. The team will pilot a strategy that includes a holistic, cross-ONRR work plan for a large independent producer that will incorporate program activities from ONRR's Financial Management, Office of Enforcement, and Valuation Management offices. The Apache Corporation is a large independent oil and gas company that has been acquiring numerous other companies and properties during the last few years. With the new additions, the company has faced challenges relating to its reporting and compliance with ONRR requirements. The team held a very successful meeting with Apache on October 3, 2011, at which Apache agreed to allow ONRR to establish a residency at Apache's offices in Houston, effective November 1, 2011.

Cooperative Agreement Reviews (Ongoing): Staff from the State and Tribal Support office conducts Cooperative Agreement Reviews to enhance our partnership with the States and Tribes and comply with Section H 10 of the 202/205 Agreements and CFR Title 30, Part 227 (Delegation to States) and Part 228 (Cooperative Agreements with Indian Tribes). On a cyclical basis, ONRR is required to conduct attestations to ensure compliance with the terms and

conditions of the Delegations/Agreements. The main areas reviewed include the audit work done under the Agreement, contract costs incurred under the Agreement, special provisions for safeguarding and maintaining work papers, and records developed under the Agreements and equipment. The Wyoming Cooperative Agreement Review will take place October 27-28, 2011.

From:	Kemkar, Neal
To:	Neal Kemkar (CEQ) (nkemkar@ceq.eop.gov)
Subject:	FW: Bureau Reports
Date:	Friday, October 07, 2011 9:23:24 PM
Attachments:	Bureau Reports 2011.10.07.pdf Department-wide Reports awaiting management response as of October 7 2011.xlsx

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From: Anderson, James E
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2011 9:23:12 PM
To: DOI_Politicals
Subject: Bureau Reports
Auto forwarded by a Rule

Attached are this week's bureau reports. Have a great weekend.

OIG - Reports Awaiting Management Response

October 7, 2011

Reports	Report Title	Bureau/ Office	Status	Response Due Date	Contact	Comments	PFM Action/Remarks
Final R-GR-FWS-0004-2011	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Grants Awarded to the State of Georgia, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, From July 1, 2008, Through June 30, 2010	FWS	Extension	11/7/2011	Pat McHugh 703-358-1770		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0006-2011	Virgin Islands Dept of Natural Resources	FWS		10/15/2011	Pat McHugh 703-358-1770		
Final WR-CX-NPS-0009-2011	Audit of the KGCI, Inc. Settlement Proposal for Termination for Convenience of the Govt under Cont # 1443C2011100224 with the NPS	NPS	Complete	9/27/2011	Vera Washington 202-354-1960		NPS had submitted their response to the OIG directly last week.
Final WR-EV-OST-0010-2011	Advisory - Indian Land Consolidation: Need for an Appraisal Tracking System	OST		12/31/2011	Ray Joseph 202-208-3947		
Final VI-EV-OIA-0002-2010	Evaluation Report - Administrative Functions of the Virgin Islands Government Employees Retirement System	OIA		10/27/2011	Marina Tinitali 202-208-5920		

Early Alert - Coming up
Due - Due within 10 business days or less of the response due date.
Late - After the response due date.
Extension - Reports that have been granted a response due date extension.
Completed - Response sent to OIG.

Attorney Client Communication – Confidential & Privileged

Office of the Solicitor Weekly Report for the Week of October 10, 2011

Deepwater Horizon Matters

Multi-District Litigation

(b) (5)

Hornbeck Offshore Services, LLC v. Salazar (E.D. La.)

(b) (5)

Other Matters

Blythe Solar Project - La Cuna de Aztlan Sacred Sites Protection Circle Advisory Committee, et al. v. Department of the Interior [La Cuna IV]

(b) (5)

Washington Gas Light – East Station (Anacostia) Site

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Oregon Timber - Pacific Rivers Council, et al. v. Shepard

(b) (5)

Favorable Rulings in National Monument Cases - The Wilderness Society, et al. v. BLM, et al. and Center for Biological Diversity v. BLM, et al.

(b) (5)

California Drainage Litigation – Victory in Firebaugh Canal Co. v. United States

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Center for Biological Diversity v. U.S. Dept. of State – First Complaint Challenging the Keystone XL Pipeline

(b) (5)

Aera Energy LLC, et al. v. Salazar et al. (D.C. Cir.)

(b) (5)

Chukchi Sale 193 Decision Filed – Native Village of Point Hope v. Salazar (D. Alaska)

(b) (5)

Shell Beaufort Sea Camden Bay Exploration Plan Challenge - Native Village of Point Hope v. Salazar, No. 11-72891 (9th Cir.) and Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope v. Salazar (9th Cir.)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
THREE WEEK OUT REPORT
October 7, 2011

WEEK AHEAD

White House Forum on American Latino Heritage (DC). On October 12, the White House, along with the Department, will host a forum to begin a national dialogue to recognize the important contributions of American Latinos and provide information regarding the untold stories of Latino history.

Martin Luther King, Jr., National Historic Site (GA) – Free Family Fun Day. The NPS, in partnership with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, will host Strong4Life Atlanta on Saturday, October 8. The event supports the NPS' Healthy Parks, Healthy People initiative and is a free community festival promoting healthy and active lifestyles in a state with the second highest rate of childhood obesity in the United States. Strong4Life is Georgia's largest ever public awareness campaign on childhood obesity and wellness.

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant, Jean Klock Bath House, Benton (MI) – Appeal Hearing. On October 11, the U.S. Court of Appeals of the Sixth Circuit will hear the case concerning a final order made by U.S. District Judge Robert Holmes on a conversion under the LWCF. In 2008, the grant sponsor (Benton Harbor, Michigan) requested NPS permission to convert certain park lands within Jean Klock Park to a golf course, which the NPS approved on July 25, 2008. Seven Benton Harbor and Benton Township residents opposed to the conversion filed suit August 5, 2008. On January 15, 2010, Judge Bell issued the final order supporting the conversion, which the township residents have appealed.

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore (MI) – Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Challenge. During the week of October 11, acting Assistant Secretary Rachel Jacobson will be announcing that the park has been selected to receive a challenge grant from EPA. These competitive grants recognize projects that help restore the Great Lakes while also creating jobs. The park's project supports 50 positions (40 new hires and 10 Youth Conservation Corps).

Rock Creek Park – Re-opening of Peirce Mill. Peirce Mill will re-open to the public on October 15, after a major rehabilitation that allowed the mill wheel to turn and grind grain for the first time in 30 years. This project was partially funded through American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds.

ON THE HORIZON

National Mall and Memorial Parks (DC) – New Date for Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Dedication Ceremony. On October 16, the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial will be dedicated after the ceremony was delayed due to a tropical storm and flooding. President Obama and other VIPs and celebrities are scheduled to attend.

American Battlefield Protection Program – Civil War Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants. Within the next 3 weeks, the NPS will announce four Civil War Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants from the 2011 appropriation. State and local government sponsors will protect over 680 acres of Civil War battlefield land with grants totaling almost $1.2 million, leveraging almost $1.7 million in non-Federal matches.

Healthy Park Healthy People – Latinos Living Healthy Fair (PR). On October 22, Director Jarvis will participate with the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) in its Latinos Living Healthy fair in Puerto Rico. This event is part of an ongoing relationship between LULAC and the NPS to highlight the importance of the national parks as a cornerstone to health and wellness.

Gateway National Recreation Area (NY/NJ) – American Heart Association's Tu Corazon Campaign. On October 27, Director Jarvis will speak before the American Heart Association's Tu Corazon summit to recognize a new partnership with the AHA and highlight a pilot program entitled, *Tu Parque, Tu Salud* that brings members of the Latino community to Gateway NRA for fun, heart-healthy activities such as biking, kayaking, hiking and camping. Leaders in healthcare, media and community health will participate in this summit to explore best practices in reaching out to Latinos.

Keweenaw National Historical Park (MI) - Calumet Visitor Center Grand Opening. On October 27, the park will cut the ribbon to open its first ever visitor center. The Calumet Visitor Center is located in the historic Union Building. This project was funded through American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds. Senator Carl Levin, a strong proponent of the park, is expected to participate in the ribbon cutting.

Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor (NY) – Regional Economic Development Council. Heritage Corridor staff and commissioners have been participating in the Governor's newly formed council tasked with developing strategic plans in support of economic development. The Governor has also pooled $1 billion in state grants into one consolidated funding application in an effort to simplify the granting process for applicants. Applications are due at the end of October.

Theodore Roosevelt National Park (ND) – Elk Reduction Operations. The park will begin its second operational year of an elk reduction program in the South Unit using volunteer members of the public led by NPS team leaders. The operations will run from October 18 to December 22; it will involve up to 200 volunteers. Meat will be donated to Indian Tribes, volunteers, and food banks.

Valley Forge National Historical Park (PA) – Implementation of the White-tailed Deer Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement. The park will conduct its second year of the lethal reduction of white-tailed deer herds from November 2011 through March 2012. Several groups have filed lawsuits against the reduction actions, but the courts have ruled in favor of the NPS. The venison is donated to regional food banks.

Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River (NY/PA) – Gas Drilling. The Delaware River Basin Commission will vote on final gas drilling regulations for the Delaware Watershed on October 21. New York State has released a 1,545-page Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement for gas development. Comments are due in early December.

Mount Rushmore National Memorial (SD) – Cancellation of July 4th Fireworks. A press release will be released on October 14 or 17, stating that there will be no fireworks component at the 2012 Independence Day celebration at the park. Cancellation is based upon concerns with the deterioration of forests in the surrounding areas from the Mountain Pine Beetle and potential fire hazards. There will be regional media interest.

Weekly Report to the Secretary
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
October 3, 2011

I. Personal Message to the Secretary:

II. Highlights of Travel, Meeting, Speeches, and other Public Events:

III. Potential or Expected Legislative, Legal, and Policy Issues:

Wind Energy Guidelines: Revised draft Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines were publicly released on September 14, 2011. The revisions incorporate comments received from the public, FWS regions, Department of the Interior bureaus, and the Wind Turbine Guidelines Advisory Committee (Committee). The Committee held its final meeting, September 20-21, 2011, to discuss the revised draft. FWS is currently developing the final draft, which will incorporate comments heard at the Committee meeting, public comment, and an internal review. The final draft will be submitted to Office of Management and Budget in early October for interagency review. The final Guidelines will be voluntary. This issue is controversial and we anticipate public and Congressional interest.

FWS Works with Federal Emergency Management Agency on Coastal Barrier Resources Act Response Following Hurricane Irene: FWS, in coordination with Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), has developed streamlined protocols for handling the anticipated requests to determine whether numerous homes affected by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee are located within the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS). If damaged or destroyed homes carrying Federal flood insurance policies are found to be located within the CBRS, FEMA will refund the homeowner's premiums and not pay the claim. Following Hurricane Ike in 2008, FEMA conducted an investigation that found 15 structures in Texas had erroneously paid claims or claims cancelled due to CBRS inclusion, totaling $1.5 million. FWS is working with FEMA to improve the efficiency of FWS response for CBRS determinations, related to Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee, to help ensure that claims are not erroneously paid within the CBRS that then have to be repaid to the Government. We anticipate the transmittal letter to FEMA with enclosed guidance for Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) property determinations, related to Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee, will be reviewed in early-to-mid October. If FWS is unable to respond to requests from FEMA for CBRS in/out determinations in a timely fashion, this situation may become controversial with property owners, insurance agents, and members of Congress.

House and Senate Bills to Amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act to Allow Certain Activities with Northern Sea Otters: The House and Senate introduced identical bills (HR27140 and S1453, respectively) that would allow the transport, purchase and sale of northern sea otter pelts, taken from the non-listed South central and Southeast stocks for subsistence purposes. In addition, the bills would allow the transport, sale, or export of any handicraft, garment, or art regardless of whether it is traditional or contemporary, or significantly altered. Region 7 (Alaska) is preparing potential comments. Although some groups may favor these bills (e.g., fishers, the State of Alaska), other groups (e.g., environmental conservation organizations)

have expressed concern with these bills and indicated they would oppose them; therefore, we do anticipate associated controversy.

FWS Contact with State of Alaska re: Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest Surveys. On September 27, FWS R7 Regional Director Geoff Haskett wrote the Director of Alaska Department of Fish and Game regarding the need to establish a new methodology for cooperative statewide subsistence harvest surveys. These surveys have been conducted since the late 1990s, but do not contain methodology for assessing harvest of rarely caught listed or candidate species. With that shortcoming in mind, the Region has decided to forego implementing the 2012 survey and to devise a harvest estimation approach that will better satisfy research needs. The Service will maintain its cooperative agreement with the state's Subsistence Division through 2012 to analyze data collected in 2011. There is potential for a negative reaction from the State of Alaska as it stands to lose funding when the cooperative agreement is discontinued.

NOA of the Draft Environmental Assessment on an Application for a Survival Permit and potential for the Incidental Take Permit in Texas: The FWS will publish in the Federal Register a NOA of a draft Environmental Assessment (dEA) on an application for an ESA enhancement of survival permit. The permit application includes the draft Dunes Sagebrush Lizard Texas Conservation Plan (DSL TX CP) that will function as a Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) between the FWS and TX CPA for the dunes sagebrush lizard (DSL) throughout its range in Texas. The Applicant proposes to implement conservation measures for the DSL by removing threats to the survival of these species and protecting their habitat. The draft DSL TX CP and the dEA are available for public review and comment on the potential issuance of the above permits. The comment period runs for 60 days and will begin upon publication of this NOA in the Federal Register in late July/early August. This action may be controversial because: high profile with Congressional, Texas state government, media, other stakeholders and the public; we have combined the approach of a CCAA and a HCP that would support permitting after a potential listing action for the dunes sagebrush lizard. This was done due to the short time frame between when the initial permitting decision could be made and the regulatory deadline for a listing decision to be made for the dunes sagebrush lizard, 30 to 60 days. This approach has been accepted by the applicant and the permitting partnership.

Spikedace and Loachminnow Proposed Critical Habitat NOA: The FWS will publish a Federal Register Notice of Availability of the draft economic analysis for the proposed critical habitat. The Coalition of Arizona/New Mexico Counties for Stable Economic Growth challenged proposed critical habitat designation for the spikedace and the loach minnow on the grounds that the critical habitat was designated without adequate delineation or justification. This action is court-driven. We are not aware of any specific potential issues related to this action; however, because this action has a significant litigation history, we expect that the proceedings will be followed with much attention from various conservation and industry groups. Target for publishing in the Federal Register is October 4, 2011.

Proposed Revised Critical Habitat for the Tidewater Goby: The FWS previously proposed critical habitat units throughout the entire range of the tidewater goby based on Recovery Plan Units, including areas that were unoccupied at the time of listing or are currently unoccupied.

The FWS used FWS-accepted models and data to determine the amount of sea-level rise expected, and is proposing to revise the critical habitat unit boundaries to account for the potential effects of anticipated sea-level rise. Target for submitting to the Federal Register is October 7, 2011.

IV. Anticipated Press in the coming week:

Secretary Salazar to Release the 5th Report to Congress on the *Status and Trends of Wetlands in the Conterminous United States:* Release of the Status and Trends report by the Secretary is anticipated on Thursday, October 6, and is expected to generate significant media interest. Due to documented losses in forested and other habitats, there is a potential for controversy over the results of this study within the conservation community. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers may feel that the report reflects negatively on their ability to conserve wetlands.

Proposal to delist the gray wolf in Wyoming: On Wednesday, October 5, FWS published a proposed delisting rule for the Wyoming population of gray wolves. The State's revised wolf management plan was approved by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission on September 14, 2011. The proposed rule was announced on Tuesday, October 4, 2011, with Congressional, media and partner outreach. This announcement is expected to generate significant national media interest, as well as controversy within the environmental community.

V. Media Contacts

BBC, Rolling Stone: Inquiries on the Gibson guitar case. We provided them with copies of affidavit, links to recent blog post and op-ed by Earl Blumenauer to provide the context for the 2008 amendments to the Lacey Act. No word yet on air or publication date.

ABC's Ocean Mysteries with Jeff Corwin: On, October 1, on ABC's Ocean Mysteries with Jeff Corwin, Jeff travels to Breton National Wildlife Refuge in Louisiana to assist the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries as they work to conserve the brown pelican. Ocean Mysteries usually follows Good Morning America on ABC, but check your local listing for when your regional ABC network affiliate will run the episode. Expected run date: October 1, 2011

MSNBC BLOG (Rob Levitt) – Strategic pitch placement discussion with BLOG publisher regarding Refuges story opportunities. Story currently being pitched is on "Change Report" launch for a strategic run during National Refuges Week. Distribution/Reach: MSNBC.com draws over 33 million users per month and is the exclusive online channel for the NBC Universal family, which includes the Today show, NBC Nightly News, Dateline NBC, Meet the Press and MSNBC TV. Expected publish date: Pending

Associated Press (Matt Brown): Ongoing work developing a story on ES listing expenditures. Working to provide relevant resource data to shape the story. The news collected by the AP is published and republished by more than 1,700 newspapers, in addition to more than 5,000 television and radio broadcasters. The photograph library of the AP consists of over 10 million

images. The Associated Press operates 243 news bureaus, and it serves at least 120 countries, with an international staff located all over the world.
Expected publish date: Pending
Idaho Outdoor Journal [Mike McClaskey]: Meggan Laxalt Mackey provided interviews for a feature story on "Bird by Bird," an FWS-sponsored birding program in Idaho's schools. The IOJ will publish the story in the next two weeks. IOJ will also publish a story in Novemeber on the Kootenai River white sturegon and northern Idaho ground squirrel 5-year reviews and recovery partnerships.

"Think Out Loud" [PBS Radio Show]: Reporter contacted Idaho wolf reecovery biologist Hilary Cooley regarding lethal control of wolves in Oregon. Reporter referred to USDA Wildlife Services.

Austin Statesman (Fahad Mashood) – Working with journalist to pitch and place a regionalized story for Texas. The Statesman is owned and operated by Cox Communications, and has a daily circulation of 151,520. Expected publish date: 10/1.

Science Magazine (David Strain) – Currently working on the status of the packages and Blog. Through its print and online incarnations, *Science* reaches an estimated worldwide readership of more than one million. In content, *Science* has grown to become the world's leading outlet for scientific news, commentary, and cutting-edge research, with the largest paid circulation of any peer-reviewed general-science journal. Expected publish date: 9/30/11

Roanoke Times (Laurence Hammack) – Article focused on impact of wind turbines on local bird and bat populations. FWS participation included working with the journalist to provide data and mention in the story. Distribution/Reach*: The Roanoke Times* is the primary newspaper in Southwestern Virginia and is based in Roanoke, Virginia and is published by Landmark Media Enterprises. It has a daily circulation rate of 97,000. Publish date: September 29, 2011 - http://www.roanoke.com/news/roanoke/wb/299013

Minnesota Public Radio (Duluth, MN) [Dan Kraker]: Inquiry on discontinuation of USDA Wildlife Services funding for wolf depredation control in Minnesota. Funding set to expire at COB 9/30/2011. Referred reporter to USDA Wildlife Services office in Minnesota.
Urbana (OH) Daily Citizen [Kathy Fox]: Buckeye Wind project in Champaign County, development of an HCP for Indiana bats, recent eagle observations in the project area, and what regulations govern eagle take and migratory birds.

KTUU-TV (Alaska) [Mike Ross]: Reporter looking for information on Anchorage informational meeting/public hearing re: Arctic NWR CCP. Bruce Woods provided him with times, dates, and locations. This issue will continue to be controversial.
KTUU-TV, APRN Radio, KTVA-TV, Anchorage Daily News (Alaska): All outlets had a presence at the September 21st public hearing on the Arctic NWR CCP. This issue will continue to be controversial.
To commemorate the launch of the Save Vanishing Species Stamp, Busch Gardens/SeaWorld hosted a satellite media tour with Herb Raffaele, Chief, Division of International Conservation. Herb was interviewed by:
Cox Media in Washington, D.C. for KTVU TV in San Francisco.

KERO-TV, ABC, Bakersfield, CA
WHAM-TV, CW, Rochester, NY
WNCR-TV, IND, Raleigh, NC
KCTU-TV/ION – Wichita, KS
KTVE-TV - Monroe, LA
WMGX-AM RADIO, Norfolk, VA
WFIN-AM RADIO, Toledo, OH
KPQ-AM RADIO Seattle, WA
Candace Rose Internet National

Art Kohn [WAVY-10] (Va.): Chincoteague NWR project leader spoke to reporter about the refuge's ongoing CCP process. Additionally, the Service requested, and received, a retraction from the reporter regarding an incorrect part of the story discussing the refuge's proposed management alternatives.

Brian Heaton [Government Technology Magazine]; Bill Jackson [Government Computer News] (D.C.): Reporter inquiries in response to a pitch about a mobile application, PocketCop, that refuge law enforcement have begun using in the field. Articles expected in upcoming issue.

ABC Nashville (TN) [Chris Bumgard]: Reporter called with questions regarding the FWS action against Gibson guitar. He was referred to law Enforcement for comment.

Associated Press [Felicia Fonseca]: Interview economic analysis of proposed critical habitat for the threatened Chiricahua leopard from and proposal of three additional critical habitat units in New Mexico.

LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT
October 9 – October 15, 2011

SENIOR OFFICIALS' ACTIVITIES

Acting ASLM Burke –Oct. 9-15: In the office all week. **Oct. 16-22**: In the office all week.
Oct. 17: Participating in the OSM Excellence in Surface Mining Reclamation Award Ceremony
DAS Baca –Oct. 9-15: (b) (6) **Oct. 16-22**: In the office all week.
DAS Farquhar –Oct. 9-15: (b) (6) ; in the office the remainder of the week. **Oct. 16-22:** In the office all week.

HOT TOPICS

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Renewable Energy

- ***New:*** **Solar Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) Supplemental:** *The supplement to the PEIS (the "Supplemental) for solar energy development is scheduled to be published in the Federal Register on Oct. 21. The Supplemental will describe a number of improvements to key components of the proposed solar program, including a refinement of Solar Energy Zones (SEZ) to be carried forward into the final PEIS; a description of the authorization process and incentives for projects in SEZs; a clear process for identifying new SEZs; identification of additional data or analyses that could further facilitate development in SEZs; a description of expanded transmission analysis for SEZs; and a well-defined variance process for developing facilities outside of the SEZs. The release of the Supplemental will initiate a 90-day public comment period. External stakeholders outreach meetings are tentatively scheduled for Oct. 12-13. The BLM is working with the Department on a communications strategy.*

Fluid Minerals

- ***Update:*** **Proposed Royalty Rate Rule:** *On Sept. 22, the final rule surname package was submitted for concurrent review by the BLM and the SOL. The team briefed the Director on Sept. 28, and anticipates briefing the ASLM on Oct. 12. Enegis, LLC, which was contracted to do a benefit-cost and economic impact analysis for raising onshore royalty rates received a request from Rep. Markey for a copy of documents related to its work on the study. The documents were provided to Rep. Markey during the week of Sept. 26.*

Congressional

- ***New:*** **Buffalo Field Office Meeting:** *On Oct. 14, BLM-WY Buffalo Field Office staff will attend a quarterly update for the local congressional members. Staff will provide updates on the status of the Buffalo Resource Management Plan (RMP) Revision, the Fort Creek Planning Area, applications for permits to drill, and coal leasing.*

Wild Horses and Burros

- ***New:*** **BLM-CO Piceance-East Douglas Gather:** *The BLM-CO completed the Piceance-East Douglas Herd Management Area (HMA) gather on Sept. 30, gathering 276 horses with no gather-related deaths, and one non-gather-related death. The estimated population of the complex is approximately 382 horses, and Appropriate Management Level (AML) for the entire complex is between 135 and 235. This gather was non-controversial.*

- ***New:*** **Wild Horse Gather in California:** *On Oct. 15, BLM-CA will begin to remove excess wild horses from public lands located approximately 40 miles east of Cedarville, CA. About 1,300 wild horses will be gathered and about 1,100 removed from the range to bring populations to within the AML of 258-451 animals. Gathered horses will be made available for public adoption after receiving vaccinations or other needed veterinary care and horses not adopted will be held in large midwestern pastures.*

Sage Grouse Conservation Initiative

- ***New:*** **Sage Grouse Conservation Initiative Interim Direction to be Finalized:** *The BLM expects to finalize the interim management direction—an IM issued by the Director—for greater sage-grouse conservation by mid-Oct. The IM will provide management direction through the end of 2014, when the FWS will make a listing decision for the greater sage-grouse.*

Miscellaneous

- ***Update:*** **Northern Arizona Withdrawal:** *The NOA for the Final EIS that would withdraw nearly one million acres in Northern AZ is scheduled to be published in the Federal Register on Oct. 28. The Draft EIS assesses the environmental, social, and economic impacts associated with the withdrawal of lands in the Grand Canyon watershed. The withdrawal would prohibit uranium and other hardrock mining.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

- ***Update:*** **Chukchi Lease Sale 193:** *In response to the Court's order, BOEMRE prepared a draft Supplemental EIS Record of Decision. The document was signed by the Secretary on Sept. 30 and filed with court on Oct. 3.*

- ***Update: Next 5-Year OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program****: The next major steps in the 5-year program preparation process include the development of the Draft EIS and the Proposed Program, which are scheduled to be published early Nov. 2011. To address the deepwater drilling comments received during the public comment period, BOEMRE will include in the EIS a robust discussion of the corrective measures the Agency has taken rather than analyzing a "No Deepwater Drilling" alternative. These measures are designed to reduce the risk of an oil spill and improve containment capabilities to mitigate the risks of deepwater drilling.*

- ***Update: U.S.- Mexico Transboundary Reservoirs Issues****: The next negotiating session, currently scheduled for Oct. 17 has been rescheduled to Oct. 26 to ensure that senior*

officials from the Mexican delegation will be present. A representative from U.S. oil and gas industry is expected to be available for this session.

- ***Update: National Resource Assessment:*** *BOEMRE Resource Evaluation Division staff finalized the 2011 National Assessment fact sheet, which presents results for the total Undiscovered Technically and Economically Recoverable resources on the OCS. The report will be released along with the 2012-2017 Proposed 5-year Program.*

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

- ***Update:*** **BP Application for Permit to Drill (APD) for Kaskida Discovery (Gulf of Mexico):** *On Nov. 30, 2010, BP submitted a supplemental exploration plan (EP) for up to 4 exploration wells in the Gulf of Mexico. BP has amended the supplemental EP several times, with the latest amendment submitted on Sept. 8. The Supplemental EP was deemed complete on Sept. 15. Prior to approvals of the Supplemental EP (BOEM) and the APD (BSEE), BOEM will have to complete a site-specific EA for deepwater (SEAD) by Oct. 14. The Gulf of Mexico (GOM) Region is reviewing the APD and EP to determine BP's inclusion of information on the voluntary standards for enhanced drilling in the GOM. BP endeavors to start drilling operations on Oct. 20.*

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

- ***Update:*** **Lands Unsuitable for Mining (LUM) Petition:** *OSM is working with cooperating Federal agencies and contractors to develop the Draft EIS and related technical material needed for a decision on a proposal that OSM designate more than 50,000 acres in TN unsuitable for surface coal mining. To assist OSM, the Forest Service is modeling the viewscape that will illustrate the impacts of various mining scenarios on the various EIS alternatives. OSM is working with a contractor to begin a soundscape study and process newly purchased coal data and information that will be used to develop coal reserve estimates.*

- ***New: Tribal Resolution:*** **Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas Requests DOI/OSM Intervention:** *The Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of TX sent OSM's Tulsa Field Office a resolution requesting that OSM intervene in a permit renewal proceeding before the Railroad Commission of TX regarding the Dos Republicas Coal Partnership permit near Eagle Pass, TX. The Kickapoo are concerned that coal from Dos Republicas will be burned in Mexico without the benefit of air pollution control equipment, which will adversely affect the health of the Tribal members.*

GRANTS

Friday, September 30:

- ***New:*** **OSM Awards Electronic Permitting Cooperative Agreement to Ohio:** *OSM awarded an electronic permitting cooperative agreement to the OH Department of Natural Resources in the amount $150,000 to build an electronic mine permitting system.*

- ***New:*** **OSM Provides Award to Pennsylvania:** *OSM awarded $1,980,558, as a coal regulatory program administration and enforcement grant to the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). PADEP will use the money to administer the State's Surface Coal Mining Program through Sept. 30, 2012.*

- ***New: OSM Provides Award to Kentucky:*** *OSM awarded $151,048 to the KY Department of Natural Resources (KYDNR) to continue the development of cumulative hydrologic impact assessments (CHIA) trend stations. CHIA is a tool used by the State regulatory authority to measure and protect the hydrological balance. With the additional funding, Kentucky plans on developing an additional 73 stations. KYDNR expects to develop all 137 CHIA trend stations by Sept. 30, 2012.*

- ***New:*** **OSM Provides Award to Ohio's Rural Action, Inc.:** *OSM awarded $100,000 to assist Rural Action, Inc., a community-based nonprofit group, in reclaiming a 15-acre coal refuse pile and abandoned strip mine impoundment that are contributing sediment and acid-mine drainage to the receiving stream, Huff Run. Reclamation efforts will consist of re-grading the refuse piles, eliminating pit impoundments, and constructing an open limestone channel to convey drainage to Huff Run.*

WEEK AHEAD – October 9 to October 15, 2011

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Monday-Thursday, October 10-14:

- **New: Alaska State Director Travels to Denmark:** *BLM-AK State Director Bud Cribley, North Slope Science Initiative (NSSI) Executive Director John Payne, and Ecologist Jason Taylor from BLM's National Operations Center will travel to Denmark to present at the Arctic Council-Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program Terrestrial Expert Monitoring Group Workshop in Copenhagen. NSSI Director Payne is a co-lead for the workshop with the Kingdom of Denmark. The workshop will help define management needs for Arctic terrestrial monitoring and spotlight the BLM-led Assessment, Inventory and Monitoring (AIM) initiative. The distribution and abundance of natural resources on the public lands; facilitates the description of resource conditions; and, identifies natural resources trends or changes.*

Tuesday, October 11:

- ***New:*** **Colorado RMP Open Houses:** *The remaining public open house meetings for the BLM-CO Colorado River Valley Draft RMP and EIS for the Colorado River Valley Field Office in northwestern CO will be held in Eagle and Carbondale, CO on Oct. 11 and Oct. 12, respectively. The plan was released on Sept. 16 for a 90-day public comment period. The plan will provide a framework to guide subsequent management decisions on 505,000 surface acres and 707,000 acres of subsurface mineral estate administered by the BLM Field Offices in Eagle, Garfield, Mesa, Pitkin, Rio Blanco and Routt counties for the next several decades. The Draft RMP analyzes four alternatives covering all aspects of BLM land and mineral management within the Colorado River Valley Field Office boundaries. Issues related to the air quality associated with oil and gas development, recreation management and travel management may be controversial.*

- ***New:*** **Oregon Pilot Project:** *The BLM-OR Roseburg District will hold an open house to discuss potential criteria for measuring the success of the Roseburg Pilot project. The Secretarial Pilot Projects are intended to help inform public dialogue on development of future management policy for BLM-managed forest in western OR.*

Wednesday, October 12:

- ***New:*** **Rio Grande Natural Area Commission to Meet:** *The Rio Grande Natural Area Commission, a nine-member BLM-CO Resource Advisory Council will meet in Alamosa, CO. The Commission is tasked with developing a non-binding management plan for the private lands in the Natural Area to conserve, restore and protect its natural, historic, cultural, scientific, scenic, wildlife and recreational resources. Members of the commission include BLM-CO State Director Helen Hankins, officials from the FWS and CO state government, and concerned citizens. The Rio Grande Natural Area includes all lands extending one-quarter of a mile on either side of the bank of the Rio Grande from the southern boundary of the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge to the Colorado-New Mexico state border.*

Thursday, October 13:

- ***No change:*** **BLM National Wild Horse and Burro (WH&B) Advisory Board to Meet:** Director Abbey will present opening remarks at the BLM WH&B Advisory Board meeting in Arlington, VA. Discussions topics will include the management, protection, and control of wild horses and burros on Western public rangelands. The BLM is working with DOI Communications to provide live coverage of the event via webcast.

Friday, October 14:

- ***New:*** **Fourmile Canyon Fire Press Conference:** *BLM-CO State Director Helen Hankins will join representatives from the Forest Service, CO State Forest Service, Boulder County and staff from Sen. Mark Udall's office for a press conference to discuss a report on the Fourmile Canyon Fire, which occurred in Sept. 2010. At least 30 percent of the fire occurred on BLM lands. In Dec. 2010, the Senator requested that the agencies develop a report on the cause of fire and ways to reduce the risk for large-scale fires within wildland urban interfaces. The BLM is still reviewing the report, and plans to work with fire managers this fall to determine appropriate next steps.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

Monday, October 11:

- ***Update: "Smart from the Start" (NJ, DE, MD and VA):*** *BOEM will conduct a webinar with affected tribes, State Historic Preservation Officers and other consulting parties on the Mid-Atlantic EA. Consultations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) are ongoing.*

Tuesday, October 12:

- ***New: Director Beaudreau Visits BOEM Gulf of Mexico Region (GOMR):*** *Director Beaudreau will conduct an all-hands meeting at BOEM GOMR and will visit separately with the various Offices and Divisions.*

Friday, October 14:

- ***National Ocean Industries Association (NOIA) Fall Meeting:*** *Deputy Director Cruickshank will speak to the Fall Meeting of the NOIA membership about the reorganization. He will also give a separate presentation on the rigs-to-reef and idle iron program initiatives.*

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

Monday, October 11:

- ***Update: Visit to GOMR BOEM and BSEE offices by U.S. Representative Landry:*** *Director Bromwich has agreed to host a two-hour visit from Rep. Landry at the GOM Region BOEM and BSEE offices. There is a possibility that Reps. Scalise and Vitter may also participate, but their attendance has not been confirmed. Discussion topics will include activities regarding OCS plans and permits as well as SEMS.*

Wednesday-Thursday, October 12-13:

- ***Update:*** **Technology Assessment and Research (TA&R) Study 694, BSEE Regulatory Framework Review:** *The DOE Argonne National Lab (ANL) will perform a comprehensive review of BSEE regulations, including a comparison with other Federal programs to improve the effectiveness and timeliness of existing and new regulations being developed for the new bureau. BOEMRE will travel to ANL's Illinois facility to meet the ANL team and present/discuss the Agency's specific needs and expectations related to the study.*

Thursday, October 13:

- ***New:*** **BSEE/U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Response Workgroup:** *The Response Workgroup, which is composed of staff from BSEE and the USCG will meet in Herndon. Discussion topics will include the USCG review of oil spill response plans, USCG participation in BSEE unannounced oil spill drills, revisions to Area Contingency Plans, and response planning standards.*

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

Monday, October 17:

- ***Update:*** **OSM to Present Excellence in Surface Mining Reclamation Awards:** *OSM will present awards at the joint OSM/BLM Mining Reclamation Awards Ceremony sponsored by the National Mining Association. Four mine operators this year will receive awards, which*

recognize outstanding results by mine operators in protecting the environment and showcasing exemplary reclamation techniques. Acting ASLM Burke and OSM Deputy Director Owens will participate in the awards ceremony.

WEEKS AHEAD

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Tuesday, October 25:

- ***New:*** **Oregon Timber Pilot Project:** *BLM Oregon will hold the first public meeting on the Medford Secretarial Pilot Project. The BLM will also release a scoping notice, initiating a 30-day public comment period.*

Tuesday, November 1:

- ***New:*** **Oil and Gas Lease Sale in Wyoming:** *BLM-WY will offer 92 parcels covering 104,042 acres in an oil and gas lease sale. The protest period on the sale ended Sept. 2. BLM received four protests. Issues cited in the protests include: parcels offered in Citizen Proposed Wilderness Areas; parcels offered in big game migration corridors; parcels offered in sage-grouse habitat. BLM is working on a response to the protests.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

Monday, October 17:

- ***Update: BOEMRE/MA OCS Renewable Energy Task Force:*** *The draft MA Call for Information and Nominations was distributed to the Commonwealth, U.S. Coast Guard, NMFS, and DoD for preliminary review on Sept. 13. Staff distributed the draft Call to the BOEMRE/MA OCS Renewable Energy Task Force members during the week of Sept. 26 and has tentatively scheduled to convene a Task Force webinar on Oct. 17 to discuss the draft Call and Task Force member comments.*

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

Thursday, October 20:

- ***New: International Offshore Drilling Response Plan:*** *Staff from BSEE's Oil Spill Response Division will participate in a workshop in Miami, FL. The workshop, which is being coordinated by U.S. Coast Guard District 7, will provide an opportunity to review, test, and validate the general concepts of the International Offshore Drilling Response Plan that is under development. The scenario will involve a major oil spill originating in foreign waters.*

Wednesday-Thursday, November 2-3:

- ***Update: Technology Assessment and Research (TA&R) Study 684 - "Effects of Water Depth on Equipment and Operations" Workshop:*** *A workshop on the Effects of Water Depth on Equipment and Operations will be held in Galveston, TX to help BSEE meet a recommendation of the Sept. 1, 2010 OCS Safety Oversight Board to consult with technical experts, conduct further analysis of the effects of water depth on equipment and operations, and determine the adequacy*

of current regulations. As of Oct. 1, over 100 representatives from the oil and gas industry and regulators have applied for the workshop.

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

- ***Update:*** **Publication of an Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Kayenta Mine Permit Renewal:** *Peabody Western Coal Company submitted to OSM an application to renew the permit for the Kayenta Mine, located on the Navajo and Hopi Reservations. The request for permit renewal proposes to continue mining operations in existing coal resource areas for a five-year period. OSM prepared an environmental assessment (EA) to support its decision. On Sept. 14, OSM placed the EA and an unsigned Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on OSM's Western Region web site for public review, through Oct. 22. The Kayenta Mine has generated considerable public interest in the past from the Sierra Club, Natural Resources Defense Council, Black Mesa Trust, Dine CARE, and Black Mesa Water Coalition. It is highly likely that the EA and FONSI for the permit renewal will result in renewed controversy.*

Weekly Report
October 7, 2011

Memorandum

To: Meghan Conklin
Associate Deputy Secretary

From: Anne J. Castle
Assistant Secretary for Water and Science

Subject: Weekly Meeting Issues

Senior Officials' Activities October 11-14:
Anne J. Castle - Oct 10-12, in Reno, NV, providing keynote at the National Judicial College conference "Dividing the Waters – Crossing the Ag-Urban Divide;" conducting a WH Roundtable, and attending meetings/briefings with Reclamation's Lahontan Basin Area Office. Oct 13-14 in DC. Oct 17, providing keynote to Woods Institute (Stanford) Comparative Groundwater Law & Policy Workshop, Palo Alto, CA; Oct 18 with USGS in Menlo Park/Bay & Delta; Oct 19 at Jet Propulsion Lab on Colorado River issues, Pasadena, CA; Oct 20, participating in Great Shakeout 2011 activities in Los Angeles area; Oct 21 in DC.
John Tubbs - Oct 11-12 in Detroit participating in the Great Lakes Interagency Task Force meeting; Oct 13 in Albuquerque, NM, to attend the Reclamation/Corps of Engineers leadership meeting; Oct 14-21 in DC.
Lori Caramanian - Oct 11-13 in DC; (b) (6) Oct 17-20 traveling with ASWS; Oct 22 in DC.
Tanya Trujillo - Oct 11-21 in DC. Oct 18 attending the Chesapeake FLCD meeting.
Marcia McNutt -Oct 9-12, Minneapolis, MN, Geological Society of America (Pardee Keynote Address); Oct 13-15, HOLD for tentative DOI activity; Oct 20-21, Miami, FL, Society of Environmental Journalists 21st Annual Conference (will speak at Breakfast Plenary, "Communicating Science: Challenges and Opportunities in a Rapidly Changing World."
Mike Connor - Oct 11-12, in Los Angeles and Sacramento, CA, to discuss water issues; Oct 13, in Albuquerque, NM, for Colorado River issues. Oct 14, in DC.

Reclamation

Bay Delta Conservation Plan Stakeholder Team Meetings in Washington, DC (California)
Representatives from the State of California, The Nature Conservancy, state and federal water user representatives, and federal regional representatives engaged in the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) process conducted briefings October 3-4 in Washington, DC. The briefings provided an update on the schedule and ongoing activities including development of alternatives for the EIR/EIS, the effects analysis preparation and outstanding key issues. The briefings included members of Congress and congressional committees and subcommittees and officials with the Department of the Interior, the Corps of Engineers, the Office of Management and

Budget and others. The BDCP is a planning and environmental permitting process seeking to contribute to the recovery of key aquatic and terrestrial species in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and improve water supplies for 25 million Californians and several million acres of farmland. Federal and state agencies, environmental organizations, fishery agencies, water agencies, and other organizations are working together to develop the Plan.

San Joaquin River Restoration Program Final Environmental Document for Water Year 2012 Interim Flows (California)

Reclamation anticipates releasing the Supplemental Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact to continue Interim Flows for the San Joaquin River Restoration Program for Water Year 2012, marking the third year of implementing the Interim Flows Project. The continuation of this action will change Friant Dam operations from October 1, 2011, through September 30, 2012, to release Interim Flows as specified in the Stipulation of Settlement in *NRDC, et al. v. Kirk Rodgers, et al.*

Grant for Invasive Plant Monitoring and Management (California)

Reclamation awarded the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, Inc. (Trust) a $2 million grant to help fulfill Reclamation's invasive vegetation monitoring and management commitments as part of the San Joaquin River Restoration Program (Program). The Trust, in collaboration with River Partners and The Nature Conservancy, will provide a unique and innovative approach to accomplishing the work by employing local students, youth, and agricultural labor to monitor and manage invasive species. The collaborative approach provides additional benefits of helping to address high unemployment in the San Joaquin Valley and creating another avenue for the Program to reach out to local communities.

Filing of Stipulation and Proposed Order in Delta Smelt Cases (California)

Per the amended final judgment issued on May 17, 2011, by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California in the Delta Smelt Consolidated Cases, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is required to provide Reclamation with a draft Biological Opinion (BO) by October 1, 2011, on the long-term coordinated operation of Reclamation's Central Valley Project (CVP) and California's State Water Project (SWP). The District Court remanded, but did not invalidate the 2008 Service BO and Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (RPA) on the coordinated operation of the CVP and SWP. Consequently, Reclamation will continue to operate the CVP in accordance with the RPA specified within the 2008 Service BO in coordination with the California's SWP operators. The amended final judgment requires a National Environmental Policy Act analysis and final BO to be completed by December 1, 2013. On September 30, 2011, Federal defendants, plaintiffs, and interveners on both sides filed a stipulation and proposed order amending the schedule for transmittal of the draft BO. As a result, the Service did not transmit a draft BO to Reclamation. The proposed order calls for a report to be filed with the Court by October 31, 2011, stating whether the parties have agreed upon a revised completion date for the draft BO and that if no agreement is reached, the draft BO must be transmitted by November 11, 2011.

Update: Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) Biological Opinion (BiOp) Litigation (Oregon, Montana, Washington, Idaho)
A September 27, 2011 meeting at the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) provided a forum to assure government alignment on the response to Judge Redden's August 2, 2011 Opinion and Order in the long-running FCRPS litigation. The judge found the 2008/2010 FCRPS Biological Opinion (BiOp) to be arbitrary and capricious on the grounds that habitat mitigation measures were not specifically identified beyond 2013, i.e., for the last five years of the ten-year BiOp period, and remanded the BiOp with direction to address specific deficiencies by January 1, 2014. The CEQ meeting addressed pros and cons of appealing the ruling and what the scope of activity would be in conducting the remand. The Action Agencies (the Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Bonneville Power Administration) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration proposed a focused and aggressive approach to addressing the court's issues during the remand. The focused approach includes identification of habitat projects through 2018, improving the reporting of habitat research and monitoring results, and, through discipline, resisting efforts to "start over." Congressional staff briefings are planned October 5 to address both the appeal issue and the release of the FCRPS Progress Report filed with the court on September 30. Plaintiffs have an opportunity to file comments with the court or to request an injunction following the Progress Report being filed.

Update: Litigation Relating to Upper Columbia River/Lake Roosevelt (UCR/LR) Contamination (Washington)
The state of Washington and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (CTCR) are pursuing a CERCLA citizen suit against Teck Resources, Ltd. (Teck) related to negative impacts to the Upper Columbia River/Lake Roosevelt from contamination originating from Teck's smelter in Trail, British Columbia. The Department of Justice (DOJ) coordinated with DOI and EPA to draft an amicus brief, which was submitted to the Court on September 9, 2011. On September 29, 2011, the court postponed the trial date from January 2012 to September 2012 due to the volume and complexity of pending pre-trial motions. Oral argument on specific motions has been scheduled for October 31, 2011 and January 23, 2012. On a separate track, Reclamation is one of six DOI agencies involved with a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study and with the Natural Resource Trustee Council in conducting a Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA). The Trustee Council finalized a funding and participation agreement (FPA) with Teck in April 2011 that defines the first phase of a cooperative NRDA process to be conducted by the Trustees and Teck. Teck funding for the FPA has been received and distribution of funds to the relevant DOI agencies has been authorized.

$3 Million Contract Awarded for Fish Studies (17 Western States)
Reclamation awarded a $3 million five-year contract to Biomark Inc., of Boise, Idaho, for passive integrated transponders and related equipment to conduct ongoing fish studies throughout the 17 Western states. The studies are associated with numerous river habitat restoration and endangered fish recovery programs that include: the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program, Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program, Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program, Columbia/Snake Salmon Recovery Program, Trinity River Restoration Program, San Joaquin River Restoration Program, Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program, Platte River Recovery Implementation Program, and the Gila River

Basin Native Fishes Conservation Program.

Rio Grande Project Lawsuit (New Mexico and Texas)
Commissioner Connor briefly addressed the Rio Grande Project lawsuit during a re-dedication ceremony at Elephant Butte Dam on September 22, 2011. The local newspaper, the *Sierra County Sentinel*, reported that while the Commissioner said he felt the lawsuit was without merit, he emphasized his hope that the situation could be resolved through better communication, rather than extended litigation. A reporter from the *Albuquerque Journal* attended the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District Board meeting on September 26, 2011, where Reclamation's Albuquerque Area Manager Mike Hamman gave a brief presentation on Rio Grande Project operations. The reporter requested a follow-up meeting with Hamman to get a better understanding of the situation.

US Geological Survey

US Topo – Exceeding Goals: The US Topo crested an important milestone as the staff exceeded the ambitious goal of producing 18,500 digital quadrangles in one year. This brings the total of US Topos available for no-cost download to more than 36,200 maps covering 33 States. Recently, the program has started to replace the former "Digital Map Beta" prototypes with US Topo maps and have included a land cover layer. Also, the US Topo website has been updated to reflect significant product additions.

Media: Climate Connections Episode 3 in Puerto Rico: Climate Connections Episode 3 in Puerto Rico is scheduled for release around October 26. This is a video series where USGS scientists answer the public's questions about climate change. Questions gathered from Puerto Rico include: "What are solar storms and are they related to climate change," "How is climate change impacting the island of Puerto Rico," and "Will we see polar bears on the island of Puerto Rico?"

USGS Participation in Upcoming NRDA Cruise: USGS researchers will examine deep-sea coral habitats in the Gulf of Mexico that may have been affected by the Macondo well oil spill during a National Research Damage Assessment deep-sea research cruise October 1-25. USGS scientists will join collaborators from Temple University, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Florida State University, and Pennsylvania State University, and will use a remotely operated vehicle to revisit previously examined sites and explore new areas that may have been impacted by last year's oil spill. All data collected will be used to assess the potential impacts of last year's oil spill on deep-sea corals and associated fauna.

USGS Participates in Columbia River Treaty Negotiations between the United States and Canada: This USGS will work closely with the Columbia River Treaty Sovereign Technical Team, which is forming topical working groups in the areas of Water Quality, Climate Variability, and Ecosystem-Based Function. Working group meetings are scheduled to begin in mid-October 2011. The U.S. entity is looking for final products by September 2013.

Congressional Activities

- **USGS Research on Arizona Groundwater:** Staff for Rep. Raul Grijalva (AZ) contacted the USGS to request the USGS hold a public briefing on the recent USGS Arizona groundwater report, "Water Availability and Use Pilot: Methods Development for a Regional Assessment of Groundwater Availability, Southwest Alluvial Basins, Arizona," which was released on Sept. 21, 2011. Over the last 70 years, groundwater in Arizona's alluvial basins was depleted by more than 74.5 million acre-feet, or approximately three times the maximum storage of Lake Powell. The report evaluates groundwater availability and use for all of Arizona's alluvial basins from 1940–2007. Arizona's alluvial basins, located south of the Colorado Plateau, are aquifers composed of sand, silt and clay material that has eroded from mountains surrounding the basins. These alluvial basins account for 95 percent of the State's groundwater use, with groundwater providing about 43 percent of the entire State's water supply. The public briefing would explain USGS findings and discuss implications for Arizona residents. The briefing is planned for Oct 20 at 10 a.m., in Tucson, AZ (because this is during a Constituent Work Period--Rep. Grijalva is tentatively planning to attend). Media coverage has included the News 13 KOLD broadcast program, TusconCitizen, East Valley Tribune, Directions Magazine, Tucson Sentinel, Arizona Journal, Yuma Sun, and Water Online. Coverage also appeared online from several local TV outlets (WSFA, WMBF, WTVM, WBTV, WAVE and more).

Memorandum

To: Chief of Staff

From: Chief of Staff, Indian Affairs

Subject: Indian Affairs Weekly Look Ahead Update

FOCUS FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 7, 2011

INDIAN AFFAIRS

Government to Government

- *Tribal Consultation:* The Deputy Assistant Secretary – Policy and Economic Development will be attending the Tribal consultation on the Cobell Settlement land consolidation program.

- *Federal Acknowledgement:* The Office of Federal Acknowledgement (OFA) staff continues to work on the following cases:

  [1] Petitioner #84a, Juaneno Band of Mission Indians, CA – The Interior Board of Indian Appeals (IBIA) ordered critical documents and list to be transmitted on or before September 30, 2011. SOL and OFA are on target in fulfilling the IBIA order and will transmit these critical documents by deadline..
  [2] Petitioner #5, Piro-Manso-Tiwa Indian Tribe, NM – Action on the recommended PF is due on or before October 17, 2011.
  [3] Petitioner #119b, Meherrin Tribe, NC – Active consideration began on November 1, 2010. Peer review was held on September 22 -23, 2011. Draft is projected to be distributed to SOL and ASIA on September 30, 2011. ASIA briefing is for October 5, 2011, 1:00 pm. The PF is projected to be due on or before November 1, 2011.
  [4] Petitioner #82, Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation, CA – Active consideration began on November 1, 2010. The PF is projected to be due on or before November 1, 2011.
  [5] Petitioner #288, Choctaw Nation of Florida, FL – The Department issued the Federal Register (FD) on April 21, 2011. The FD notice was published on April 27, 2011. The petitioner filed a timely request for reconsideration before the IBIA on July 19, 2011. IBIA ordered critical documents and list to be transmitted on or before November 21, 2011
  [6] Petitioner #31, Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana filed a request for reconsideration before the IBIA on February 1, 2010. At IBIA's request, OFA provided copies of critical documents in May 27, 2010. The IBIA has issued a briefing schedule for interested parties to file briefs in July 23, 2010, and the Little Shell petitioner to file a reply brief in August 27, 2010. All briefing in the matter before the IBIA was complete at the end of August 2010. On February 16, 2011, the IBIA informed the Office of the Solicitor that the matter is ready for a decision.

Healthy and Safe Communities

- Strengthening BIA Law Enforcement Training on Domestic Violence in Indian Country: On December 8th, 2010, the Assistant Secretary announced this initiative, to increase the training of BIA and Tribal Law Enforcement officers to aid them in their response to domestic violence incidents to Tribal Communities we serve. The training has enhanced officers' and tribal court advocates skill in working with victims suffering from the emotional and physical effects of domestic violence. During FY 2011, we have trained 396 officers, trainers and tribal court advocates. We will expand this initiative during FY 2012.

- High Priority Performance Goal (HPPG): The BIA Office of Justice Services (OJS) has selected the Rosebud Sioux Tribe and the San Carlos Apache Tribe as the next two HPPG sites. The OJS has scheduled meetings with the elected Tribal leaders to discuss next steps. The OJS is conducting a baseline analysis of violent crime; staffing and Tribal programs that will support the community oriented policing in the development of crime reduction strategies for these two locations.

- *Homeland Security*:
  - **Montana Inter Tribal (Emergency Management) Working Group:** The Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (OHSES) attended the Montana Inter Tribal (Emergency Management) Working Group conference, to coordinate efforts in assisting tribes and receive updates on the tribes' post flooding recovery status. National recognition awards were presented to Robert Desrosier, Director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, of the Montana Working Group, and Gene Onacko, BIA Rocky Mt. Region's Safety of Dams Engineer (vice and acting Environmental Engineer, and collateral Emergency Management Coordinator, Regional Environmental Scientist/COOP Coordinator) for their many years of efforts in service to the tribes in the Region. Additionally, Joel Ames, Corps of Engineer Tribal Liaison, was also presented this special recognition for their outstanding efforts in this year's flood fights throughout the Region. The Corps of Engineers and the State of Montana were commended by the tribes for outstanding efforts in assistance when it was needed. An After Action Review of the Flood Fights was conducted, in brief, water has receded from all Montana and Wyoming Reservations, and recovery actions are substantially underway or completed. The Red Cross announced that most of the funding received from a tribal grant has been distributed and the rest will be shortly. Due to the preparedness of the tribes, and the existence of Mutual Aid Agreements, and Incident Management Teams in place, the tribes were in large part self-sufficient. FEMA and OHSES encouraged the tribes and Working Group to share their expertise and successes with other tribes, and to continue their efforts to maintain NIMS compliance. The Working Group and its tribes have been approached to join with other regional tribal organizations to establish a national tribal emergency management organization, to share Best Practices, training opportunities, exercises, provide mutual aid, and shadow training assignments during emergencies.

  - **Missouri River Flood Fight:** OHSES continues to participate in interagency Flood Fight coordination, and supporting tribes as requested. No unmet needs are outstanding from the BIA Regions or tribes at this time. Tribes are in recovery mode and efforts to

open roads and repair damage continue. USGS, NOAA, and several tribes have reported predictions that next winter season will result in heavy snow and rain as substantial as last winter. [Tribes report seeing signs such as bears staying at low elevations, etc.]

- On Thursday, September 15, 2011, OHSES officials participated in the weekly conference call regarding the **"State of the Southwest Border and Effects of the Arizona Surge."** The State of the Border PowerPoint and NDIC Maps were provide and were shared with tribal programs.

- On Tuesday September 27th OHSES officials participated on the ***The Active Shooter Awareness Virtual Roundtable***.

- On Tuesday, September 27, 2011, OHSES participated on the **State of the US/CANADA Border conference** call. These calls were established to coordinate the efforts of law Enforcement/Homeland Security along the U.S northern border.

- Last week, OHSES staff attended the **19th Annual National Native American Law Enforcement Association (NNALEA) National Training Conference** held in Las Vegas, Nevada. OHSES Special Agent, Ashira Lavine, spoke in Track 2: Boots on the Ground to Law Enforcement Officers focusing on two issues that concern Law Enforcement in Indian Country. In collaboration with the Institute of Analytic Interviewing and Visual Emotions, LLC, SA Lavine facilitated the presentation on An Introduction to Analytic Interviewing and The Science of Non-Verbal Behavior: How Body Language Reveals the Truth. Numerous Federal and Tribal Agencies expressed interest in training their staff in these areas. SA Lavine is a certified trainer in Cognitive and Behavioral Interviewing and Technique as well as Facial Coding and Body Language and will be in communication with interested parties regarding strengthening the security of Indian Country through specialized and focused Law Enforcement Training. OHSES sponsored a booth, which allowed for greater attention to issues that support reducing crime on and securing Indian Land.

Organizational Improvement

- *Administration Assessment:* Bronner's draft Task 2 report is under consideration by the IA/DOI Team. This report starts laying the groundwork for potential options for improving administrative efficiencies.

- *Administrative Backlogs*: All IA organizations (BIE, BIA, DASM and DAS-PED) have eliminated their OIG administrative referral backlogs.

Education

Elementary and Secondary Education:

- Coach Across America (CAA) has identified a coach for Tiospaye Topa School. Placement of the coach at the BIE-operated school will provide 900 hours of physical education instruction for students.
- Roxanne Brown, Associate Deputy Director, East (ADD-East) conducted a site visit at the Pine Ridge School. The focus of the site visit was the quality and the effectiveness

of instruction on student learning. The superintendent, principal, and teachers have a lot of work to do and must work with teachers on a daily basis.

- The NASIS Education Specialist, accompanied by Infinite Campus staff, are providing training to staff at Crazy Horse School this week on lesson planning and the process for encoding student's vital information, attendance and behavior information.

NWEA

- All BIE-funded schools received the NWEA 'Data Roll-up' interim assessment schedule from the testing company. The testing schedule provides the framework for BIE to meet with schools and assess progress and required interventions, timely.
- This is the final week for testing. All schools utilizing NWEA will be able to review their results to determine academic instructional strategies and resources for students.
- The ADD-East met with Donna McCahon, NWEA, on October 3, 2011, to discuss the specifics of bringing the Power of Teaching to the three priority schools, two of the schools are School Improvement Grant (SIG) Tier III schools. The focus will be on improving instruction and evaluation of instruction to more effectively impact student learning.

Safety/Facilities

- On October 4 and 5, Walter Goodwin, the School Safety Specialist for the ADD-East will provide technical assistance to the Pine Ridge School during lockdown drills scheduled for the dormitory and the academic buildings.
- The School Safety Specialist will conduct a safety evaluation of Riverside Indian School this month.

Post Secondary Education

Haskell Indian Nations University

- Friday, October 7, 2011, at 11 AM is the Haskell President's inauguration ceremony. The Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs and the Director, BIE will attend.

Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

Accreditation Reminder

- At SIPI's invitation, the Higher Learning Commission's Liaison Dr. Andrew Lootens-White will visit SIPI on October 6, 2011. The tentative schedule includes:
    - A tour of SIPI, including the residential halls
    - A visit to SIPI's Accreditation Resource Room
    - Meetings and discussions with the Accreditation Steering Committee and the SIPI Leadership Team, the Board of Regents, and Faculty
- On October 7, 2011, the Interim New Mexico Legislative Indian Affairs Committee will meet all day in the Hogan. This is a large and important meeting. They have requested a report to update them on our accreditation efforts and status. SIPI was asked to provide refreshments and lunch.

Restoration of Tribal Homelands

Fee to Trust: The Fee to Trust Handbook was released to the field on July 13, 2011. The handbook will be implemented for use by BIA field staff. The BIA on behalf of the Department

has accepted 31,349 acres into trust for the benefit of Tribal Nations during the 2011 calendar year. The restoration initiative was prioritized and supported by the Secretary and Assistant Secretary to further self-determination and tribal sovereignty. The BIA's collective efforts have translated into 541 applications processed and accepted 122,213 acres in total for the initiative under the Obama Administration.

Outreach

- Planned Events:

Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs:

October 11-12, 2011, Native American Finance Officers Association meeting, Uncasville, CT.

October 21-22, 2011, AFN Annual Convention in Anchorage, AK.

October 25, 2011, the Suicide Prevention Summit in Anchorage, AK.

October 28, 2011, Indian Law Conference sponsored by the Idaho Chapter of the Federal Bar Association in Fort Hall, ID.

Week of October 30, 2011, NCAI meeting, Portland, OR.

Bureau of Indian Education

October 26 – 39, 2011, 42nd Annual National Indian Education Association (NIEA) Conference, Albuquerque, NM.

October 26, 2011, National Tribal Education Departments Forum and Annual Meeting (Tribal Education Departments National Assembly (TEDNA)), Albuquerque, NM.

CONFIDENTIAL

October 7, 2011

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
Attn: James E. Anderson, Special Assistant

From: Ray Joseph, Principal Deputy Special Trustee

Re: Assistant Secretary Report for October 10 to October 16, 2011

Office of the Special Trustee (OST)
Assistant Secretary Weekly Report
October 10, 2011

Schedule and Activities
Principal Deputy Special Trustee Ray Joseph

- Management meetings in Washington (10/10-14, 10/11-14)

Review – October 3 to October 7

- **New:** Tribes raised the issue last winter about deposits of successful oil and gas bidders being held in interest bearing accounts while leases await approval. On October 4, BIA and OST personnel met with members of the Fort Peck Tribe to advance resolution of this issue. To reconcile concerns raised by the tribe, there will be ongoing discussions with the tribe and SOL on draft statutory language.

- **Update:** On October 3, Treasury transferred the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Act funds of $290 million principal and $144 million interest for OST to invest. The funds will be invested per their investment objectives. Pursuant to the Economy Act, Treasury requested that OST invest and manage the transferred principal and has proposed an interagency agreement, which is currently under legal review.

Week Ahead – October 10 to October 14

- **Update:** OST is concerned about the 638 appraisal program managed by the Yakama Nation. There has been (since 2003) and continues to be a backlog of appraisal requests. The government has broached the idea with the tribe of voluntarily returning the program. OST initiated discussions with SOL regarding the government reassuming the program. A BIA-OST team drafted "best practices" that would be implemented by the tribe to reduce the appraisal request backlog. OST has drafted a letter to be signed by Principal Deputy Special Trustee Ray Joseph. The letter is to be sent October 11.

- **Update:** The annual audit of the Individual Indian Money and tribal and other trust funds is on schedule to be completed and released by early November. KPMG will meet with the Principal Deputy Special Trustee on October 12.

- **Update:** Nemont Utility Co. received a USDA grant to use ARRA funds to install a fiber optic infrastructure across the Crow Reservation, the Ft. Peck Reservation and on intervening private lands. OST provided the BIA Real Estate Appraisal Handbook to the contractor to convey information pertinent to the application of the Direct Comparison Method for right-of-way easement appraisals. USDA and BIA are working with Nemont to process rights of way. Nemont hired a contract appraiser who is working with OST's Review Appraiser in Montana to be sure the work is in compliance with OST standards. As this project moves forward, we know the interests of individual Indian and tribal landowners are being protected.

On the Horizon

- **New:** Treasury's Financial Literacy and Education Commission (FLEC) will meet with OST personnel in November to discuss OST's culturally sensitive financial skills training. OST is seeking to emulate Treasury's best practices and to determine if an OST-Treasury relationship would result in this audience-specific financial skills training being implemented through other agencies.

- **Update:** OST's Field Operations schedules outreach events, training seminars and meetings at powwows, schools and other venues. In October, about six activities have been scheduled to date.

- **Update:** The Taos Pueblo requested a joint agreement to reprogram unused appraisal program funds to other trust functions. As of October 5, SOL has agreed to OST's proposed agreement. OST personnel will attend the October 17-18 negotiation with the awarding official to finalize the agreement with the Pueblo.

- **No Change:** The Acting FTO at the Great Lakes Agency will provide financial skills training on October 18 for members of the Sokaogon Chippewa tribal council and other employees or tribal members who choose to attend. The training will be held in the tribe's administration building in Crandon, Wisconsin.

- **No Change:** The FTO at the Palm Springs Agency will partner with First Nations Development Institute to provide financial skills training to the Santa Rosa Band in Hemet, California. The training will be held October 20-21 and will focus on investment skills.

- **No Change:** OST's tribal litigation team met with SOL on September 22 to discuss the Jicarilla Apache Nation trial scheduled for November 7. The Nation is seeking an accounting and to recover monetary loss and damages related to the U.S. government's breach of its fiduciary duty in allegedly mismanaging the Nation's trust assets and other funds.

Week Ahead Report to the Secretary
Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas
October 7, 2011

AS-IN and Director Pula Travel to Guam, CNMI and Rongelap in the Marshall Islands to meet on wide range of issues: AS-IN Babauta will be on travel to Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands and Rongelap in the Marshall Islands for numerous meetings and public engagements. Highlights of some of AS-IN's engagements include joining Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo at a "Buy Local" program launch on Guam, follow-up on issues related to the Forum on Economic Labor and Development (FELD) in the Northern Marianas (CNMI), keynoting at a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new dialysis center in the CNMI, keynoting at an Alternative Dispute Resolution judiciary conference on Guam, and visiting officials at Rongelap in the Marshall Islands with Director Nik Pula to discuss resettlement issues. While on Guam, AS-IN and Director Pula will be meeting with President of Micronesia, Manny Mori, to discuss Compact Impact issues.

U N I T E D S T A T E S
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

October 7, 2011

Memorandum

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
c/o James Anderson, Special Assistant

From: Rhea Suh, Assistant Secretary-Policy, Management and Budget

Subject: October 7, 2011, Policy and Other Issues

This provides major policy and other issues that fall under the purview of the Assistant Secretary – PMB.

POLICY

ASPMB Visit to Seoul, Korea. Assistant Secretary Suh has been in Seoul, Korea this week at the invitation of the Overseas Koreans Foundation (OKF), which is a Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs outreach program to the Korean diaspora across the world. As one of the senior-most Korean-Americans in the Obama Administration, AS Suh was invited to give a keynote address to the OKF annual conference in Seoul, before second and third generation Koreans from around the world. Her address focused on her personal story and views on how Koreans in the diaspora can utilize their multi-cultural identities as a bridge of understanding between Korea and the rest of the world. Her visit has received wide-spread coverage in the Korean media in Seoul and in the U.S., prior to and during her trip. The U.S. Embassy in Seoul has orchestrated AS Suh's participation in the conference, as well as: meetings with the Ministry of Environment and the Korean National Park Service, a meeting with city of Seoul environmental officials who have overseen a world-renowned river reclamation project, and a signing ceremony for a Memorandum of Understanding between USGS and the Korean Institute for Geology and Minerals. AS Suh is scheduled to return to the U.S. at the end of next week.

British Columbia Efforts in the Flathead Basin and the Great Northern LCC. British Columbia continues to fulfill its commitments under the agreement that DOI helped to negotiate and finalize in February of this year. This week, BC opened a new legislative session and on the first day introduced its much awaited legislation to permanently ban oil, gas and minerals development in the BC portion of the North Fork of the Flathead River basin. Given political sensitivities in BC to the appearance of US influence, the Premier's office has asked US stakeholders not to publicly comment on the legislation until it has passed (and we've

coordinated with the State Dept, Governor's office and Senators' offices on same). Given its parliamentary system, we anticipate that BC's majority party should be able to pass the legislation within a matter of weeks. Meanwhile, British Columbia formally joined the Great Northern LCC steering committee in September, and has hired its own dedicated staff person to work alongside the FWS and NPS staff coordinators. This came as a result of close coordination with DOI over the past year during the Flathead negotiations. Scientists and field managers from FWS, NPS, USGS, the state of Montana, the local tribes and First Nations are now working together on joint monitoring of shared species and planning additional joint conservation work. BC has been so engaged and appreciative of this new relationship that they plan to broaden their cooperation with DOI across the Great Northern landscape, and eventually to the Pacific LCC as well.

MANAGEMENT

Interagency Agreement with Customs and Border Protection (CBP). DAS Kim Thorsen and Border Coordinator Jon Andrew met with CBP Deputy Commissioner Aguilar and staff on September 27 to discuss the status of funding support for the mitigation of impacts resulting from construction of waived border infrastructure. Shortly after this meeting we learned that CBP may have an estimated $8 million available for mitigation. Availability of funds will be determined in late October or early November. In the meantime, preparations will be made to accept these funds through an amendment to the current Interagency Agreement. Funds will most likely be directed to California, but it is possible that the funds will be spent on properties in Texas or some combination of the two depending on the feasibility of acquisition. Lands proposed for acquisition are within the existing acquisition boundaries for the San Diego National Wildlife Refuge and the South Texas Refuge Complex. There continues to be strong interest on the part of Senators Feinstein, Boxer and Cornyn.

National Level Exercise (NLE) 11 and National Recovery Tabletop Exercise (NRTTX): The Office of Emergency Management, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance and USGS representatives participated in the three-day NRTTX in Alexandria, Virginia. The purpose of the NRTTX was to assess overall requirements and limitations of the national recovery effort in the aftermath of a New Madrid Seismic Zone catastrophic earthquake; identify potential solutions and/or means to solutions for identified critical recovery issues; and assess the application of the newly issued National Disaster Recovery Framework process to a catastrophic earthquake scenario. The Federal Emergency Management Agency is preparing a final After Action Review for distribution in by November, 2011.

Court Dismisses Google Lawsuit over Interior's Cloud Email Procurement with Prejudice. On Tuesday, September 27, 2011, Judge Susan Braden of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, ruled to dismiss, with prejudice, Google's December 30, 2010 complaint (Case No. 10-743C) against the Department of the Interior's procurement of a cloud-based email and collaboration solution. All parties agreed to this resolution. The Department is currently preparing a Request for Information ("RFI") for the potential issuance of a new solicitation to procure cloud email and collaboration services. The DOI Office of the Solicitor and the Office of the CIO agreed that a new solicitation would be appropriate because of the technological developments in industry offerings of cloud-based solutions since the time of Department's original solicitation. Any

subsequent protests stemming from a future award of a cloud email and collaboration services contract(s) for the Department will be assigned to this same court as a related case.

BUDGET

2012 Continuing Resolution. On Tuesday, October 4, the House approved by a vote of 352 to 66 the second continuing resolution for FY 2012. The Senate passed the measure on September 26 by a vote of 79 to 12. The President signed the CR on October 4. The Act (P.L. 112-36) authorizes continued government operations through November 18 at a level commensurate with 2011 levels minus 1.503 percent. A short term CR (P.L. 112-33) kept government operating through October 4.

2012 Appropriations. The House and Senate are beginning work on 2012 House-Senate compromise bills that could be incorporated into an omnibus appropriations act. House and Senate leadership have made statements that they plan to have full year appropriations in place by Thanksgiving.

OTHER

2011 Combined Federal Campaign for the National Capital Area (CFCNCA). Interior's 2011 CFCNCA officially kicked off this week with three events.

- A CFC charity fair and auction was held on October 4 from 10-11 in the Bison Bistro, with the proceeds going towards the CFC.
- On October 5, a kickoff program was held in the Yates Auditorium from 10:00-11:00 a.m. The event included presentation of awards from the 2010 CFCNCA, charity speakers and previews of this fall's new "DOI's Got Brains" and returning "DOI's Got Talent!"
- Tailgate lunches will kick off on October 7 at noon on the South Interior front lawn (or auditorium if there is inclement weather) and will continue on Fridays in October. Indian Affairs is hosting the first one with a menu featuring pulled pork or chicken and a bake sale. The CFCNCA will run through the end of the year.

IG/GAO Reports. The list of current reports and their status is attached.

Attachments:
PMB Office Reports

cc: Deputy Assistant Secretaries—Policy, Management and Budget

Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget
Weekly Office Reports
October 6, 2011

POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

New: Solid Waste and Chemicals Management Report. During the week of October 11, OEPC expects to issue a data call for bureaus and offices to provide information for the FY 2011 Solid Waste and Chemicals Management Report. The web-based Sustainable Practices Database has been improved based on feedback from bureaus and offices. This online tool collects data from Department facilities for this data call and rolls up the data into the bureau reports submitted to OEPC. Data from this report is included in the annual DOI Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan submitted to OMB.

New: Statement of Cooperation (SOC) Work Group Meeting Held. The SOC Work Group met October 4 in Anchorage to begin preparing the Annual SOC Work Plan for later presentation to the SOC Executive Steering Committee. The SOC is a Federal-State cooperative effort in Alaska focused on partnering for pollution prevention, contaminated site cleanup, and environmental education and technology exchange. The OEPC-Alaska Office represents the Department on the SOC Work Group.

Update: DEEPWATER HORIZON Oil Spill Response. Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance (OEPC) headquarters and regional staff continue to provide support to senior DOI officials, and the Gulf Coast Incident Management Team (GCIMT) based in New Orleans. The GCIMT is targeting an end of phase 3 and 4 operations by the end of this hurricane season, and an end to response operations by late November.

- The OEPC continues to work with the DOI Pollution Funding Removal Authorizations (PRFA's) Cost Documentation Team to review and improve DOI bureaus/offices' reimbursable cost documentation packages and submit them to the US Coast Guard (USCG) National Pollution Fund Center (NPFC). DOI bureaus and offices have received PRFAs totaling $92.3 Million in reimbursable budget authority. So far, DOI has submitted cost documentation packages totaling $50.75 Million and the USCG has processed and reimbursed in full a total of $12.69 Million.

Office of Policy Analysis

New: National Invasive Species Awareness Week in 2012. The National Invasive Species Council (NISC) along with other federal, state, and tribal organizations will host the third annual National Invasive Species Awareness (NISAW 2012) week from February 26 to March 3, 2012 in Washington, DC. This week of activities, briefings, workshops, and events will focus on strategizing solutions to address invasive species prevention, detection, monitoring, and control issues. A public meeting of the NISC will launch NISAW 2012. Other events include Kids

Invasive Species Day at the U.S. Botanic Gardens, Capitol Hill briefings on Asian carp and quagga mussels, workshop on grassroots action to prevent and control invasive species and an invasive species award ceremony and reception.

Ongoing: U.S. Coral Reef Task Force Meeting. The 26th meeting of the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force (USCRTF) will be held **October 17-21, 2011**, in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, in conjunction with the 2nd Reef Resilience Conference. The Reef Resilience Conference theme will be "Planning for Resilience" and will address spatial planning within Florida and in the Wider Caribbean/Gulf of Mexico context. Outcomes from this conference will be presented to the USCRTF. The focus of the Task Force Meeting is "Integrating Management of the Florida Reef Tract," which will address coastal and marine spatial planning, water management, and coral reef restoration. Deputy Assistant Secretary Eileen Sobeck will co-chair the Task Force meeting for DOI in place of permanent co-chair Laura Davis. Policy Analysis staffs the Task Force for the Department.

Ongoing: Klamath: Economic Support. The Economics staff is reviewing some of the preliminary data from the non use survey and providing additional comments on the economic analysis included in the draft Secretarial Decision Overview Report, which is currently scheduled to be released in early October.

Ongoing: Arctic. Policy Analysis continues to work with NOAA and the State Department to plan an international meeting of Arctic ecosystem-based management (EBM) experts hosted by DOI on October 17-19. The Policy Analysis Director is co-Head of Delegation for the U.S. The EBM Experts Meeting was called for by the 2011 Arctic Council Ministerial Declaration. Policy Analysis is also contributing to the drafting of a government-wide 5-year Arctic Research Plan, which will be reviewed and approved at the next Principles meeting of the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (IARPC) at the White House Conference Center on November 7.

Office of Native Hawaiian Relations

Update: NAGPRA Consultations and Plans of Action. The U.S. Army Garrison – Hawai‘i asked ONHR to review a NAGPRA plan of action and provide guidance as to what other items to address and include. ONHR was also asked about recommended practices for consultations with Native Hawaiian communities. In consultation with National NAGPRA, ONHR is developing templates for Federal agencies, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, and Native Hawaiian Organizations to use in NAGPRA consultations.

Office of International Affairs

New: Roll-Out of Afghanistan Minerals Assessment: The OIA Director attended an event at the Embassy of Afghanistan releasing the results of a USGS multi-year effort to assist Afghanistan in identifying mineral resources. The assessment revealed significant deposits of copper, gold, and rare earth minerals hitherto unknown in the Afghan countryside, resources which, if managed properly, could contribute significantly to Afghanistan's development of a stable economic base. Speakers at the event included A/S for Water and Science Anne Castle, and USGS Senior Science Adviser James Devine. The Afghan Ambassador expressed interest in

expanding collaboration with DOI to assist in developing a sound policy and regulatory framework for future mining activities.

New: Arctic Policy: The OIA staff met with the director of the North Slope Science Initiative (NSSI) on September 28 in order to discuss upcoming Arctic Council meetings. The NSSI has provided valuable support in preparing for the ecosystem-based management workshop that DOI will host October 17–19 and will likely be able to provide substantive material for the workshop agenda.

New: Beringia: The OIA staff briefed an interagency audience at the monthly Arctic Policy Group (APG) meeting on September 29 on the background of the NPS Beringia program and the recent Beringia Days Conference (September 9-10 in Nome, Alaska). At this APG meeting, the State Department shared information about their next senior-level visit to Russia to discuss this topic. This visit will likely occur in early December.

New: USAID/Tanzania Strategic Objective Meeting: The DOI-ITAP staff will travel to Tanzania for the annual meeting of USAID's Strategic Objective Team, consisting of key implementing partners. Staff from DOI-ITAP, USAID/Tanzania, Government of Tanzania Agencies, NGO implementing partners, and the Tanzania Office of the Vice President staff will present on status updates and progress, review biodiversity and water indicators, definitions, and targets; and participate in a field visit to Burunge Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and Manyara Ranch. This travel is paid for by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

New: Meeting with two Colombian Vice-Ministers: Colombia recently split its former "Ministry of Housing and Environment" into two separate ministries: one for housing and one for environment in an effort to raise the priority level for environmental protection in Colombia – particularly as it relates to extractive industries. DOI-ITAP will meet with the newly-appointed Vice-Minister of Environment to obtain feedback and buy-in for the activities planned under the "DOI Andean Amazon Program." DOI-ITAP will also meet with the Vice-Minister of Culture for the same purpose.

New: Ranger Training at Petra Archaeological Park: As a part of DOI-ITAP's Jordan Parks Project, **t**hree retired NPS rangers will travel to Petra Archaeological Park to begin a second round of training and mentoring for PAP rangers and management staff. The training will cover high-level park management planning as well as basic ranger skills.

Update: Big Bend/Río Bravo Protected Areas Project: OIA staff coordinated and participated on two interagency conference calls with Mexico on September 27 to discuss the progress being made with the Big Bend/Río Bravo Protected Areas Project. Secretary Salazar and his Mexican counterpart, Secretary Elvira, are scheduled to participate in a joint celebration ceremony in Big Bend National Park on October 24. Both countries are also planning to release wildlife on their respective sides of the border during the ceremony.

Update: Rio + 20: In preparation for the Rio + 20 Conference on Sustainable Development in June 2012, the OIA staff reviewed a working-level paper of the consolidated USG position, which is intended to influence the drafting of a focused political document that will be negotiated

and agreed upon by all countries at Rio. This paper will be re-circulated for higher-level review in the next two weeks.

Update: UN Framework Convention on Climate Change: In preparation for the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties to be held in Durban, South Africa November 28 – December 9, 2012, OIA staff participated in an interagency adaptation working group meeting. This working group will draft the US negotiating position for a new body under the UNFCCC that will focus on developing strategic guidance for the treatment of adaptation across the Convention.

Update: UN Convention on Biological Diversity: The OIA staff participated in an interagency meeting to prepare for the first plenary session of the Intergovernmental Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), a science-policy platform intended to inform international policy-making through assessments of the state of biodiversity and ecosystem science. The IPBES plenary will focus on developing operational procedures to stand IPBES up. The interagency also discussed the upcoming Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), to be held in early November 2012 in Montreal. The SBSTTA will discuss international issues of concern to Interior, including arctic biodiversity, invasive species and international standards, and the CBD ten-year strategic plan.

YOUTH, PARTNERSHIPS AND SERVICE

America's Great Outdoors Implementation

New: AGO and *Let's Move!* Increasing Physical Activity Opportunities. The Office of Youth represented the Department and *Let's Move!* on a panel discussion at the Up2Us Summit in Washington DC on October 4th. Up2Us is a non-profit organization that has 471 members who help create access for physical activity to alleviate some of the problems our youth face today. At the Summit, the Youth Office was able to outline how DOI can benefit from programming, as well as what opportunities for partnerships with organizations working to get underserved youth on our public lands.

Ongoing: Diversity Hiring. Through a partnership with Latino Magazine, DOIS will be participating in 5 Latino Career Fair Events across the country during the 2011-2012 school year. The Office of Youth is helping to coordinate these events with bureaus and bring job and internship openings to the table, along with panelists, speakers and extensive information on the breadth of job opportunities at DOI.

Ongoing: MOU between DOI, USDA and HistoriCorps. DOI SOL and USDA attorneys have completed review of a new MOU between DOI (BLM, FWS, NPS), USDA (Forest Service), HistoriCorps, The Corps Network and the Student Conservation Association to cooperate on projects and activities related to preservation of historic structures, sites, artifacts, landscapes, and other resources and to conduct heritage education at the national, regional, and local levels.

Ongoing: LMIC Service-Learning Training. The Office of Youth has identified 6 BIE Boarding schools that we will work with to provide LMIC service-learning training and technical assistance throughout the Fall Semester in order to implement LMIC service projects in the Spring and Summer. LMIC service projects will include school/community gardens, physical activity clinics, health/nutrition education, among other school and community-based efforts.

Ongoing: AGO Education Work Group. On behalf of this interagency work group, the Youth Office forwarded a focused inventory request to AGO Education Work Group members to capture federal funding streams and programs that will inform action item 3.3a (support and expand federal programs that emphasize place-based, experiential learning). The Work Group will use the data (due October 31) to identify opportunities for cross-agency collaboration.

Ongoing: Federal Pathways Advisory Council. The Office of Youth in the Great Outdoors has a representative on the new Federal Pathways Advisory Council. The Office plays a key role in advising OPM on the history and future of Federal Internships. The Youth Office representative is chairing a subcommittee on implementation guidance for the Pathways Program.

Ongoing: AGO Interagency Work Group on Youth, Jobs and Service. The Youth Office representative will chair a 21st Century Conservation Service Corps (21CSC) Implementation subcommittee meeting to advance planning for a working agenda for the Federal Advisory Committee on the 21CSC.

Ongoing: 21st Century Conservation Service Corps Advisory Committee (FACA). Vetting of nominees for the committee has been completed this week, and letters of appointment signed by the Secretary are expected to be sent to individuals by October 14. The first meeting of the FACA committee is expected to be mid-November.

Ongoing: DOI STEM Education Strategic Plan. The Youth Office met with Bureau Science Advisors, during their monthly lunch, to inform the Science Advisors of the strategic plan work underway and to receive feedback.

Leveraging Resources

Renewed: Veteran/Youth Fire Corps. Although the Office of Youth was not able to execute a Cooperative Agreement in time to utilize the full $750,000 of year-end funding available from Bureaus within the Office of Wildland Fire Coordination to support Veteran/Youth Fire Corps, we have renewed efforts to develop a multi-bureau cooperative agreement for $450,000. However, the lack of knowledge and systems in place to execute agreements continues to impede our ability to fulfill the Secretary's priorities of youth and veteran employment.

New: Take Pride in America Fundraising Authority: This week meetings were held to discuss potential legal agreements with private foundations to leverage funds.

Ongoing: DOI Partnerships Website. Migration of old ASPMB Partnerships website to be converted to DOI.Gov by early August. Partnerships Coordinator trained by Figleaf contractor with PMB staff to convert website and train other Bureau Partnership Coordinators on how to edit and manage site. New Partnerships website will have fewer pages and less content as requested for all government websites by the Administration.

TECHNOLOGY, INFORMATION AND BUSINESS SERVICES

Office of Hearings and Appeals

Update: OHA Organization and Delegations of Authority. OHA submitted revisions to its Departmental Manual chapters on organization and delegations of authority to the Office of Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs for review and approval. The main change would give OHA judges express authority to make heirship determinations involving certain Native allotment claims. BLM has several cases it would like to refer to OHA for such determinations. Other revisions would reflect changes to OHA's Probate Hearings Division.

Office of the Chief Information Office

New: IT Transformation Quick Wins. Working with the ADIRs as executive partners, the OCIO are nearing completion of 5 Quick Wins which will be rolled out via an all employee email from DAS Jackson this week. Accomplishments include:

- **Collaborative IT Support** piloting a solution for enabling local IT support to provide services to local employees from other bureaus;
- **Interim Unified Messaging Solution** moving DOI employees to one interim email system;
- **Mobile Device Management** tools to support employee use of mobile devices, such as tablet devices;
- **Telework IT Policy and Pilot** allowing the use of non-Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) for work purposes and a pilot for testing IT products and services for use on non-GFE; and
- **External SharePoint Migration** moves external SharePoint sites to a newer, more reliable version to increase collaboration between internal and external partners

New: Computing Device Management Services. A contract was awarded to L3/FiberLink and will facilitate the Department's ability to deploy and manage mobile devices such as IPads and Androids.

New: Asset Discovery. The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) contracted with BDNA to obtain a managed service enterprise discovery capability. Use of this technology will enable the Department to scan and account for information technology assets across the Department's enterprise. The engagement may last 12 months and will be delivered in three distinct phases (Proof of Concept, Implementation, and Steady-State).

New: Deserttortoise.gov Domain. The Deserttortoise.gov web domain is a cross-agency website between the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the Department of Defense (DoD). This domain was identified as an example of wasteful government spending under the Campaign to Cut Waste and was also identified by an OMB report for non-compliance with security requirements. OCIO collaborated with FWS and DoD to resolve these issues. OMB has acknowledged that FWS has coordinated with DoD to redirect Deserttortoise.gov to Mojavedata.gov, which will help the Department to eventually eliminate this web domain. In addition, the security issue was addressed and this site is now in compliance with OMB's requirements.

New: BIA Tribal Enrollment Reporting and Payment System. On September 27, 2011, a Privacy Act System of Records Notice (SORN) was published in the Federal Register for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Tribal Enrollment Reporting and Payment System (TERPS). TERPS assists BIA in collecting data and analyzing applications to determine an individual's eligibility to share in judgment fund distributions authorized by plans prepared pursuant to Federal legislation, and in calling and conducting Secretarial elections.

New: Four Key IT Security Policy and Guidance Documents Released to Close Financial Audit Findings. The following four (4) key IT security policies and guidance documents were released on September 30, 2011. The release and subsequent implementation of these guidelines will support the closure of the Department's financial audit findings. Several of these findings were longstanding issues that will be resolved:

1. Secure Wireless Network Security Technical Implementation Guide – This document establishes guidance throughout the Department including Bureaus/Offices on direction and requirements for safeguarding wireless networks.

2. Mobile Embedded Device Security Technical Implementation Guide – This document establishes guidance for the Department including Bureaus/Offices and provides direction and requirements for safeguarding mobile embedded devices (MEDs).

3. Secure International Travel with Electronics Policy – This document establishes policy for the Department, including Bureaus/Offices, and provides direction and requirements for safeguarding mobile devices while individuals are on official foreign travel for the Department.

4. Updated Risk Acceptance and Approval for Use of Outlook Web Access and iNotes – The Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget issued a memorandum on September 30, 2011, to Assistant Secretaries and Heads of Bureaus and Offices to update and clarify the implementation of an earlier memorandum (March 3, 2010) regarding risk acceptance for the use of Outlook Web Access and iNotes across the Department.

Update: ADIR Executive Partners Submit Charters for Seven Service Areas. Concluding a six month effort, ADIR executive partners submitted charters for seven high priority service areas within the IT Transformation: Account Management, Hosting, Risk Management, Service Desk, Telecommunications, Unified Messaging, and Workplace Computing Services. The seven

charters are the culmination of a collaborative effort among ADIRs, OCIO leadership, and subject matter experts from across the Department. In the coming weeks, the charters will go through a final review and, where necessary, modification prior to approval.

Update: The Department's Data Center Consolidation Initiative (DCCI). Progress as of September 30, 2011, includes completing the consolidation of 13 of 18 (or 72%) of the targeted data center sites. The Department's DCCI team is completing their analysis of information from Bureaus/Offices to complete the Department's final data center consolidation plan. The updated draft detailed agency and component plans were completed on September 30, 2011. Final preparations are underway for the publicly releasable plan due to OMB by October 7, 2011.

Update: Google Maps API. OCIO successfully awarded and kicked off a contract for Google Maps Premier that will cap the Department's liability for Google Maps usage for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012. In addition to capping the Department's liability for Google Maps API usage, it will provide the necessary foundational data for Bureau's to perform resource and budgetary planning for future Google Maps Premier usage in FY2013 and beyond.

Update: IT Spending Controls. Bureau/Office Assistant Directors for Information Resources (ADIRs) were notified that the current process for reporting and requesting approval of IT purchases (> $3,000) was being extended until January 31, 2012. In addition, the ADIRS were informed that the new process would move away from the one-at-a-time requests to a more efficient process, which will require Bureaus to create Annual IT Spend Plans in advance, mapped to the CPIC process, to be submitted for review, and approval by OCIO.

Update: The Department's GSA Regional Services Voice Networx Transition is 99.4% Complete. The Department has been working with Bureaus and the General Services Administration (GSA) to complete the transition of long-distance services behind GSA switches from FTS2001 to Networx. GSA is on schedule to complete the remaining 263 line transitions. The Department benefits from the transition with the Networx services via a price reduction.

Update: ITT Volunteer Processing. OCIO finalized the volunteer website and process design. The communications plan was sent to the DAS-TIBS on September 29, 2011, for approval and rollout. During the week of October 3, 2011, OCIO leadership and the ADIRs will be briefed on the process, including the identification of supply (volunteers) and demand (workforce needs).

Update: IT Workforce Planning. OCIO successfully completed the technical review of four (4) vendor proposals for IT Workforce Planning requirements associated with the IT Transformation. The Office of Personnel Management's (OPM) Vendor Management Office (VMO) has advised that they have completed the award and identified the vendor who is scheduled to begin by October 1, 2011.

Update: FY11 Compliance Reviews. The Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) requires the Chief Information Officer (CIO) to annually assess the Department's information security. KPMG was retained to conduct compliance reviews on behalf of the CIO. As of September 30, 2011, draft reports for USGS, OS-OCIO, SOL, and OHA have been received. The draft reports noted no significant findings.

Office of Valuation Services

New: OVS Management Staff. The OVS Management staff will be meeting in conjunction with the American Land Trust Alliance annual conference in Milwaukee October 11-14. Along with OVS management and planning meetings, the OVS leadership will meet with FWS realty managers as well as with third-party NGO's who are often partners with client bureaus in land acquisitions and exchanges.

National Business Center

New: NBC Director Stakeholder Meetings. The NBC Director met with key officials from FWS, BOR, and BIA this week. The purpose of these meetings was to get voice-of-the-customer input on NBC services and products as well as update key DOI stakeholders on NBC activities. Stakeholders were briefed on the McKinsey & Company strategic assessment as well as other key NBC activities.

New: NBC successfully responded to all Interior IG Cases (Allegations and Complaints) officially referred in FY 2011. NBC staff reviewed, investigated and took appropriate management action with oversight by the NBC Audit Liaison Office and NBC Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to close ten (10) allegations and complaints received this fiscal year. Investigation results were properly reported and ensured the NBC organization was not reported delinquent to the Office of the Secretary as well as to Congress in the IG Investigation semi-annual reports.

New: NBC successfully provided the FY 2011 Annual Assurance Statement on Internal Controls to the AS PMB and PFM Director. The purpose of the statement is to provide assurance regarding the effectiveness of internal controls over the NBC enterprise as of September 30, 2011. NBC provided reasonable assurance that our internal controls continue to operate effectively and as designed. No material weaknesses were found in the design or operations of the internal controls across the NBC Enterprise. NBC management demonstrates through the assertion an effective internal control environment in compliance with the objectives set forth in the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act (FMFIA) and Federal Financial Management Improvement Act (FFMIA).

Update: NBC Workforce Plan Update. NBC is updating its original Workforce Plan which covers 2008-2012. NBC has postponed a solicitation for a vendor to assist with workforce planning until final decisions about the Strategic Assessment have been made to ensure our human capital direction is appropriately aligned.

New: AQD supports OS/OCIO through the purchase of Juniper Hardware Licenses & Support: AQD awarded a purchase order to Nova Datacom LLC Juniper Hardware Licenses and Support. Juniper routers are critical to DOI's IT infrastructure through their role as message/data traffic gateways that allow DOI and the subsidiary bureaus to operate secure yet interoperable networks. This requirement combined multiple support agreements under one contract that AQD directed to the Small Business Administration's 8(a) program. The award reduced acquisition lead time, benefited the small business, and streamlined future acquisition

efforts through the co-mingling of multiple Juniper service agreements under one contract. Over the long term, DOI will enjoy continued operational and acquisition cost savings from the combined and synchronized periods of performance affecting over a dozen license and service/support classifications.

New: AMD Coordinates Flight for DOI Secretary. Aviation Management's Eastern Regional Office, Flight Coordination Center, coordinated a flight for the Secretary and his team to attend the grand opening of the Dinosaur National Monument, on Wednesday, September 28th. During the flight to and from the celebration, the Secretary will also participate in a fly over of Dinosaur National Monument (Colorado side) to view old visitor center locations as well as the new location in Jensen, UT; the Desolation Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA), and the 4 sacred mountains of the Navajo, the Chacaco Canyon park as well as the Jemez Mountains.

New: Secretary's Garage Door. A faulty loop detector relay has been replaced and the roll up door is now fully operational.

New: Kick-off Meeting for new OHTA Lease for 1801 Pennsylvania Avenue. NBC staff anticipate a new lease acquisition for the Office of Historical Trust Accounting, which will replace the existing space located at 1801 Pennsylvania Avenue, by July 2012.

New: Installation of New Signage. New directional signs were installed in the basement to identify the various businesses in the cafeteria, and in the freight elevators to identify emergency phone locations.

Update: Recertification of the Transportation Subsidy Program. Recertification continues. Approximately 4,009 program participants (out of ~6,200) have completed the training. A reminder nationwide LAN message has been distributed.

HUMAN CAPITAL AND DIVERSITY

Office of Human Resources

New: The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) Upper Colorado Region Human Capital Accountability Review, Salt Lake City, Utah. A representative from the Accountability team is participating on an accountability review of the BOR's Upper Colorado Region in Salt Lake City, Utah during the week of October 3, 2011. The Upper Colorado Region is currently in the process of migrating to eOPF, however, full implementation will not be complete prior to the on-site review. The Department is providing assistance to the BOR lead, as well as serving as a team member responsible for the review of awards under performance culture, analyzing the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) reports and Employee Viewpoint Survey (EVS) results, Federal Personnel Payroll System (FPPS) data reports, and participating in the individual and focus group interviews that will be conducted. OPM will not be participating in this review as a review of the region's Delegated Examining (DE) functions was completed in March 2011.

New: Corrective Action Plans. The Accountability team is reviewing corrective action plans submitted by the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Regions 1 and 8, FWS/Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Alaska Combined Services Center, and the United States Geological Survey's (USGS) Eastern and Central Region.

Update: Bureau of Land Management (BLM) National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) Human Capital Accountability Review. A representative from the Accountability team participated on an accountability review of the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) in Boise, Idaho which is serviced by the BLM during the week of September 19, 2011. While the team found no illegal appointments or major compliance issues, they did identify required actions aimed at improving deficiencies in the areas of recruitment and staffing and performance management. The Accountability team will continue to work with BLM/NIFC to ensure that satisfactory corrective action is taken and that documentation can be produced to ensure completion of the actions.

Update: Corrective Action Plan from the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) Denver Office. The Accountability team continues to review a corrective action plan submitted by the BOR Denver Office in response to the Department's accountability review report issued May 5, 2011. Additional documentation has been received from BOR and is presently being reviewed to ensure satisfactory action has been taken to address findings and to close-out the review.

Update: National Business Center (NBC) East Human Capital Accountability Review. The Accountability team continues to assist the National Business Center (NBC) East in response to the Department's accountability review report issued June 10, 2011. Additional documentation has been received from NBC East and is presently being reviewed by the team to ensure satisfactory action has been taken to address findings and close-out the review as soon as possible. Additional clarification is needed before a close-out can be done.

Update: Upcoming Accountability Reviews. In addition to the BOR Upper Colorado Region review mentioned above, the accountability team will be participating in the following reviews scheduled over the next several months:

- BIA Center for Recruitment, Anadarko, OK, October 24 - 28, 2011
- OSM, Washington, DC, December 5-9, 2011

Update: Telework. Currently, the Federal Personnel Payroll System (FPPS) and Quicktime (and BOR's Time and Attendance System), do not allow employees to code their telework experience in the same manner as the 2010 Telework Act reporting requirements. In July 2011, the Office of Human Resources (OHR) submitted system change requests to the National Business Center (NBC) for both FPPS and Quicktime that would allow employees to code their telework experience consistent with the reporting requirements in the law. Last week, the Interagency FPPS Users Group met and did not sufficiently support the FPPS request and so the changes to FPPS (and Quicktime) will be postponed until sometime after the summer of 2012. This means that at the end of FY12, DOI will not be able to report telework information as required by law. OHR is making attempts to appeal the User Group decision, but so far, we have not been able to make any progress.

Office of Civil Rights

New: National Disability Employment Awareness Month. The Department of the Interior joins the Nation in observing National Disability Employment Awareness Month, October 1-31, 2011. The theme for the observance is "Profit by Investing in Workers with Disabilities." The theme honors the contributions of workers with disabilities and serves to inform the public that they represent a highly skilled talent pool that can help employers compete in today's global economy. In observance of Disability Employment Awareness Month, the Office of Civil Rights and the Bureau of Reclamation are sponsoring a program on October 20, 2011 in the Rachel Carson Room in the Main Interior Building. The keynote speaker is BOR employee AlejAndro Anastasio. Mr. Anastasio's presentation, "My One Handed Life," is designed to empower individuals to move beyond their real or perceived limitations and dispel misperceptions about the abilities of individuals.

New: EEO Compliance Training, Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), Boise, Idaho. During October 4-5, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights will conduct EEO Compliance Training for managers, supervisors, and non-supervisory employees of the BOR, Pacific Northern Region, in both the EEO and Human Resources Offices/Divisions. The training was ordered by an EEOC Administrative Judge, in a Finding of Discrimination against DOI and BOR.

New: DOI Annual Federal Equal Employment Statistical Report of Discrimination Complaints (462 Report). On October 5, 2011, all Bureau EEO Offices and OS must submit to the Office of Civil Rights (OCR), their 462 Reports for FY 2011. The DOI 462 Report will be filed with the EEOC by October 21, 2011.

Update: National Hispanic Heritage Month. The Department of the Interior joins the Nation in observing September 15, 2011 - October 15, 2011, as National Hispanic Heritage Month. Each year during this time, we remember the many contributions of Hispanic Americans in the history of this Nation. This year's theme is "Many Backgrounds, Many Stories … One American Spirit." In observance of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Office of Civil Rights and Bureau of Land Management are sponsoring an exhibit of artifacts and information on the contributions of Hispanic Americans. The exhibit is located on the 4th floor, 4300 Corridor, Main Interior Building. Additionally, DOI is working to implement an Hispanic Initiative.

Completed: EEO Compliance Training, BOR, Denver, Colorado. During September 27-28, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights conducted EEO Compliance Training for eleven managers, supervisors, and twenty non-supervisory employees of the BOR Headquarters, in both the EEO and Human Resources Offices/Divisions. The training was ordered by an EEOC Administrative Judge, in a Finding of Discrimination against DOI and BOR.

Completed: Hispanic Council on Federal Employment. On September 30, 2011, the Department participated in the Hispanic Council on Federal Employment Meeting at the Office of Personnel Management, Washington, D.C. The Council is an advisory committee composed of representatives from Hispanic organizations and senior Federal government officials. The Council provides advice on matters involving the recruitment, hiring, and advancement of Hispanics in the Federal workforce.

Office of Strategic Employee and Organizational Development

New: The Office of Strategic Employee and Organizational Development (OSEOD) Hosts Presidential Management Council Interagency Rotation Detailees. OSEOD is pleased to host Pattie Buel and Nina Jones who are both from the U.S. General Services Administration and Stacey Street from the Federal Emergency Management Agency as part of the Presidential Management Council Interagency Rotation program. Ms. Buel and Ms. Jones will be working on an evaluation of training across DOI and Ms. Street will be working on finalizing and implementing the Leadership Roadmap. They will be with OSEOD from October 3, 2011 through March 30, 2012.

Office of Occupational Safety and Health

Update: Radon Action Plan. As a result of the Radon Action Plan Working Group Meeting and further staff discussions with the Office of Environmental Policy and the Office of Acquisition and Property Management, the staff of the Office of Occupational Safety and Health is leaning toward relying on the ongoing significant work that the National Park Service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Bureau of Indian Education are doing to represent the primary progress DOI is making on this initiative at this time. An update memo on the initiative is currently under consideration and will be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for approval to be sent out to the bureaus.

LAW ENFORCEMENT, SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Immediate Office of the DAS

Update: Radio Transformation. The project directors and the contract project manager visited with radio users and service providers in the Denver area, including BLM, NPS, FWS, and BOR. Field visits were made to Rocky Mountain National Park and the BLM Upper Colorado District (Grand Junction). The goal of the trip was to help the project manager learn more about user requirements and service delivery issues in preparation for development of a detailed project plan.

Update: CBP Releases NEPA documents for Tactical Infrastructure Maintenance and Repair (TIMR) Along the Southwest Border (Arizona, New Mexico and California). A Draft Environmental Assessment was issued on September 23rd for TIMR work in Arizona. Advance copies were sent to DOI/DOA land managers on August 12 for a short review prior to public release. There will be a 30 day comment period on the draft document. Endangered species concerns were raised during the internal review and discussions are continuing during the public review phase in hopes of resolving concerns prior to finalizing the record.

Draft NEPA documents for TIMR work in California and New Mexico will be released the week of October 3rd for an internal review (to include review by DOI). Public release will be 2-3 weeks following. A review for Texas TIMR work will follow when land owner issues are clarified but no date has been projected.

Update: Northern Border EIS Being Prepared by CBP. CBP published a draft PEIS on September 16th. There will be a 45 day comment period ending on October 31 and public meetings are scheduled for the first half of October with the last meeting in Washington DC on October 17th. DOI received electronic copies of the document which have been loaded to the DOI Sharepoint site. DOI comments are due by October 21 after which a DOI consolidated response will be prepared by Borderlands Coordinator Jon Andrew after a review of Bureaus. CBP hopes to sign a Record of Decision this year. Public meetings begin this week and extend through October 17th.

No Change: Short-term Access to Government Computers for Emergency Response. The "fire team" has completed its proposal for managing various types of non-federal employees that need logical access to federal systems while responding to fires. This proposal will be supplemented with information from the personnel and IT security staffs in DOI and USDA and presented to the Chief Information Officers in both Departments for review and concurrence.
No Change: Fire IT Project. Planning continues for the next Core Team meeting (Oct. 6). Team leadership is coordinating with the other segment roadmaps and support contractor.

No Change: Use of National Technical Means (NTM) in Support of Wildland Fire. On August 10 an interagency meeting of representatives from wildland fire, geospatial programs, and the intelligence community took place to discuss opportunities to better utilize information from national technical means assets of the intelligence community in support of various aspects of the wildland fire program. An interagency governance group to identify requirements and opportunities and to coordinate better delivery of services will be created.

No Change: Gulf Coast Response Staffing. The DOI Level 4 staffing plan has been approved by the Coast Guard.

No Change: Interagency Interoperability. The Interagency Interoperability Oversight Group meeting scheduled for August 11 was cancelled due to many schedule conflicts. A written briefing was provided instead. A future meeting will be scheduled to discuss development of a Secretarial level MOU to guide and direct ongoing interoperability and interconnection activities.

No Change: Interagency Dispatch Improvement. All bureaus/agencies have signed the charter. Plans for a meeting or conference call of the Steering Committee are underway.
Final: Environmental and Cultural Stewardship Training Module. Customs and Border Protection, USDA, and DOI Bureaus have developed a two hour, on line, mandatory course to be used to orient CBP personnel on DOI and USDA Forest Service lands and resources. The final module has being uploaded to the CBP training site. Deployment of the module is now underway. The objective of this module is to educate and thus reduce unnecessary impacts on natural resources and the environment. Outreach and an announcement of the event is planned with DHS and the U.S. Forest Service.

Final: Carrizo Cane Study Funding for DOA. The Border Patrol obligated about $2.2 million in funding for bio control research and release of biological controls (scale and wasp) for Carrizo Cane in Texas. Carrizo cane is an invasive exotic with the usual adverse impacts on

riparian habitats. It also provides cover for illegal activities along the border. This study and releases will be lead by the Agricultural Research Service of USDA.

Final: Forward Operating Bases (FOB). There are three FOBs currently being planned. Two of these, Ajo and Douglas, are to be constructed with funds expiring this FY and obligation of these funds was made prior to the end of the FY. The third in the boot heel of New Mexico, near Animas does not have expiring funds and there are no significant DOI issues with this site.

Final: Civil Applications Committee Coordination. The chair of the CAC (USGS Deputy Director Suzette Kimball) and the Interior CAC representative (Deputy Assistant Secretary – Water and Science) briefed the Deputies Operating Group in March on the mission and purpose of the CAC and solicited bureau input on improving coordination within Interior.

Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES)

New: OLES Attended FBI Hosted Counter-Intelligence and Insider Threat Briefing. Protection of the Nation's most sensitive secrets is everyone's responsibility. The OLES is working collaboratively with the Intelligence Community and all other Non-Title 50 agencies to develop the necessary foundation upon which to build and sustain a counter-intelligence and insider threat program. The recent briefing, provided by the FBI, underscored the critical need for this.

New: OLES Security Assessment of the Independence National Historic Park, Philadelphia Pa. The security division of the OLES performed a security assessment of the Liberty Bell and the Independence National Historic Park from September 26 - 28. Participants from the OLES, NPS, and NPS Regional Office worked as a team to identify vulnerabilities within the park and the surrounding support structures. Overall the security posture is good, but 13 areas needing improvement were identified and will be included in a formal report which is currently in draft. A brief was given to the park Superintendant describing the security deficiencies that need to be mitigated to bring the park in compliance with the Department Manual.

Update: Coordination of Geographic Information System (GIS) Mapping of Terrorist Contacts. The OLES continues to pursue improved tracking of terrorist contacts near Interior icon sites through GIS mapping. A demonstration and briefing from the Washington Regional Threat and Analysis Center in collaboration with the FBI Terrorist Screening Center and the US Park Police has been rescheduled for Friday, October 7. The effort to evolve this program into a national standard for Fusion Centers is ongoing.

Update: IMARS Version 1.0 delivered to the IMARS Governance Council. The version of IMARS that contains the DOI-specific configuration changes was tested by the Council and they have returned testing results to the IMARS Project Team. The Council met on September 7th to review and prioritize change requests. The vendor is working on three critical changes to the system. These changes are needed to accept the configured version as DOI's IMARS 1.0.

No Change: OLES Departmental Security and Intelligence Workshop. This workshop provides required in-service training that satisfies part of the 40-hour annual training for DOI

security and law enforcement personnel. The security portion of the workshop will highlight the team effort between the Golden Gate Bridge Authority, National Park Service, United States Park Police, California Highway Patrol, San Francisco Police Department and the U.S. Coast Guard in supporting the security program at one of the Nation's most iconic structures, the Golden Gate Bridge. The intelligence portion of the workshop will focus on topics that have a direct nexus to the Department, with attendees being able to leave with "tools" they can readily use upon returning to their duty stations. A tour will be given of the Northern California Regional Intelligence Center and the Joint Terrorism Task Force. Agendas have been completed, the appropriate contracts are in draft, and logistics are being developed.

Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

New: Monthly Emergency Management Council Meeting: OEM will hold the monthly DOI Emergency Management Council (EMC) meeting on Wednesday, October 4. Topics include FY12 priorities for emergency preparedness and the project management plan for implementing the Deputies Operating Group's recommendation for a single point ordering system. Additionally, the EMC will review the 2011 DOI Continuity of Operations (COOP) Plan and a status report for the Corrective Action Program (CAP).

Update: Emergency Response Activities. The Interior Operations Center (IOC) monitored the following activities during the past week:

- *Tropical Weather:* Tropical activity in the Atlantic, Caribbean and Pacific Basin was once again significant during the past week, however, no storms have caused damage or threatened DOI or U.S. interests.
- *Kilauea and Cleveland Volcanoes:* USGS is closely monitoring Cleveland Volcano in the Aleutian Islands and Kilauea Volcano in Hawaii. USGS has rated both volcanoes at Alert Level "Watch," Aviation Color Code "Orange."
- *Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Response:* Fifty-three DOI personnel continued to work full-time on Deepwater Horizon cleanup planning and operations. Cleanup of DOI lands continues and the Gulf Coast Incident Management Team anticipates ending most operations by the end of November. NPS and FWS units are re-starting full cleanup operations following the completion of the wildlife nesting pauses.
- *Seventeen Wildfires on DOI Lands:* New fire activity remains light and the National Preparedness Level remains at 2. On DOI lands, fire response is taking place at the Grand Canyon NP in AZ, Yosemite NP in CA, Crater Lake NP in OR, the BIA Fort Belknap Agency in MT, Okefenokee NWR in GA, and on BLM lands in AK, ID, NV, OR, and UT. The fire community is reporting that Nationwide, 981 DOI personnel and a total of 6,804 interagency personnel are deployed on wildland fire operations.

Update: Occupant Emergency Planning (OEP). OEM hosted a Brown Bag lunch session about Shelter-in-Place and Earthquake Safety on 12-1 p.m., September 27 in the Rachael Carson room. The "Building Emergencies for People with Disabilities" Brown Bag lunch, which was cancelled due to the earthquake, has been rescheduled at 12:30 p.m., October 20 in the Rachael Carson room. The NBC modernization project office, working with OEM, has contracted an

engineering firm to review additional modifications which may be required for the elevators in the MIB to be used to evacuate people with disabilities during emergencies.

Update: Continuity of Operations (COOP) Plan Update. OEM continued coordination on the COOP Plan with bureaus and offices last week, adjudicating comments and formulating final language. The new plan contains revisions based on new interagency requirements, lessons learned from exercises, and suggestions from bureau and office team members who have deployed to work from Site C throughout the past year. The final publication of the 2011 DOI COOP will be completed in October.

Update: National Preparedness Directive / Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8). OEM is working with the FEMA-led PPD-8 Implementation Team to develop the next PPD-8 deliverable: the "National Preparedness System." The System is due to the President in November and will provide guidance for building and maintaining domestic capabilities; include a series of integrated national planning frameworks and interagency operational plans; and provide resource guidance along with recommendations/guidance to support preparedness planning for businesses, communities, families, and individuals. OEM continues to work with USGS and OEPC to develop the policy to guide these activities within DOI.

Update: Indian Affairs Emergency Management Expert Study: The Director of OEM, BIA Chief of Staff and BIA Director of the Office of Justice Systems will meet together with their planners on October 5 to discuss the status of recommendations from the Expert Study. OEM continues to work closely with ASIA/BIA as they address recommendations from the expert study and met with BIA's key staff member on September 29 to provide background information. In moving forward, BIA policy, the assignment of responsibilities for emergency management, organizational structure to execute the program, and development of a handbook which provides information on disaster assistance available to Tribes and Tribal members from the interagency and from BIA continue to be the top priorities.

Update: Secure Video Teleconference (SVTC). Departmental headquarters maintains SVTC capabilities to coordinate interagency response during continuity events and other emergencies. Equipment now being used is becoming outdated and is not operating reliably. With support from OCIO, OEM will address requirements for the Interior Operations Center and alternate sites. OCIO, OEM and OLES will meet this week to discuss the implementation an enterprise-level approach to resolve issues.

Update: Interagency Emergency Health Policy. LCDR Elaine Wolff, U.S. Public Health Service Officer detailed to OEM, continued to participate in the National Security Staff (NSS)-led Deployable Assets sub-Interagency Policy Committee (sub-IPC). The sub-IPC is tasked with addressing the U.S. health system preparedness, public health/medical and emergency management integration, deployable Federal health response capabilities, health preparedness and response education and training, exercises and evaluation, emergency medical services, health reform integration with preparedness efforts and Emergency Support Function (ESF) #8 annex policy considerations. OEM is the DOI Principal Planner for ESF #8 and coordinates activities with the Office of Wildland Fire, NPS and USGS.

Update: All-Hazard Incident Management Planning. The DOI All-Hazards Incident Management Program Incident Business and Financial Accountability working group met on September 28 to begin the assessment of wildland fire's and other's existing cost coding methods. This week, OEM will be meeting with the Incident Qualifications and Certification System (IQCS) Change Management Board in Boise to further the process of creating DOI-specific positions in the IQCS which will be the system of record for all DOI responders. These efforts continue to move the Department towards establishing a single point ordering system as mandated by the Deputies Operating Group.

Update: Exercise Eagle Horizon-2011 (EH-11). OEM continues to follow up after action items discussed at the DOI After-Action conference on August 19. Participants included most Bureaus and several OS offices; discussions included decisions about corrective action planning as well as lessons learned during the successful exercise. OEM provided edits and comments for the report that the Site E team expects to provide the latest draft by October 3, after which OEM will review and finalize the report. Lessons learned from EH-11 will provide a framework for EH-12 planning.

No Change: Corrective Action Program (CAP). The FY11 CAP Status Report, including the Emergency Management Council (EMC)-approved Corrective Actions Recommendations (CARs), is currently being vetted through the surnaming process before being presented to Assistant Scretary PMB. The Status Report includes an overview of outstanding CARs and a summary of new items. The new CAR items emanate from the Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill, the NLE-11 catastrophic earthquake exercise, interagency exercise Dark Zephyr which explored readiness for an anthrax emergency, and lessons learned which were compiled for the National Security Staff exploring DOI emergency planning shortfalls should the U.S. suffer an event similar to the tsunami and nuclear power plant emergency in Japan.

No Change: Online Training Development. OEM has begun work with DOI University (DOIU) to develop two online emergency management training courses over the next several months. OEM and DOIU have completed the Reimbursable Service Agreements to produce the courses last week. Course development is scheduled to proceed over the next 4-5 months for both courses.

No Change: Upgrade of Viewer for Interior Geospatial Emergency Management System (IGEMS). OEM and our collaborators at USGS will be upgrading the on-line geospatial map viewer for IGEMS. IGEMS-related links to the new version of National Hazards Support System (NHSS) are being updated. The new viewer will allow end-users to quickly display customized hazard information as they relate to DOI lands and facilities. Rollout of the new version will take place by the end of September.

No Change: Multipoint Video Teleconferencing (VTC). OEM and NBC are coordinating the installation of a multipoint VTC capability in the IOC Conference Room. Technicians are identifying power requirements for the system. OEM and OCIO are developing a memorandum of understanding to define the management of the associated Information Technology system. This capability will provide for internet (IP) and ISDN video teleconferencing in the IOC

conference room and at other VTC locations in the Main Interior Building, with no incremental costs for departmental offices using the system.

Office of Wildland Fire (OWF)

New: Processing Miscellaneous Travel Expenses for a Casual (AD) Hired Under the AD Pay Plan. The onset of GovTrip has created a huge workload, at the local unit level, when hiring casuals to support an incident. Many of the miscellaneous travel vouchers processed for mobilization of casual firefighters are for a very small sum and normally amount to less than the cost of processing them. In early 2009 the Forest Service (FS) successfully implemented business rules for paying miscellaneous travel expenses for FS casuals off of the OF-288s (working closely with DOI to ensure they were acceptable for all agencies). The FS process has now been in place for three fires seasons with great success. OWFC and the Bureau Incident Business Leads are working with the Office of Financial Management to seek approval for an exemption from GovTrip. If an exemption is approved specific instructions developed by the interagency business leads will be distributed in the 2012 AD Pay Plan.

New: LANDFIRE – Business Leadership Group Meeting. Business and Technical leadership of the LANDFIRE Program will be meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah at the Forest Service – Remote Sensing Applications Center on October 6-9, 2011. Meeting topics that will be addressed include: LANDFIRE 2001/2008 Refresh Completion & Close Out, Geographic Area Reports for areas of the country updated, the next LANDFIRE 2010 update plan (evaluating annual vs. biennial schedule), The Nature Conservancy status report, budget 2013/2014 with future goals and objectives, Technical and Science Progress reports, helpdesk and user support, Gap and LANDFIRE Coordination, and National Landscape Conservation Information Framework.

New: Wildland Fire Management Research Development & Application (WFM RDA) / Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS) - DOI Meeting. DOI bureau and OWFC representatives attended a meeting to coordinate with USDA Forest Service on communications, status, and priorities. The WFM RDA is supporting all 5 federal fire agencies and integrates WFDSS, the National Interagency Fuels, Fire, and Vegetation Technology Transfer (NIFTT), the Rocky Mountain Center providing meteorological services, and potential future Lessons Learned Center.

Update: Wildland Fire Boots. OWFC and Bureau Fire Directors are developing a Department-wide policy covering wildland fire boots. Due to interest by appropriations staff, the draft policy was discussed with bureau fire executives to ensure consistency across all bureau fire programs. A decision was made to provide a yearly stipend to each firefighter. OWFC and Bureau representatives were tasked to develop a draft policy that defines eligibility criteria, stipend amount, and payment mechanism for personnel hired under the Administratively-Determined (AD) authority. A draft DOI wildland fire boot stipend policy was developed and submitted to the Bureau Fire Directors for review and comment. The policy is in the surnaming process now.

Update: Hazardous Fuels Reduction: A Preliminary Program of Work (PPOW) for the Department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 Hazardous Fuels Reduction (HFR) program was proposed to the Interior Fire Executive Council (IFEC) at their meeting/conference call on Monday,

October 3. The PPOW is the result of the analysis of identifying the high priority places to treat with the high priority treatment projects. The PPOW is considered the starting point in determining the final Bureau HFR allocations. Management considerations will be discussed and agreed to by IFEC, and applied to the PPOW. A Final Program of Work (FPOW) and subsequently the Bureau HFR allocations can then be determined.

As of September 26, the DOI Bureaus have completed more than 932,000 acres of HFR treatments in FY 2011. This is a reduction from the 10-year average of approximately 1.2 million acres treated. Final accomplishment will be reported in the National Fire Plan Operations and Reporting System (NFPORS) by the close of business on October 14, and will show additional acres treated. The reduction from the average illustrates the Department's commitment to treat the highest priority areas, illustrating that counting acres is not the sole metric of success.

DOI is planning to emphasize several aspects of the HFR program in FY 2012, including continued efforts to close out recommendations from key Government Accountability Office (GAO) and DOI Office of Inspector General (OIG) reports, and continuing to update NFPORS to make it more useful in the Hazardous Fuels Prioritization and Allocation System (HFPAS) process. A draft memorandum on FY 2012 HFR program emphasis items is currently being evaluated by the Bureaus, soliciting their input and comment.

Update: National Wildland Fire Management Cohesive Strategy - Phase II. The regions identified for the cohesive strategy – West, Northeast and Southeast are in the final steps of completing qualitative report of the region's values, goals, objectives, actions, and activities which are due to the Wildland Fire Executive Council (WFEC) the first week of October. In a parallel path the National Science and Analysis Team (NSAT) will be delivering sub-team reports and models, as the initial work and concepts for Phase III, for the following focus areas: Fuels management, wildfire extent and intensity, Wildfire ignitions and prevention, Smoke, Landscape resilience/restoration, Fire fighter safety, Wildfire response and suppression resource effectiveness, Public safety/property loss & social/community vulnerability, and Public acceptance/policy effectiveness.

BUDGET, FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND ACQUISITION

Office of Acquisition and Property Management

New: Suspension and Debarment Program – Recent Actions. On September 26, 2011, DOI debarred Lawler & Associates Applied Geoscience, also operating as Lawler & Associates (LAA). DOI's action imposes debarment until June 29, 2014; a period coterminous with that previously imposed for the owner, David Lawler. DOI debarred LAA as an affiliate controlled by David Lawler. Mr. Lawler is debarred based upon his 2010 criminal conviction in the United States District Court, upon a guilty plea, on a charge of False Statements in an Official Writing. While employed as a geologist by the DOI Bureau of Land Management, Mr. Lawler knowingly falsified an annual Executive Branch employee Confidential Disclosure of Financial Interests form (OGE 450) to conceal his financial relationship with LAA.

On September 26, 2011, DOI debarred Joseph M. Barnes, Sr. DOI debarred Mr. Barnes based upon his 2011 criminal conviction in the Washington County Superior Court, Machias District, of the State of Maine, upon a guilty plea, on one count of Theft by Authorized Taking or Transfer in violation of Maine State law at 17-A M.R.S.A. § 353 (Class B). Between April 2007 and May 2008 in the course of employment as the Chief of Police of the Pleasant Point Police Department of the Passamaquoddy Tribe in Pleasant Point, Maine, he diverted for personal use over $10,000 in funds belonging to the Passamaquoddy Tribe.

On September 26, 2011, DOI debarred Bai Lin Huang. DOI debarred Mr. Huang based upon his 2010 criminal conviction in the United States District Court, upon a guilty plea, on charges of Making a False Statement; and Smuggling and the Aiding and Abetting thereof. Over the course of several years Huang illegally imported for sale the Asian Arowana fish, a fish designated as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). He knowingly made a false statement to a Fish and Wildlife Inspector in an attempt to conceal the unpermitted illegal importation and that he knowingly imported and caused to be imported into the United States; and received, concealed, bought and sold, merchandise contrary to law, specifically 26 live juvenile Asian Arowana fish.

On September 26, 2011, DOI issued a default suspension determination, continuing the indictment-based suspension of Paul Solofa. Solofa is suspended based upon his 2009 criminal Indictment in Federal District Court on charges of Witness Tampering and Obstruction of Justice. Solofa, an employee of the American Samoa Department of Education (ASDOE), serving in various capacities including Chief Financial Officer, Head of the Business Division, and Head of the School Lunch Program, is alleged to have engaged in witness tampering and obstruction of justice during the course of an investigation into allegation of the giving of bribes and kickbacks in connection with ASDOE purchases of school bus parts and services.

Update: Congressional Follow-up Inquiries Regarding DOI Suspension and Debarment Program. On September 30, 2011, DOI responded to a request from House Oversight Committee staffer Richard Burkhard seeking a breakout the types of discretionary actions taken in terms of the following categories: poor contractor performance (defective product, late deliveries, T4Ds); fraud (false statement, false claim); legal action (indictment, plea agreement, conviction); or other useful categorization. This is a follow-up to the September 22, 2011, meeting between the DOI Debarment Program Manager, representatives from the Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs, Office of Inspector General and staff members of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform to provide information about the elements of DOI's successful debarment program; and to assist the Committee in its consideration of elements that may apply to other agencies for using the debarment remedy effectively.

New: Upcoming Meetings on Real Property Cost Savings Plan and Collocation Opportunities. On October 5, 2011, PAM staff will meet with representatives of USGS to review the USGS Real Property Cost Savings & Innovation Plan. DOI bureaus have submitted their revisions to their Real Property Cost Savings & Innovation Plans, originally developed in

FY 2010, and PAM is meeting with each of the bureaus to review their plans. The objective of the DOI Real Property Cost Savings & Innovation Plan is to reduce costs by reducing the DOI footprint through streamlining its inventory of real property fixed constructed assets; GSA and direct leases; and by promoting increased opportunities for collocation, telework and hoteling. The actions will in turn significantly reduce annual operating and maintenance and deferred maintenance costs for the Department. Bureaus were asked to identify strategies they will implement to attain greater reductions by the end of FY 2012 which will extend beyond those originally identified in FY 2010.

PAM staff will also meet with Pam Haze on October 5 to discuss a potential multi-bureau collocation in Moab, Utah. The collocation opportunity involves NPS, BLM and USGS.

Office of Budget

Update: 2013 Budget Formulation. On September 12, the Secretary transmitted the Department's 2013 budget requesting funding at the 2011 enacted level plus full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The budget, consistent with OMB guidance, presents three funding scenarios including reductions of 5% and 10% from the FY 2011 level, as well as add-backs to a 2011 freeze level. All individual bureau/office budgets were transmitted to OMB, and bureaus are conducting briefings with OMB and responding to questions. The Office of Budget has been working with OMB examiners to provide additional information for their analysis, including revised comparison tables and bureau object class data.

No Change: 2012 Appropriations – Allocations. The debt ceiling compromise sets new caps for discretionary spending in 2012 that will dictate the level for House and Senate negotiations for 2012 appropriations. On September 7, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved its FY 2012 302(b) allocations – these are the allocations to each appropriations subcommittee and are shown below compared to the House budget resolution that was adopted last spring.

FY 2012 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ALLOCATIONS								
Dollars in Millions								
SUBCOMMITTEE	2011 Enacted	2012 President's Budget	House Allocation	Senate Allocation	House Change from 2011	Percent Change	Senate Change from 2011	Percent Change
Agriculture, FDA	19,921	21,983	17,250	19,780	-2,671	-13%	-141	-1%
Commerce, Justice, Science	53,326	57,675	50,237	52,701	-3,089	-6%	-625	-1%
Defense	513,025	538,938	530,025	513,025	17,000	3%	0	0%
Energy and Water	31,682	36,540	30,639	31,625	-1,043	-3%	-57	0%
Financial Service	21,953	26,008	19,895	21,731	-2,058	-9%	-222	-1%
Homeland Security	41,666	43,577	40,592	41,000	-1,074	-3%	-666	-2%
Interior, Environment	29,559	31,291	27,473	29,275	-2,086	-7%	-284	-1%
Labor, HHS, Education	157,434	180,801	139,218	157,134	-18,216	-12%	-300	0%
Legislative Branch	4,541	4,855	4,314	4,307	-227	-5%	-234	-5%
Military Construction, VA	73,150	73,791	72,535	72,532	-615	-1%	-618	-1%
State, Foreign Operations	48,162	50,796	39,569	44,640	-8,593	-18%	-3,522	-7%
Transportation, Housing	55,367	55,927	47,655	55,250	-7,712	-14%	-117	0%
TOTAL	1,049,786	1,122,182	1,019,402	1,043,000	-30,384	-3%	-6,786	-1%

Update: 2012 Appropriations. The House and Senate Appropriations Committees have slowly resumed moving their bills, though there is little expectation that any will be considered on the Floor. Both the House and Senate leadership have committed to completing appropriations before Thanksgiving.

- The House has passed six of its 12 fiscal 2012 spending bills so far including Energy and Water Development, and members considered the still-unfinished Interior-Environment bill (HR 2584) on the floor for several days in July. Four more measures have been approved in House Appropriations Committees or Subcommittees, but have yet to make it to the Floor. The Transportation-HUD bill was marked up in Subcommittee on September 8. The only bill yet to be marked up, the Labor-HHS-Education bill, was publically released in draft form on Thursday, September 29.
- The Senate meanwhile, has passed only one spending measure, the Military Construction-VA bill, and no others have made it to the floor. However, the Senate Appropriations Committee has worked aggressively over the last several weeks to move its bills. On September 7, the Committee approved the Homeland Security, Energy-Water and Agriculture bills, and on September 15, Defense, CJS, Financial Services, Leg Branch, and Labor-HHS were all approved by the Committee. The Interior bill is the only bill yet to be considered.

No Change: 2012 Energy & Water Appropriations. The House passed the Energy and Water Development appropriations bill (HR 2354) on July 15 by a vote of 219 to 196. Reclamation and CUPCA were funded at $934 million, $117 million below the 2012 President's budget. The bill does not include the new Indian Water Rights Settlements account proposed in 2012 to implement the 2011 Claims Resolution Act ($51.5 million). The settlements are funded at $50.6 million within the Water and Related account. Funding is eliminated for San Joaquin restoration, including $9.0 million in discretionary and $66.0 million in mandatory funds. The Energy and Water bill was marked up in the Senate by the Subcommittee on September 6 and the Full

Committee on September 7. Reclamation and CUPCA were funded at $1.067 billion, $27 million below the 2011 enacted level and $133 million above the House-passed level.

No Change: 2012 Interior Appropriations. The House began debate on the Interior Appropriations bill on July 25, but it did not finish consideration before adjourning for August recess. In total, the bill includes $9.9 billion in spending for DOI programs, a reduction in net discretionary of $704.9 million (6.7%) below the FY 2011 enacted level and $1.2 billion below the President's budget request. OMB has issued a Statement of Administration policy on the measure that states: "If the President is presented with a bill that undermines ongoing conservation, public health, and environmental protection efforts through funding limits or restrictions, his senior advisors would recommend he veto the bill."

Office of Financial Management

New: Biennial Reviews of Fee-Funded and Non-Fee Funded Programs. PFM attended a meeting with GAO and PMB to do pre-testing, and to assist GAO in their preparation of an effective survey to collect data regarding OMB required Biennial Reviews of Fee-Funded and Non-Fee Funded Programs.

Update: GAO Exit Conference. PFM attended the GAO exit conference regarding their review of Non-Federal Bio-surveillance. The draft report is expected next week without any recommendations to the Department.

Ongoing: 2011 Annual Financial Report and Audit. Actions for completion of the 2011 annual financial audit and publication of the Annual Financial Report are accelerating. The following timelines depict major milestones in the process for the coming months.

	Complete	Comments
Audit Completion		
	November 15, 2011	
Management Challenges		
	November 11, 2011	
Assurance Statements		
Draft Assurance Statement Review	November 9, 2011	Parallel review by management, Solicitor, and ExecSec
Final Assurance Statement	November 15, 2011	Must be signed as of November 15th
Management Representation Letter		
Draft Letter for Approval	November, 1, 2011	Parallel review by management, Solicitor, and ExecSec
Final Letter	November 15, 2011	Must be signed as of November 15th

Secretary and CFO Letter		
Draft for Review	November 9, 2011	
Final	November 11, 2011	Must be signed as of November 15, 2011
Agency Financial Report		
Draft AFR	October 19, 2011	
AFR Surname	November 11, 2011	Final package due to OMB on November 15.

Update: Internal Control and Audit Follow-Up. PFM is working with the bureaus and offices on their implementation of GAO and OIG audit recommendations. The Department's goal is to complete actions for 85% of the actionable items. The final FY 2011 rate will be determined shortly. As of September 30 the Department-wide rate was about 80 percent. Bureau and office preliminary completion percentages are shown in the right hand column of the following table. Last year we were able to exceed the goal and closed out 90% of the corrective actions.

OIG AND GAO AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS
FY 2011 DEPARTMENTAL PERFORMANCE GOAL FOR CLOSING AUDITS
As of September 30, 2011

					COUNT		WEIGHTED		
BUREAU	Beginning Balance OIG	Additions OIG	Beginning Balance GAO	Additions GAO	TOTAL RECS	IMPLEMENTED	OPEN	IMPLEMENTED	GOAL BASE %
DEPT/OS	16	39	12	6	73	51	64.5	46.0	71%
NBC	2	4	0	0	6	6	5.0	5.0	100%
OST	2	4	0	0	6	5	6.0	5.0	83%
ONRR	4	7	5	1	17	15	13.0	11.0	85%
IA	15	25	3	1	44	33	42.0	31.5	75%
NPS	5	26	5	5	41	35	34.0	28.0	82%
FWS	2	25	1	0	28	25	22.0	19.0	86%
BLM	17	22	18	2	59	45	54.0	40.0	74%
BOEM	3	38	7	0	48	46	49.5	47.5	96%
OSM	0	2	0	0	2	0	2.5	0.0	0%
BOR	0	3	0	1	4	4	4.5	4.5	100%

USGS	1	5	3	0	9	9	8.0	8.0	100%
TOTAL	**67**	**200**	**54**	**16**	**337**	**274**	**305.0**	**245.5**	**80%**

Departmental Annual Performance Goal = 85% (weighted)

While OIG recommendations are weighted .5, 1.0, or 1.5 according to their materiality and/or level of qualification assigned by the auditors, all GAO recommendations have a fixed weight of 1.0.

Office of Planning and Performance Management

No change: Priority (Performance) Goals. The FY 2012-2013 Priority Goals were submitted to OMB with the Department's 2013 budget submission, including renewable energy, water conservation, cooperative landscape conservation, youth employment, safe Indian communities, and improved oversight and management of Federal oil and gas resources. The next quarterly status report on the Priority Goals will include results from the end of FY 2011 and will be conducted in late October/early November.

No change: Annual Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report. PMB met with the bureau representatives on the PMC to discuss the plan for the February 2012 release of the APP and APR and consolidation into one document. Overall, the bureaus all agreed with the consolidation of the two documents and bureaus are expected to bring back ideas to improve the presentation of information in the APP. The PMC will meet in a week to discuss input.

No change: Organizational Assessment. PMB has asked bureaus to provide feedback and ideas for capturing program performance in the 2012 organizational assessment. The organizational assessment, required by OPM for SES performance system certification, is used to gauge SES performance appraisals relative to overall agency performance. The PMC will meet in a week to discuss options.

Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization

New Item: Department Small Business Accomplishment. As of September 30, the Department had awarded 54.26 percent of its contract dollars to small business. This figure is derived from the Federal Procurement Data System, Next Generation (FPDS-NG). There may be a time lag between a contract award and data input into FPDS-NG. For that reason the final numbers for Fiscal Year 2011 will not be available for several more weeks.

New Item: Fiscal Year 2012/2013 Small Business Goal Setting Process. During the week of October 3 the Small Business Administration (SBA) will send federal agencies their proposed goals and agency specific data on derivation of the goals. Goal setting meetings will be conducted during October. The final and agreed upon goals will be established by mid-November.

New Item: House Committee on Contracting and Workforce Hearing. On October 6, the House Committee will hold a hearing entitled "Subpar Subcontracting, Challenges for Small Business Contractors." The committee will focus on problems with laws intended to prevent

pass-through contracts, large contractors not fulfilling subcontracting plans and issues with data systems designed to track subcontracting.

Completed: Minority Enterprise Development Week, Washington, DC. On September 28, Deanna Archuleta represented the Department at the Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week 2011 Conference. The OSDBU represented the Department at the Procurement Exhibition and Matchmaking. MED Week is the largest federally sponsored event in minority enterprise development.

Update: Scheduled Events.

- **October 5: Women-Owned Small Business National Council Fall Meeting,** Washington DC. The U.S. Women's Chamber of Commerce (USWCC) and the National Association of Small Business Contractors are presenting the Women-Owned Small Business National Council Fall Meeting in celebration of the USWCC's tenth anniversary. The OSDBU will represent the Department at this event.

- **October 18: American Express OPEN Government Contracting Program,** Dallas, TX. The OPEN Government Contracting Programs provides an introduction to small businesses where they may "Learn the Basics, Start Contracting and Grow their Business." Seminars are provided around the country. The OSDBU will represent the Department at this event.

- **October 26-30, Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) Conference**, Anaheim, CA. The SHPE conference is the largest Hispanic conference in the Nation. The SHPE has over 10,000 members and 70 professional chapters. The OSDBU will represent the Department at this event.

- **October 30 –November 2, 2011 National Minority Supplier Development Council Conference & Business Opportunity Fair**, Atlanta, GA. The National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC) provides a direct link between corporate America and minority-owned businesses. NMSDC is one of the country's leading business membership organizations. *The* theme for this year's conference is "Minority Businesses and Corporate America: Raising the Bar through Sustainable Strategies." The OSDBU will represent the Department at this event.

<u>FBMS Program Management Office (PMO)</u>

Completed: Financial and Business Management System Deployment 6 Training Pilot Classes. Deployment 6 (D6) Training Pilot Classes were successfully completed on September 23rd. The purpose of the training pilot classes was to give FBMS Program Management Office (PMO) and CompuSearch Inc. instructors and assistant instructors from DO and FWS an opportunity to review the training materials and refine the materials to improvements their flow and accuracy; to ensure the inclusion of DO and FWS specific information; and to collaborate in assessing the effectiveness of the training class exercises. A total of 17 training classes were conducted during a two week period, and each class covered a different business process of

FBMS D6's functionality. The training pilot classes were conducted in FBMS classrooms in Herndon, Virginia; and Denver, Colorado.

Departmental Offices FBMS Implementation Office (OS IMO)

Update: OS IMO "Brown Bag Lunch and Learn." The OS IMO held the second of four "Brown Bag Lunch and Learn" for the OS community on September 26, 2011 in Herndon, VA. Those in attendance had an opportunity to learn more about the Financial and Business Management System (FBMS) and how it will impact their day to day operations within the Office of the Secretary. There are now only **two** opportunities to hear about all things OS FBMS:
· October 5 from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm (MDT) at the Denver Federal Center, Building 20, Ford Room;
· October 6 at 9:00 am -10:30 am (MDT) (Brunch and Learn) and 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm (MDT) (Snack and Learn) at the Denver National Business Center, Building 7401, Room 420.
This is an opportunity to get questions about FBMS answered, learn more about the system and how it will affect you. WebEx and Call in will also be available for those unable to attend in person.

New: The FBMS IMO project Deployment 6 is now in the Final Preparation phase and we are approaching Go-live Training, an important 10-week activity prior to and following FBMS Go-live on November 7.

All FBMS users are required to take training as applicable to their future FBMS roles and pass an assessment(s) in order to obtain system access. We have over ***1100 users*** mapped to FBMS roles, and a total of ***30 training classes*** specific to Office of the Secretary (OS): 17 ILT classes and 13 CBT classes. IMO will assign learning plans and schedule users for classes in the DOI Learn Learning Management System (LMS). Subsequently, users will begin receiving automated emails from DOI Learn identifying them to take various FBMS training based on their assigned learning plans. Additionally, the IMO will provide tailored, course specific communications with critical class related information, so please inform your users to look forward to receiving these various communications from the generic mailbox – OS_FBMS_IMO@ios.doi.gov.

New: Role Mapping for D6 Go-Live is Complete; Integration Testing (Cycle 1 and 2) is Complete; User Acceptance Test (UAT) is Complete; Training Course Reviews are Complete; Pilot Training is Complete!!!

New: Blackout Period began September 26th and will continue through November 6th. OS will be conducting mission-critical business utilizing FFS only. Contract awards will be limited to the maximum extent practicable and emergency payments will be recorded using a separate data load spreadsheet (format to be provided by the PMO)

No change: OS Implementation Office is *Tweeting*! Follow us on Twitter "*@OSFBMS*". This social media forum is an opportunity for our OS community to ask questions, send comments, and learn more about the Deployment 6 Financial & Business Management Systems and the Implementation Management Office.

OFFICE OF NATURAL RESOURCES REVENUE

Office of Natural Resources Revenue

Pending Settlement with ConocoPhillips (New): ConocoPhillips, the Jicarilla Apache Nation, and the Office of Natural Resources Revenue have negotiated a settlement agreement that ONRR sent to the Office of the Solicitor for review. The agreement resolves many longstanding issues between the Department, the Nation, and ConocoPhillips. The settlement also resolves ConocoPhillips' compliance with two Interior Board of Land Appeals decisions. The agreement memorializes ConocoPhillips' $1,600,000 payment of additional royalties to the Nation on May 27, 2011. The payment was made in anticipation of executing an agreement to compensate the Nation for underpaid royalties and reporting errors.

Royalty Simplification – Valuation Regulations (Update): The comment period for the two Advance Notices of Proposed Rulemaking: "Federal Oil and Gas Valuation" and "Federal and Indian Coal Valuation" closed on July 26, 2011. ONRR reviewed the written comments and scheduled public meetings to discuss the comments and solicit further feedback. ONRR published the announcements for the oil and gas and coal public meetings on September 9, 2011, in the Federal Register. In addition, ONRR issued press releases on September 13, 2011, and updated the communications plan. ONRR held Federal oil and gas public meetings in Houston, Texas, and Washington, DC, and Denver, Colorado, September 27 and 29, and October 4, 2011, respectively. Additional public meetings are scheduled for the following dates:

Federal and Indian Coal Public Meetings

- Denver, Colorado October 12, 2011
- St. Louis, Missouri October 18, 2011
- Albuquerque, New Mexico October 20, 2011

Indian Oil Negotiated Rulemaking (No Change): ONRR is in the process of forming a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee (Committee) to address the valuation of crude oil produced from Indian leases. ONRR worked with the Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution and the Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to obtain a third party neutral to serve as facilitator for the Committee. The White House liaison approved the nominees for Committee membership. The Secretary signed a second *Federal Register* Notice of Intent, published August 22, 2011, to establish the Committee and propose the membership. The comment period on this notice expired September 21, 2011. ONRR will now review all comments and prepare the Notice of Establishment and the Indian Oil Valuation Negotiated Rulemaking Charter. The Secretary will need to sign the charter for filing with Congress. The target date for the first meeting of the Committee is January 2012.

Cooperative Agreement Reviews (Update): Staff from the State and Tribal Support office conducts Cooperative Agreement Reviews to enhance our partnership with the States and Tribes and comply with Section H 10 of the 202/205 Agreements and CFR Title 30, Part 227

(Delegation to States) and Part 228 (Cooperative Agreements with Indian Tribes). On a cyclical basis, ONRR is required to conduct attestations to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the Delegations/Agreements. The main areas reviewed include the audit work done under the Agreement, contract costs incurred under the Agreement, special provisions for safeguarding and maintaining work papers, and records developed under the Agreements and equipment. The Wyoming Cooperative Agreement Review will take place October 27-28, 2011.

State and Indian Coordination will present office updates to Oklahoma Indian Tribes on October 13, 2011, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. This presentation is part of a coordinated federal effort initiated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Southern Plains Regional Office. The ONRR is presenting at the invitation of BIA. ONRR will be joining other federal agencies, including BIA, Housing and Urban Development and the Internal Revenue Service in this forum for tribes.

Outreach with Individual Indian Mineral Owners (Ongoing): ONRR continues its outreach with individual Indian mineral owners. These meetings enable us to listen to concerns and suggestions for royalty accounting improvement, answer questions, and identify and resolve mineral-related problems in partnership with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Office of the Special Trustee. ONRR's goal is to enhance our trust responsibility and foster a positive working relationship with the Indian community. ONRR scheduled an outreach session with mineral owners on October 12, 2011, at the Uintah and Ouray Agency, Ft. Duchesne, Utah.

Federal Indian Minerals Office (Farmington, NM) (Update): FIMO has completed its proposed outreach schedule for Fiscal Year 2012 as specified in Interior's settlement agreement with the Shii Shi Kayeh Association, an unincorporated association of Navajo Nation members who own mineral interests in allotted lands on or near the Navajo Reservation and who is the customer base of the FIMO office. Much of the FIMO outreach calendar will support the necessary coordination with Navajo allottees to support the oil and gas lease sale scheduled for February 2012. NEPA analysis to support the sale is underway. Public solicitations for consultation and notices of availability of EA and FONSI, as well as a schedule for distribution of these items, are forthcoming. Presently, about 150 Navajo allotted tracts are to be advertised for the lease sale.

FIMO is preparing for upcoming office relocation in December 2011, which will require records archiving and other organizational preparation. The FIMO Director will be participating in a BIA committee on coordinating Tribal alternative energy projects. This includes BIA and U.S. Department of Energy representatives. Regular conference calls and project tracking spreadsheets have commenced. The FIMO Director attended an Interior Tribal consultation meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico, regarding distribution of funds from the Cobell litigation settlement to the Indian Land Consolidation Act (ILCA) activities to reign in the trend of land fractionation.

From:	Kemkar, Neal
To:	Neal Kemkar (CEQ) (nkemkar@ceq.eop.gov)
Subject:	FW: Bureau Reports
Date:	Friday, September 16, 2011 4:59:27 PM
Attachments:	Bureau Reports 2011.09.16.pdf

From: Anderson, James E
Sent: Friday, September 16, 2011 4:59:19 PM
To: DOI_Politicals
Subject: Bureau Reports
Auto forwarded by a Rule

Good afternoon,

Here are this week's bureau reports. Have a great weekend!

Jamey

James Anderson
Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 208-4591 desk
(202) 257-9542 mobile

Attorney Client Communication – Confidential & Privileged

Office of the Solicitor Weekly Report for the Week of September 19, 2011

Deepwater Horizon Matters

Multi-District Litigation

(b) (5)

Defending Renewable Energy Projects

(b) (5)

Other Matters

Western Oregon Timber

(b) (5)

Grand Canyon Withdrawal

(b) (5)

California Water: Consolidated Delta Smelt Cases

(b) (5)

California Water: Drainage/Takings Litigation

(b) (5)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
THREE WEEK OUT REPORT
September 16, 2011

WEEK AHEAD

Point Reyes National Seashore (CA) – Draft EIS for Drakes Bay Oyster Company Special Use Permit. The Draft EIS will begin a 60-day public comment period on September 23. Congressional briefings, both locally and in Washington, DC, are scheduled for September 22. Four alternatives are analyzed in the Draft EIS. The no-action alternative considers expiration of existing authorizations and subsequent conversion of the area to wilderness. The three action alternatives consider the issuance of a new special use permit to Drakes Bay Oyster Company for a period of 10 years with differing levels of onshore facilities and infrastructure, and offshore operations. A preferred alternative is not identified in the Draft EIS in order to encourage full and objective input from the public on all of the alternatives analyzed. A Notice of Availability will be published in the *Federal Register*. Public meetings are scheduled in October, approximately halfway through the comment period. Local media and Congressional interest will be high.

Padre Island National Seashore (TX) – Beach speed limit environmental assessment. The park expects to complete and submit to the region this month its "finding of no significant impact" (FONSI) document for the EA on its proposal to reduce the beach-driving speed limit from 25 mph to 15 mph on 57 of the park's 61 miles of drivable shoreline. (The remaining 4 miles already are at 15 mph.) The limits would apply March 1 to Labor Day, encompassing the park's busiest use season and sea turtle nesting season. This park is the only public beach on the Texas coast that allows driving above 15 mph. The public comment period on the proposal closed July 25. Most of the 130 individual comments opposed the park plan. (About 2,900 form letters generated by an environmental website favored the lower speed limit.) Representative Blake Farenthold (R-TX), whose district includes the park, has filed a proposed legislative rider that would prohibit use of NPS funds to reduce the speed limit. It has not yet been offered for inclusion in any legislation.

Glacier National Park (MT) – Proposed Columbia Falls aluminum plant power sales agreement/supplemental Environmental Impact Statement. Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) is preparing an EIS supplement for a proposed power sale agreement to Columbia Falls Aluminum Co. (CFAC) to reopen its aluminum smelting plant, which closed a number of years ago. BPA approached the park for comment during scoping since Glacier is located about six miles downwind of the plant. A recent report found that additional CFAC plant contaminants had reached the park. The park's scoping comments ask for monitoring and for pollution control equipment to mitigate smelter emissions. Senator Max Baucus (D-MT) has expressed concern that Glacier has submitted comments outside the scope of the supplement EIS. The supplemental EIS is scheduled to be completed by December.

Wind Cave National Park (SD) – Transfer of former Casey Milliron Ranch. On September 20, the NPS will formally take possession of 5,555 acres that have been held by The

Conservation Fund for over a year pending funding for the NPS to purchase the property. The land acquisition was included in the Fiscal Year 2011 budget at $8.3 million. The Casey family initially approached the NPS in 2000 offering to sell their property; legislation expanding the park's boundary was enacted in late 2005; and the NPS has been working with The Conservation Fund for over 4 years to acquire the property. This acquisition fills the 'keyhole' gap in the park boundary and creates contiguous habitat and recreational connections. The NPS will be scheduling a formal event at a later date to make the public announcement.

ON THE HORIZON

Dinosaur National Monument (CO, UT) – Grand opening of the Quarry Visitor Center and Quarry Exhibit Hall. Secretary Salazar will open the new Quarry Visitor Center on September 28 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The Quarry Exhibit Hall opens to the public the following week on October 4. This will be the first opportunity in five years for visitors to see the famous wall of exposed dinosaur bones, site of the world-renowned Carnegie Quarry, with nearly 1,500 fossils.

Petrified Forest National Park (AZ) – Potash minerals exploration near park boundary. The park is scheduled to meet this week with two of three minerals companies that are considering potash mining in the Holbrook Basin; the park is essentially surrounded by potential potash mining lands. The companies have been drilling test wells outside the park and on some of the adjacent park “new acquisition” lands (authorized by Congress but not yet purchased). Also subject to potential mining is the recently purchased 26,000-acre Hatch Ranch addition to the park. The park owns mineral rights only under lands within the park’s previous boundaries. Surface operations (staging areas, elevators, stockpiles, railroad connections) related to the mining are of concern. The park is working to persuade the companies to locate any such facilities as far away from park boundaries as possible to minimize effects on park resources.

Week Ahead Report
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
January 31, 2011

National Wildlife Refuge System Vision

The Service has been working on an updated vision document for the National Wildlife Refuge System over the past several months. The next draft of the vision document will be ready for release for public review on February 17.

Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Project

A shorebird restoration project at Bandon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge (OR) may be a good project to feature as part of the Secretary's America's Great Outdoors Campaign. The project is nearly complete; one of the last parts of the restoration will be the removal of a dike in September. The Refuge is planning a major media event for the dike removal. This cooperative project included funding from a settlement for natural resource damages as a result of an oil spill off the coast (about $1.6M) for removing fences, filling in drainage ditches, recreating tidal/stream channels and, breaching the dike. ARRA funds were to raise the adjacent highway to prevent flooding and bury a major power line that ran across the property, bringing the total project cost closer to $10M. The project involved multiple partners, including Ducks Unlimited and Federal Highway Administration. Not expected to be controversial.

FWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Service Program Develops Schoolyard Habitat Project Planning Guide

FWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program in the Pacific Southwest Region has developed a new Schoolyard Habitat Project Planning Guide, an important tool which helps teachers and students to create wildlife habitat on school grounds. Projects can range in size from a small native plant garden to multiple acres of wetland habitat with a boardwalk and observation tower, benefiting a variety of migratory birds, fish, mammals, reptiles and insect species. The Schoolyard Habitat Project Planning Guide incorporates the critical thinking and decision making skills that will challenge students in reading, writing, science, mathematics and language arts. The Schoolyard Habitat Program supports FWS in accomplishing its mission by “Working with others to provide meaningful, enjoyable experiences in the outdoors for people of all ages that connect them with nature, foster a conservation ethic, and conserving the nature of America."

Final Environmental Impact Statement to be Released for San Diego County Water Authority Habitat Conservation Plan (CA)

FWS will be publishing a notice in the *Federal Register* on February 4, 2011, announcing availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA). This HCP anticipates covering 64 listed and unlisted species, while accommodating construction projects and routine operations and maintenance activities of the San Diego County Water Authority over the 55-year term of the permit. The HCP covers 992,000 acres in western San Diego County and south-central Riverside County. This issue is not expected to be controversial.

Whooping Crane (LA): Final Rule Establishing a Nonessential Experimental Population in Louisiana
Attempts to establish additional populations in the Rocky Mountains, and also both migratory and non-migratory flocks in the Eastern U.S., have been unsuccessful for a variety of reasons. This final rule establishes a non-migratory flock in Louisiana, in cooperation with the State of Louisiana and many additional partners. FWS anticipates that this location has a greater chance of success. ***Potential issues:*** The states, Flyway Councils and hunting groups prefer that the proposal not result in any area or season closures or other types of hunting restrictions. Specific language is included in the rule that there will be no hunting restrictions. Target for submitting to the *Federal* Register is January 31, 2011.

Wood Bison (Canada): Status Review and Proposed Rule for the Reclassification of Wood Bison from Endangered to Threatened
FWS has drafted a 12-month petition finding and proposed rule to reclassify the wood bison from endangered to threatened. ***Potential issues:*** Because the proposal is to downlist wood bison, controversy over the action should be minimal. FWS is in the midst of rule making for a 10j experimental, non-essential population of wood bison in Alaska. A downlisting should not interfere with that action. This action is not court-ordered; although FWS is currently in litigation regarding the timely publication of the 12-month finding. Target for submitting to the *Federal* Register is January 31, 2011.

Sonoran pronghorn (AZ): Final Rule Establishing a Nonessential Experimental Population in Arizona
Fewer than 600 of the Sonoran subspecies of pronghorn remain in the wild. This rule will facilitate reintroduction of captive bred Sonoran pronghorn into historical habitat in King Valley, Kofa National Wildlife Refuge (Kofa NWR), in Yuma County, and to the Barry M. Goldwater Range – East (BMGR-E), in Maricopa County, in southwestern Arizona. An interdisciplinary Team consisting of agency representatives from FWS, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Marine Corps, and U.S. Army identified these locations for the establishment of the new population(s). ***Potential Issues:*** The use of the non-essential option under 10(j) alleviated most concerns on the part of the military. Only 4 of 28 comments submitted during the public comment period opposed the rule. This action is not court-ordered. Target for submitting to the *Federal Register* is January 31, 2011.

9 Bexar County Invertebrates (TX): Revised Proposed Critical Habitat
FWS is not aware of any specific potential issues related to this proposed critical habitat determination; however, because this action has a litigation history, it is expected that the proceedings will be followed with attention from various conservation groups (including the plaintiffs: Center for Biological Diversity, Citizens Alliance for Smart Expansion, and Aquifer Guardians in Urban Areas) . Target for submitting to the *Federal* Register is February 7, 2011.

5 Utah Plants (UT): 12-month Petition Finding
On July 30, 2007, FWS was petitioned by Wildearth Guardians to consider 206 species for listing under the ESA. This finding addresses five of these species finding two to be not warranted and three to be warranted but precluded. ***Potential issues*:** Historic mining throughout

large portions of these species' ranges has impacted available habitat. Available information suggests that these three species have been affected, are currently affected, or will be affected by mining activities on private and state lands. The anticipated *Federal* Register delivery date is February 18, 2011.

Slickspot Peppergrass (plant) (ID): Proposed Critical Habitat
Based on the best available information, FWS is proposing to designate 60,000 acres of critical habitat for slickspot peppergrass in Idaho. Proposed critical habitat is primarily federally owned (BLM) (49,633 acres), State owned, (4,561 acres), County owned (840 acres), and privately owned lands (2,722 acres). ***Potential issues*:** The State of Idaho filed a lawsuit on November 16, 2009, challenging the listing. No court date has been set. Permittees may be concerned that additional restrictions or requirements may result from critical habitat designation on Federal and State lands. Private landowners may view the proposed designation of critical habitat on their lands as a "takings," and oppose such designation. Target for submitting to the *Federal* Register is February 21, 2011.

Sand Verbena Moth (invertebrate) (WA, British Columbia): 90-day Petition Finding
FWS was petitioned on February 17, 2010, by WildEarth Guardians and the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation, to list the sand verbena moth and designate critical habitat. The draft finds that the petition presents substantial information indicating that listing the sand verbena moth may be warranted, which will initiate a status review for the species. ***Potential Issues*:** At this time, FWS does not anticipate any controversial issues arising from this finding. Target for submitting to the *Federal Register* is February 28, 2011.

Spring Pygmy Sunfish (AL): 90-day Finding
On November 24, 2009, FWS received a petition from the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) and Michael Sandel of the University of Alabama, requesting that the spring pygmy sunfish (*Elassoma alabamae*) be listed as endangered under the Act. Data from studies of the spring pygmy sunfish since the 1970's indicate a decline in this species caused, at least in part, by degradation of water quality and reduction of water quantity. ***Potential issues:*** Approximately 80% of the current range of the species is owned by the Sewell Family in Limestone County, Alabama, and they are aware of the petition. Target for submitting to the *Federal Register* is March 1, 2011.

Thorne's Hairstreak Butterfly (CA): 12-month Finding
Fires in 2003 and 2007 burned the butterfly's habitat. Although many stakeholders may still be concerned that the butterfly should be listed under the ESA, our analysis reveals that the current known range (post-2003 and 2007 fires) is greater in size than the known historical range. Climate change and fire frequency predictions indicate habitat could decline long-term. While uncertainty exists regarding the potential effects of climate change on wildfire and habitat loss, the best available information regarding decreased burn return interval indicates the indirect effects of climate change are not threats. Target for submitting to the *Federal* Register is March 4, 2011.

Chiricahua Leopard Frog (AZ, NM): Proposed Critical Habitat

Approximately 11,136 acres (4,510 hectares) in 40 units are being proposed for designation as critical habitat. All proposed critical habitat units are within the species' historical geographical range in the United States. *Potential issues:* The Arizona Game and Fish Department will likely have concerns with the proposed designation of critical habitat due to inclusion of Peña Blanca Lake, which is a sport fishery. Because this action has a litigation history, we expect that the proceedings will be followed with attention from various conservation groups. Target for submittal to the *Federal Register* is March 8, 2011.

FWS Will Consider Request for Incidental Take of Federally Listed Species by Commercial Wind Energy Developments

In coordination with the Department, FWS is expected to announce our intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on a proposed application for an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) in February. The ITP is being requested by a group of wind energy industry companies formed in 2009, titled the Wind Energy Whooping Crane Action Group. There are approximately 55 candidate, threatened, and endangered species within the planning area of this HCP. Species considered for take coverage include whooping crane and lesser prairie-chicken. The planning area is a 200-mile wide corridor stretching from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico on the Texas coast and is found within North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. There will be a 90 day public comment period. This is anticipated to be highly controversial and have high media interest.

Letter to Element Power regarding Macho Springs Wind Energy Facility, Nutt, New Mexico

FWS has conducted numerous meetings and phone calls with Element Power regarding the construction of the Macho Springs Wind Energy Facility in Nutt, NM, at a site that is a high use area in winter for golden eagles, other raptors, and declining grassland birds, as well as an important golden eagle nesting area. Despite our many contacts with Element Power, the company has refused to relocate the tower construction site, even in light of their consultant's summer surveys which documented 16 potential eagle nests representing several territories within 2 miles of the project. Element Power stopped communicating with the Service in September 2010, has refused to conduct necessary fall/winter bird surveys or to adjust their construction plans, and has not produced a revised ABPP which was promised by October 2010. We believe they have applied the Tier system of the Wind Turbine Advisory Committee recommendations incorrectly or are ignoring the results (which would indicate the project should be abandoned), and are continuing with operations as planned despite the high risk to eagles and other species. The Service sent a letter on January 24, 2011 to Element Power stating that their Avian and Bat Protection Plan (ABPP) to address impacts -- especially to golden eagles -- is inadequate, and urging the company to re-engage with the Service in substantive discussions to reduce the possibility of criminal liability.

LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT
September 18 – September 24, 2011

SENIOR OFFICIALS' ACTIVITIES

ASLM Burke – Attending leadership training in NC all week.
DAS Baca – In the office all week.
DAS Farquhar – (b) (6)

HOT TOPICS

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Renewable Energy

- ***Update:*** **2011 Priority Project List:** *The 2011 Priority Project list, which includes nine solar projects, four wind projects, and five geothermal projects was released on Mar. 8. Of these, seven projects have been approved thus far. Sept. 21, is the target date for submitting to the Washington Office the final decision on the 150-MW Rice Solar Project located in Riverside County, CA. The 484-MW Palen Solar project (CA) is expected to be delayed as the project developer (Solar Trust of America) considers changing the proposed technology from parabolic trough to photovoltaic.*

- ***Update*****: Renewable Energy:** *A revised draft of the ANPR in connection with the solar and wind energy competitive right-of-way rulemaking process was sent to the SOL for review on Sept. 8. The ANPR is expected to be published in Oct. concurrently with the NOA for the supplemental PEIS.*

Transmission

- ***Update:*** **BLM-AZ/NM Southline Transmission Project:** *The Southline Transmission Project proponent, Southline Transmission, L.L.C., will host five informal public meetings in late Sept. to provide project information and solicit input on potential routing alternatives. Meetings will be held in Lordsburg and Deming, NM, and Wilcox, Tucson, and Marana, AZ. The proposed project consists of a new 220-mile, 345kV transmission line in southern AZ and NM and a series of improvements to 130 miles of existing lines in southern AZ. The NOI announcing public scoping meetings and initiating preparation of an EIS is scheduled to be published in the Federal Register in late Sept.*

Fluid Minerals

- ***Update:*** **Hydraulic Fracturing Rulemaking:** Tribal consultation on the rule is tentatively scheduled for Oct. 12, 14, and 17, and a draft letter is being prepared. Consultation meetings with Western Tribes will be held in Farmington, NM, Norman, OK, and Billings, MT. The proposed rule will be submitted to OMB in late Oct.

Congressional

- ***New:*** **Senate Energy Committee Staff Tour of Renewable Energy Sites:** *Staff of the Senate Hearing Committee requested a tour of renewable energy facilities on public lands (existing sites, as well as those under construction) and on lands withdrawn for military use. DAS Baca may accompany the Committee staff on the tour, which is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 28-30. ASLM is coordinating the tour with BLM program leads, policy officials, and BLM State Offices.*

- ***New:*** **BLM-WY Briefing and Atlantic Rim Natural Gas Project Tour:** *On Sept. 20, the BLM-WY Rawlins Field Office will host the field staffs of Reps. Enzi, Barrasso and Lummis on a tour of the Atlantic Rim Natural Gas Project (ARNGP). The ARNGP has been in production for approximately five years with about one- third of the wells developed. Continuous reclamation and watershed enhancement work has been implemented as well resources are exhausted. BLM-WY employees will brief the staff on work progress and examples of effective reclamation and mitigation efforts.*

Wild Horse and Burro

- ***New:*** **Spring Creek Basin Herd Management Area (HMA) Gather:** *From Sept. 15-18, the Spring Creek Basin HMA horse gather is scheduled to remove approximately 60 horses to reach the Appropriate Management Level (AML). The HMA is located southwest of Norwood, CO. The gather is expected to be controversial due to an organized effort to wide dissemination of a film by wild horse advocates that misrepresent the BLM's Wild Horse and Burro program.*

- ***New:*** **BLM-OR Barren Valley Complex Horse Gather:** *From Sept. 10-30, the Barren Valley Complex horse gather is scheduled to remove approximately 650 horses in southeastern OR to reach AML. As of Sept. 12, 46 horses have been gathered, with one horse euthanized due to a non-gather related issue. Fertility control will be administered to mares released back to the HMA.* ***[What is the current WH&B population?]***

- ***New:*** **BLM-CO Piceance-East Douglas HMA Gather:** *From Sept. 20-30, the Piceance-East Douglas HMA gather is scheduled to gather approximately 250 horses. The HMA is located in northwest CO. Adult mares released back into the HMA will be treated with the fertility drug PZP. The gather is anticipated to be controversial.* ***[What is the current WH&B population?]***

- ***Update:*** **BLM-UT Winter Ridge Horse Gather:** *The BLM-UT Vernal Field Office continues gather operations to remove approximately 150 wild horses from the Winter Ridge Herd Area (HA) south of Vernal, UT. As of Sept. 12, 109 horses have been gathered, with two horses euthanized due to non-gather related issues. Due to the historical outbreaks of EIA (a horse disease caused by a retrovirus and transmitted by bloodsucking insects) in the area, all wild horses captured are being tested for presence of EIA. Gather operations are expected to be completed by Sept. 14.* ***[What is the current WH&B population?]***

- ***Update:*** **International Equine Conference in Alexandria, VA:** *From Sept. 26-28, the International Equine Conference, sponsored by the Equine Welfare Alliance (EWA) and Animal Law Coalition will be held in Alexandria, VA. The conference agenda features members of the equine welfare movement who will discuss the political, scientific, and legal implications of current international equine issues. Presentation topics will include: horse slaughter, abuse and neglect, horse racing, wild horses, the BLM's Wild Horse and Burro program, and the Government Accountability Office's 2011 report on horse welfare and equine sanctuaries. BLM's Wild Horse and Burro Program Director will address the conference on Sept. 28.*

Air Quality

- ***New:*** **BLM Air Quality MOU Strategy:** *The MOU calls on designated senior managers from each agency to approve joint and agency-specific implementation plans by Sept. 22. A draft Joint Agency Implementation Plan prepared by a joint agency implementation team (Joint I-Team) and a draft BLM Implementation Plan were circulated to the designated senior managers for review during the week of Aug. 29, with comments due by Sept. 7. The Joint I-Team plans to incorporate comments received in a revised version for the designated senior managers by Sept. 14. The Joint I-Team is also developing four training workshops: webinars for managers, air specialists, and "frontline" staff, and an in-person workshop. A second, "check-in" call among the designated senior managers will be scheduled for late Sept. or early Oct. The BLM also plans to release an IM for the MOU and will assess needs for implementation guidance.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEMRE)

- ***Update:*** **Chukchi Lease Sale 193:** *The SEIS Record of Decision (ROD) is undergoing final surnaming in BOEMRE. It is expected to be submitted for ASLM review the week of Sept. 19. The decision is due to the court no later than Oct. 3.*

- ***Update: Suspension of Operations (SOO) Requests:*** *BOEMRE Gulf of Mexico Office of Production and Development (PD) has received 1,415 SOO requests under Notice-to-Lessees (NTL) No. 2011-N05 generating approximately $2.77 million in fees. As of Sep. 7, approximately 1,111 of these requests were approved and none denied.*

- ***No Change:*** **Next 5-Year OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program:** The next major steps in the 5-year program preparation process are development of the draft EIS and the Proposed Program that should be ready for publication early in Nov. 2011. The planning areas to be analyzed under section 18 for the Proposed Program include the Western and Central Gulf of Mexico (GOM), the portion of the Eastern GOM not under moratorium, and the Beaufort Sea, Chukchi Sea, and Cook Inlet, AK. Scoping comments will be addressed with a robust discussion of the measures the BOEMRE has taken to reduce the risk of an oil spill and improve containment capabilities to mitigate the risks of deepwater drilling rather than treating "No Deepwater Drilling" as an EIS alternative requiring full analysis

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

- ***New:*** **Appalachian Regional Technology Transfer Team (ARTTT) Bi-Annual Meeting:** *The ARTTT is comprised of representatives from the OSM Appalachian Region states (KY, MD, OH, PA, TN, VA, and WV). The next ARTTT meeting will be held on Sept. 20-22 at Stonewall Jackson State Park in Roanoke, WV. Topics to be covered will include coal waste disposal, mine discharge water quality, blasting, stream/wetland mitigation, sediment and rainfall modeling, and OSM technical training programs and technical computing support to States.*

- ***No Change:*** **OSM to Award More Than $200,000 to Assist Kentucky in Digitizing State's Coal Mine Data:** On or about Sept. 16, OSM plans to award KY a $216,00 Science and Technology Grant that will help convert KY's coal mining data into a Geographic Information System (GIS) format. Staff from KY's Department of Natural Resources will use the funds from this GeoMine project to assist them in purchasing workstations and map scanners needed to create a GIS of state coal mining information and to fund the use of five full-time equivalent individuals. The project will continue through Sept. 2012.

WEEK AHEAD – September 18 to September 24, 2011

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Sunday-Tuesday, September 18-20:

- **No Change: BLM-MT BLM Director Economic Rural Tour:** Director Abbey will visit Great Falls, Fort Benton, Judith, Malta, and Lewistown, MT, and the Missouri River Breaks National Monument. While there, he will meet with various stakeholders including county commissioners, Friends of the Missouri Breaks Monument, and representatives from the Missouri River Conservation Districts to discuss the economic importance and value of public lands to rural communities. He will also have interviews with reporters from the *Phillips City News* and the Northern Agricultural Network radio station.

- **No Change: BLM-UT Rocky Mountain ATV Jamboree:** The annual Rocky Mountain ATV Jamboree is scheduled for the week of Sept. 18-24 in Richfield, UT. The BLM and U.S. Forest Service will address participants at the kick-off ceremony to emphasize travel planning efforts and ATV rider ethics in addition to the Stay-On-The-Trail and Leave No Trace programs.

Monday, September 19:

- **No Change: House Oversight Hearing in Colorado:** On Sept. 19, the House Small Business Subcommittee on Agriculture, Energy and Trade plans to hold an oversight field hearing entitled "Are Excessive Energy Regulations Limiting Energy Independence, Killing Jobs, and increasing Prices for Consumers?" BLM-CO State Director Helen Hankins is scheduled to testify. The BLM testimony will focus on recent efforts the BLM

has undertaken in its energy development programs, as well as the broad, positive impact BLM-managed lands have on the National economy and on the economy of small rural communities throughout CO.

Tuesday-Wednesday September 20-21:

- **No Change: BLM MT State Director (SD) to Participate in Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative (GNLCC) Fall Meeting:** BLM-MT State Director Jamie Connell will attend the 2-day GNLCC fall meeting that will bring a variety of partners together to discuss the draft strategic framework of conservation priorities in the northern geographic area, among other topics. The Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative (GNLCC) is an alliance of conservation partners with common landscape conservation goals for building ecosystem resilience. The BLM state directors of Montana-Dakotas, WY and ID are among the partner representatives.

Wednesday, September 21:

- ***New:*** **Secretary of the Interior to Honor BLM Partnership**: *The Secretary will honor the nearly 20 years of collaborative conservation efforts between the BLM-AZ Safford Field Office and the Gila Watershed Partnership (GWP), with the 2011 Partners in Conservation Award, which recognizes exceptional contributions in achieving conservation goals through collaboration and partnering. Jan Holder, Executive Director of the GWP and Chris Morris, Acting Assistant Field Manager for Renewable Resources will receive the award on behalf of the two offices in Washington, D.C.*

- **No Change: BLM-AK State Director to Speak at Alaska Oil & Gas Conference:** The conference is scheduled for Sept. 19-22 in Anchorage, with a keynote address by AK's governor, updates on the gas pipeline projects and the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System, futures of oil and gas, the latest Federal and state environmental policy developments, and offshore oil and gas. AK State Director Bud Cribley will address the conference.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEMRE)

Week of September 18:

- ***Update: U.S. - Mexico Transboundary Reservoirs Issues:*** *The schedule for the U.S. and Mexico negotiations are as follows: week of Sept. 19, Mexico City, Mexico; week of Oct. 17, Washington, D.C.; week of Nov. 14, Mexico City, Mexico. On Sep. 21 a workshop with Mexico, BOEMRE and U.S. industry will proceed negotiations. A representative for US industry is being considered for future negotiations as observer status. Both countries seek to have a final, mutually agreed to document created by the end of 2011.*

Monday September 19:

- ***Update: RI and MA Call for Information and Nominations (Call) and Notice of Intent (NOI) to Prepare and Environmental Assessment (EA):*** *The RI and MA Call and NOI to prepare an EA were published in the Federal Register on Aug. 18. The Call and NOI are open for 45-day public comment period, which closes on Oct. 3. The schedule for the public information meetings is as follows: Narragansett, RI (Sept. 19), New Bedford, MA (Sept. 20), and*

Martha's Vineyard, MA (Sept. 21). Staff will hold informational meetings with tribes and various stakeholder groups to discuss the Call area.

- ***No Change:*** **BOEMRE/Industry Workshop on the Reorganization:** BOEMRE will hold a technical workshop in New Orleans to discuss the reorganization and the steps we have taken to ensure a continuity of operations. The New Orleans workshop will offer breakout discussions to walk through the details of how BOEM and BSEE will handle processes that involve both bureaus, including exploration and development plans and permits, enforcement and inspections, and environmental review, including the NEPA process.

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

Monday, September 19:

- ***No Change:*** **OSM to Award Partial Administration and Enforcement Funding to Alabama, Arkansas, Indiana, and Mississippi:** On Sept. 19, OSM plans to award $128,490 to provide 30 days of funding for the FY 2012 Alabama coal regulatory program administration and enforcement (A&E) grant. On the same date, OSM plans to award $12,300 to provide 30 days of funding for the FY 2012 Arkansas coal regulatory program A&E grant. OSM also plans to award $171,750 to provide 30 days of funding for the FY 2012 Indiana coal regulatory program A&E grant. In addition, OSM plans to award $17,970 to provide 30 days of funding for the FY 2012 Mississippi coal regulatory program On Sept. 19, OSM plans to award $128,490 to provide 30 days of funding for the FY 2012 Alabama coal regulatory program administration and enforcement (A&E) grant. On the same date, OSM plans to award $12,300 to provide 30 days of funding for the FY 2012 Arkansas coal regulatory program A&E grant. OSM also plans to award $171,750 to provide 30 days of funding for the FY 2012 Indiana coal regulatory program A&E grant. In addition, OSM plans to award $17,970 to provide 30 days of funding for the FY 2012 Mississippi coal regulatory program.

WEEKS AHEAD

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Friday, October 7:

- ***New:*** **BLM-MT Participating in Small Business Workshop:** *BLM-Montana/Dakotas will present information on possible contracts for local businesses in a small business opportunity workshop in Butte, MT, which will be hosted by Sen. Tester. The event will focus on helping MT's small businesses learn more about procurement and contracting opportunities with the Federal government.*

Thursday, October 13:

- ***Update:*** **BLM National Wild Horse and Burro (WH&B) Advisory Board to Meet:** *The BLM WH&B Advisory Board will meet in Arlington, VA to discuss issues relating to the management, protection, and control of wild horses and burros on Western public rangelands. The Advisory Board provides input and advice to the BLM as it carries out*

responsibilities under the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act. The BLM is working with DOI Communications to provide live coverage of the event via a webcast.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEMRE)

Week of September 25:

- ***No Change:*** **Reorganization of 30 CFR Direct Final Rule**: This rule, to split existing BOEMRE regulations between BOEM and BSEE was delivered to the *Federal Register* on Aug. 29 and will take about four weeks to review before publishing. The estimated publishing date is late Sept. 2011.

Tuesday, September 27:

- ***New:*** **New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC) Meeting**: *BOEMRE will provide NEFMC with an update on the offshore wind energy program in the Atlantic concentrating on soliciting feedback on the RI/MA Area of Mutual Interest which has open comment periods on the Call for Information and Nominations and the NOI to Prepare an EA.*

- **No Change: BOEMRE/NC OCS Renewable Energy Task Force:** The Task Force meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held in Manteo, NC to discuss the options available within the leasing planning process for several potential wind energy development areas off the NC coast as well as potential data gaps and how to structure the information gathering process. The meeting may have to be rescheduled or relocated due to damage to the meeting facility from Hurricane Irene.

Tuesday-Wednesday, October 4-5:

- ***New: International Regulators Forum (IRF) Summit Conference 2011:*** *BSEE Regional Director Lars Herbst and BSEE District Operations Regional Supervisor Mike Saucier will attend the International Regulators Forum (IRF) Summit Conference in Stavanger, Norway.*

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

Sunday-Wednesday, September 25-28:

- ***New:*** **Ohio River Basin Alliance (ORBA) Meeting:** *The ORBA is a collaboration of over 70 partner agencies, groups, and associations that includes state, local and Federal governments, non-profit entities and non-governmental organizations, industrial partners, and academic institutions that voluntarily work together to discuss their collective interest in the future of water resources in the Ohio River Basin. This year's annual meeting will take place in Huntington, WV as a joint session with the Ohio River Basin Consortium for Research and Education. The meeting features addresses by academic, congressional, and industry leaders, watershed groups, and government officials; and scientific presentations on water availability/management, sustainability, restoration/protection, climate change, Marcellus Shale development, coal mining issues, and navigation/transportation. OSM has participated in these meetings since the group's inception.*

Wednesday – Thursday September 28-29:

- ***New:*** **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 3 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Annual States Coal Mining Meeting:** *Representatives from agencies in the Appalachian coalfield States of MD, PA, VA, and WV will gather in Morgantown, WV to discuss water quality issues related to surface and underground coal mining operations. This annual meeting involves state and Federal regulators responsible for implementing the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 402 National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. Topics to be discussed at the meeting will include the July 2011 EPA "Guidance to Protect Water Quality in Appalachian Communities from Impacts of Mountaintop Mining;" predicting water quality impacts for proposed coal mining projects; dealing with mining operation water quality monitoring reports; and EPA individual permit reviews in conjunction with CWA Section 404 dredge and fill permits issued by the Corps of Engineers.*

Weekly Report
September 16, 2011

Memorandum

To: Meghan Conklin
Associate Deputy Secretary

From: Anne J. Castle
Assistant Secretary for Water and Science

Subject: Weekly Meeting Issues

Senior Officials' Activities September 12-16:
Anne Castle – Sept 19-21 in DC; Sept 22-23, in Sante Fe, NM, speaking at Colorado River Symposium. Hosting White House business roundtable talking about the American Jobs Act in Albuquerque on Sept. 22. Participating in the Partners in Conservation Award activities on Sept 21. Sept 26-30 in DC.
John Tubbs – Sept 19-21 in DC; (b) (6) ; Sept 26-30 in DC.
Lori Caramanian – Sept 19-30 in DC.
Tanya Trujillo – Sept 19-30 in DC.
Marcia McNutt—Sept. 19-21, Kona, Hawaii, Keynote Presentation, MTS/IEEE Oceans'11 Conference; visit USGS Hawaii Volcano Observatory, including Kilauea Field Station; Sept 22-23, in Flint Hills, Kansas. Sept 26-28, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, Massachusetts, for the Visiting Scholar Program; 9-29-30, in Reston/DC.
Mike Connor – Sept. 17, Elwha Dam River Restoration in Seattle, WA; Sept. 18, Yakima Project; Sept. 19, in San Francisco with the Secretary at the Commonwealth Club, California water meeting w/Deputy Secretary David Hayes, and Contra Costa Water District. Sept. 20, Sacramento; Sept. 21, Santa Fe, NM, IBWC meeting and Colorado River Symposium. Sept. 22, Keynote Fall 2010 Meeting-New Mexico Section of ASCE; Sept. 23-26 in DC. Sept 27-29 in NM Aamodt settlement, Middle Rio Grande, and meeting with Rio Grande Project parties. Oct. 1 Lake Mead, NV to participate in a CAST event.

Bureau of Reclamation

Crow Tribe Water Rights Settlement (Montana)
On September 13, Reclamation and the Crow Tribe held a signing ceremony to execute a P.L. 93-638 contract for the Crow Irrigation Project rehabilitation and improvement. With the agreement, rehabilitation of the Lodge Grass Diversion Dams is targeted to start in November 2011 and the Reno Diversion Dam construction is targeted to begin in Fall 2012. Rehabilitation of the Crow Irrigation Project is part of the implementation of the Crow Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act (P.L. 111-291, Title IV), enacted on December 8, 2010.

Official Ceremony on September 17, 2011 to Commemorate the Beginning of Dam Removal on the Elwha River (Washington)
Reclamation's Commissioner Michael Connor will join the Secretary and the Assistant Secretary for Water and Science at a September 17, 2011 ceremony in Port Angeles, Washington to commemorate the Elwha River Restoration project and the beginning of the nation's largest dam removal to date. Reclamation has provided technical assistance to the National Park Service leading toward the upcoming removal of the 108-foot high Elwha Dam, built in 1913, and the 210-foot high Glines Canyon Dam, built in 1927. The dam removal project will allow salmon and other fish to access more than 70 miles of protected habitat within Olympic National Park.

Release of Draft Appraisal Study for the Lower Clearwater Exchange Project (Idaho)
Reclamation has received the Draft Appraisal Study (Draft Study) for the Lower Clearwater Exchange Project (LCEP) and will prepare a final report and recommendations based on the Draft Study and public input. The Draft Study was prepared by stakeholders including Lewiston Orchards Irrigation District (LOID), the Nez Perce Tribe, the Lewiston Chamber of Commerce, the City of Lewiston, and Nez Perce County, to identify a reliable water supply for LOID. This work may lead toward resolution of Endangered Species Act and Federal-Tribal trust issues surrounding Reclamation's Lewiston Orchards Project. The Draft Study was supported by $228,784 provided from Reclamation's Rural Water Supply Program in 2010. LCEP stakeholders intend to apply for continued assistance to complete a feasibility study and environmental documentation necessary to select a preferred alternative for a water supply to replace the existing LOID system.

Reclamation to Meet with the IBWC Regarding Operations of the Rio Grande Project (Texas and New Mexico)
On September 21, 2011, Reclamation's Albuquerque Area Office, El Paso Field Division, will meet with the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) in El Paso, Texas, to discuss allocations and operations of the Rio Grande Project in relation to the 1906 treaty with Mexico. Reclamation continues to work closely with the IBWC regarding project operations that were recently contested by the State of New Mexico in a lawsuit filed against Reclamation.

Op-Ed about Rio Grande Project Litigation (New Mexico, Texas)
The El Paso County Water Improvement District #1 has come out in support of Reclamation in an op-ed by General Manager Jesus Reyes, that appeared in the September 13 *Santa Fe New Mexican* regarding a lawsuit filed by the state of New Mexico over operations of the Rio Grande Project. The op-ed addresses specific inaccuracies stated by New Mexico Attorney General Gary King in his recent op-ed published in the *El Defensor Chieftan*, a small weekly newspaper in Socorro, N.M., and other recent public and press statements that accused Reclamation of unilaterally re-classifying New Mexico's water to benefit Texas. Reyes' op-ed is expected to appear in other New Mexico and west Texas newspapers.

Rio Vista Estuarine Research Station and Fish Technology Center (California)
Reclamation's Mid-Pacific Region is processing an interagency agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to support planning study efforts on the Rio Vista Estuarine Research Station (RVERS) and Fish Technology Center (FTC). This interagency agreement will allow the FWS to work with the California Department of Water Resources to conduct planning studies including environmental review for facilities that will consolidate scientific activities in one location in the California Bay-Delta. The FTC will include a refugium for delta smelt and ultimately a hatchery facility for rearing of special status species in the Bay-Delta. The interagency agreement for $3 million is expected to be in place by September 30.

US Geological Survey

Nutrient Conditions and Sources in the United States Pacific Northwest: New SPAtially Referenced Regression On Watershed attributes (SPARROW) models were developed for the Pacific Northwest region to estimate nutrient loads in streams and identify sources of those loads. Due to the absence of widespread anthropogenic sources of nutrients in the Pacific Northwest region, background sources were often the dominant source of nutrients to streams. On average, runoff from forested areas was the dominant source (51 percent) of nitrogen to streams, and weathering of geologic material was the dominant source (84 percent) of phosphorus. However, anthropogenic sources such as wastewater effluent, urban runoff, and agricultural activities contributed most of the nutrient load ultimately discharged from many of the largest watersheds. An article describing this study has been published online in the Journal of the American Water Resources Association. The modeling results are available through a new Decision Support System that allows the user to display maps of the model predictions, relate upstream sources to downstream loads and test potential management scenarios.

USGS to Release Report on Tidewater Calving Glaciers: USGS is co-author of an upcoming article in the American Geophysical Union publication *EOS* about the health of tidewater calving glaciers (TWGs) cyclic behavior in relationship to ocean dynamics. The original identification of cyclic behavior in TWGs was made in Alaska, where present-day examples of each phase of the cycle (advance, retreat, transition) exist among the more than 50 TWGs draining Alaska's coastal mountains. The article entitled "A Complex Relationship Between Calving Glaciers and Climate" highlights the close ties and strong feedbacks among glaciological atmospheric and oceanographic processes. As quantitative understanding improves, so will our ability to understand and forecast the evolution of these systems in a warming climate and their role in related socioeconomic issues, especially sea level rise.

USGS Study to Assess Fuel Loads and Restoration in Sagebrush Habitats: When invasive annual plants die, they create fine fuels that have increased wildfire frequency in the sagebrush habitats of the Great Basin. Land managers have invested considerable funding to decrease fuel loads, using techniques such as grazing, mowing, herbicides, and seeding with native species, yet little information is available about how such restoration activity has influenced fuel loads. USGS scientists are developing a new approach to better quantify and predict fuel loads and the effects of fuel manipulations in sagebrush habitats. The scientists will develop accurate assessments of fuel loads, compare the efficiency of commonly used restoration treatments, and use remotely sensed data to assess fuels and provide large-scale assessments of fuel conditions.

The assessments will help land managers and fire scientists to predict fire risk, assess effects of management activities on fuel loads and native species, and assess short- and long-range fire effects.

Assessing Trace Metal Loading to Selected Streams in Idaho's Stibnite Mining District: Continuing efforts to remediate the historic Stibnite mining district in central Idaho will depend on understanding the location and magnitude of trace metal loading to the streams draining the area. The USGS, in cooperation with the Idaho Department of Lands and Midas Gold Company, is conducting a tracer-injection study on the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River near the town of Yellow Pine. A team of USGS scientists from Idaho, Utah, and Colorado will inject an ionic sodium-bromide tracer to the river and conduct detailed synoptic sampling during the week of September 19. They will then analyze the synoptic data with a solute-transport model to simulate ambient water-quality conditions, evaluate loading to discrete stream reaches, and simulate the effects of hypothetical remediation scenarios on water quality.

Media: USGS Structural Engineer Nicholas "Nicco" Lucco to be Featured in Upcoming Edition of The Washington Post's Federal Player Profile: USGS structural engineer Nicholas "Nicco" Luco will be featured in an upcoming edition of *The Washington Post's* online Federal Player profile, date of publication unknown. The Federal Player is a weekly series that profiles little known Federal workers who have left a big impact. Additionally, this employee will also be featured in "Federal Face," a new print feature that spotlights Federal employees who make a difference, which runs Tuesdays on *The Washington Post's* Federal Worker page.

Media: FOX News Interview on Climate Change: Fox News is interviewing USGS scientist Virginia Burkett on September 8 regarding climate change in the south central region. This is part of a series on the fires in Texas. Air date currently unknown.

Media: The Associated Press Working on Story about Early Earthquake Warning: Alicia Chang of the Associated Press interviewed Dr. David Applegate, Associate Director for the Hazards Mission Area, for a story she is writing about early earthquake warning. Ms. Chang also requested and was provided with a copy of Dr. McNutt's budget testimony from March 17, 2011. Publication date of article is unknown.

Media: National Geographic Highlights USGS Forest Fire Research: On Sept. 6, USGS ecologist Michael Adams provided information about amphibians to *National Geographic*, for filming a story about the effects of fire in boreal forests.

Memorandum

To: Chief of Staff

From: Chief of Staff, Indian Affairs

Subject: Indian Affairs Weekly Look Ahead Update

FOCUS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2011

INDIAN AFFAIRS

Government to Government

- *Tribal Consultation:* The Director, BIA, will be attending the third Tribal consultation on the Cobell Settlement land consolidation program on September 29-30, 2011 in Phoenix, AZ.

- The Office of Federal Acknowledgement (OFA) staff continues to work on the following cases:

  [1] Petitioner #5, Piro-Manso-Tiwa Indian Tribe, NM – Action on the recommended PF is due on or before October 17, 2011.
  [2] Petitioner #119b, Meherrin Tribe, NC – Active consideration began on November 1, 2010. The PF is projected to be due on or before November 1, 2011.
  [3] Petitioner #82, Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation, CA – Active consideration began on November 1, 2010. Deadline for providing any new evidence for consideration for the PF was February 10, 2011. Peer review is set for September 19, 2011. Draft is projected to be distributed to SOL and ASIA on September 29, 2011. The PF is projected to be due on or before November 1, 2011.
  [4] Petitioner #84a, Juaneno Band of Mission Indians, CA –IBIA ordered critical documents and list to be transmitted on or before September 30, 2011.
  [5] Petitioner #288, Choctaw Nation of Florida, FL – The Department issued the Federal Register (FD) on April 21, 2011. The FD notice was published on April 27, 2011. The petitioner filed a timely request for reconsideration before the IBIA on July 19, 2011. The Interior Board of Indian Appeals (IBIA) ordered critical documents and list to be transmitted on or before November 21, 2011
  [6] Petitioner #31, Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana filed a request for reconsideration before the IBIA on February 1, 2010. At IBIA's request, OFA provided copies of critical documents in May 27, 2010. The IBIA has issued a briefing schedule for interested parties to file briefs in July 23, 2010, and the Little Shell petitioner to file a reply brief in August 27, 2010. All briefing in the matter before the IBIA was complete at the end of August 2010. On February 16, 2011, the IBIA informed the Office of the Solicitor that the matter is ready for a decision.

Muscogee Nation of Florida (Petitioner #32) - OFA conducted an initial peer review session for Petitioner #32 on August 24, 2011. This group is on the "Ready, Waiting for Active Consideration" list and OFA will notify the petitioner mid-September that it will be placed on "Active Consideration." Petitioner #32 will have 60 days to provide any new evidence that the Department will consider for the proposed finding.

Central Band of Cherokee, TN (Petitioner #227) - OFA conducted a peer review session for Petitioner #227 on August 24, 2011, to discuss when to start the response period for the group known as the Petitioner #227. The peers advised that the OFA team needs to provide Petitioner #227 with copies of comments that the former leader of the group submitted during the comment period. Petitioner #227 will then have 60 days to respond to these comments.

Healthy and Safe Communities

- *HPPG:* BIA has selected the Rosebud Sioux Tribe and the San Carlos Apache Tribe as the two next HPPG sites. BIA's Office of Justice Services (OJS) has scheduled meetings with the elected Tribal leaders to discuss to discuss next steps. The OJS is conducting a baseline analysis of violent crime; staffing and Tribal programs that will support the community oriented policing in the development of crime reduction strategies for these two locations.

- *Emergency Management:* The DBIA completed a briefing for the Deputy Secretary on September 7, 2011 on the action plan that addressed the recommendations in the DOI expert study of emergency management. BIA has implemented the action plan to address: Federal and State roles and responsibilities, organizational disconnects, the prioritization of training and the development of a handbook. This exercise will assist in the identification of potential gaps in disaster assistance to Tribal Nations. BIA will provide an additional follow-up briefing to illustrate best practices, potential gaps in disaster assistance and opportunities to leverage the advocacy role of the Secretary to our federal partners.

- *Tribal Law and Order Acct (TLOA):* On September 22, 2011 the Senate Committee Indian Affairs has scheduled a hearing on TLOA one year after. The hearing will be attended by the Assistant Secretary and the OJS Deputy Bureau Director. The BIA has completed all of the required reporting deadlines required under the TLOA.

- *Homeland Security*:
  - Earthquake Preparation and Exercises**:** OHSES and BIA representatives coordinated in planning for Evergreen Quake 2012 (WA/OR) and disseminated information to Tribes, encouraging those at risk for quakes and tsunamis to participate in the training.

  - Emergency Management Training Efforts: OHSES met with the Regional Director and Deputy Regional Director of the BIA Northwest Region (NWR) to discuss All-Employee training as required by OSHA regulations and DOI/BIA policy. Information was made available for free on-line training of Emergency Management Team / COOP Emergency Relocation Group (EMT/ERG) and Incident Management Team (IMT) members to meet NIMS/ICS requirements. OHSES will be presenting Environmental Safeguards Plan (ESP) annual required refresher training (per DOI/BIA policy) and All-Employee HazMat 1st Responder Awareness (FRA) required annual refresher training

(per OHSA regulations) to NWRO employees over the next few weeks. The full four hour FRA course is installed on the NWR shared drive and available to all employees. This information and these programs have been disseminated to all BIA Regions in the past and is available through OHSES at any time. Additionally, OHSES discussed with management the need for GETS and WPS priority and other communications, emergency equipment and supply procurement, and the need for annual emergency planning and exercising/testing. These meetings and training are in preparation for such training at Regional offices nationwide.

- GETS/WPS – Government Emergency Telecommunication System/Wireless Priority System: BIA/BIE employees, especially EMT/COOP-ERG/IMT members, were reminded to test GETS/WPS capabilities following the earthquakes, storms and flooding recently. Many subscribers were unable to make successful GETS calls because of dialing errors, such as entering the wrong GETS card number (PIN), or destination number, or abandoning calls too quickly. Communications in Emergencies is critical.

- "Send-Word-Now" (SWN): The 'Send-Word-Now' system was exercised after some challenges in getting Alert messages through during the recent eathquake and hurricane in the WDC area. Information has been disseminated regarding the expeditious sending of 'pre-scripted' messages using Quick Alerts, and obtaining passwords for such use. Employees, especially EMT/COOP ERG members, were asked to update their 'Send-Word-Now' individual profiles and to assure that not only their office phones, fax and emails were in the system, but also their contact information for times they are not in their offices. This is critical to DOI-ASIA-BIA/BIE being able to quickly report the status of all employees during and after an indent, through the use of Reply code feed-back databases which can quickly document each employees reply (OK, Need Help, At Home, On Travel, etc.), and to transmit emergency phone numbers so that employees can call in to report status, needs, and make themselves available to respond. Send-Word-Now' Administrators were also reminded that they must 'Accept' their employees' profile updates after they are made within a short period of time, or they will not be saved in the system.

- Hurricane Season Preparation: ASIA-OHSES has no outstanding requests for assistance or reports of unmet needs from the Tribes and continues to coordinate with the BIA Regional Offices regarding preparation for Hurricane Katia and to disseminate to BIA Regions and Tribes pre-emergency planning, contact information, and disaster recovery assistance information in anticipation/preparation for hurricanes and other severe weather events. Katia appears to be tracking off the eastern coast, but New England may experience additional rain further impacting previously flooded Tribes and reservations. Coordination between OHSES and FEMA/IHS/SAMHSA/Corps of Engineers and other agencies/offices is ongoing. The reports from Tribes to the BIA Eastern Region indicate that all of the Federally recognized Tribes in Hurricane Irene's path experienced impacts and the Tribes are in the recovery phase.

- Flooding: OHSES, BIA & USACE Flood Fight: OHSES continues to participate in Missouri Flood Fight conference calls over the last 113 days and additionally for more than a month prior in conference calls and coordination for the lower Mississippi River Flooding, following up on questions and concerns that affect Indian Country. Lower Mississippi River area was impacted by up to 12 inches of rain from Tropical Storm Lee

this week. No un-met needs are reported from the either the Missouri River or Lower Mississippi flooding.

BIA Great Plains Region reports: No large storm events occurred in the Region for the past week. Drying conditions are now increasing the wildland fire activity. High water continues to be a concern for the Reservations along the Missouri River: Fort Berthold, Standing Rock, Cheyenne River, Lower Brule, Crow Creek, Yankton, Winnebago, and Omaha. The Corp is gradually slowing releases from the Missouri River dams. Flooding problems continue for the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate on Lake Traverse Reservation. Water levels will continue to be high for quite until warm and dryer weather occurs. Roads are closed, or proposed to be closed, due to flooding in several areas throughout the Region. Northeastern South Dakota has been recently hit with heavy rains causing additional problems. Numerous communities continue to be impacted by flooding. Numerous homes have been impacted by flooding and wet basements. Mold is a problem. Approximately 75 individuals have been displaced so far this year due to flooding. Regional Office, agencies, and tribes are coordinating flooding and clean-up activities. Ring Thunder dam continues to be monitored in accordance with the Emergency Action Plan – Level 1 status because of observed seepage on Rosebud Reservation. Indian Scout Dam on the Rosebud Reservation experienced a small slide on the downstream left abutment due to runoff from rainstorms. No serious problems are expected but the dam is being monitored closely.

Tribal concerns continue include the time it will take for the lands to dry, and their ability to get lands back in shape for planting next years' corps. There appears to be the potential for losing two years' crops in some areas. Additional concerns include the need to dry roads and road beds beneath them, and repair roads, prior to freezing weather, the need to repair/rebuild houses lost, and the potential for wet land breeding of mosquitoes and other insects that may spread diseases. All tribes are reported in Recovery Phase operations.

- Fires from Lightning Strikes: The Warm Springs Reservation, Oregon, has several fires burning in Great Basin Scrub and Grasslands, with some timber involvement in and around the Reservation. No fatalities, injuries, or structures lost are reported. the High Cascades Complex (of many fires) has burned over 90,000 acres (141 square miles). A mandatory evacuation remains in effect for 15 residences of the Sidwalter neighborhood near the Powerline Fire. A pre-evacuation notice is also in effect for an additional 27 residences in that area and 3 residences in the Dry Hollow area as well as 19 homes in the Seekseequa, due to the West Hills Fire. No homes have been lost and only one outbuilding has been burned as firefighters aggressively defended structures on multiple fire fronts. The High Cascades Complex is now being managed cooperatively by the Oregon and California (ORCA) Interagency Incident Management Team (IMT), Blue Mountains Interagency Incident Management Team, and the Oregon State Fire Marshal's (OSFM) Red Team, and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. ORCA is managing the Razorback, Powerline, and West Hills Fires in unified command with OSFM Red Team, which includes many structural protection firefighting Strike Teams protecting homes. The Blue Mountain IMT will manage fires burning on the western portion of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation, allowing Warm Springs Agency fire management personnel to resume initial attack responsibilities. The eight structure-protection Task Forces are being managed by the OSFM Red Team consist of

firefighters assembled under mutual aid agreement from city and rural fire departments from the following counties: Clackamas, Hood River, Washington, Marion, Linn, Lane, Columbia, and Yamhill.

The NWRO Director, a Deputy Director, and the Regional Fire Management Officer, took a reconnaissance flight over the fires, and met with the Tribe on August 30. All agencies in this complex Unified Command are working well together. Drier and hotter weather is expected over the Labor Day weekend. Total People (Firefighters, Overhead, etc.) involved was 1,682 on 9/1/11, with 4 Helicopters, and 114 Fire Engines on the incident. Suppression costs have exceeded $5 million.

- Monthly Tribal Assistance Coordination Group (TAC-G) Conference Call/Meeting**:** OHSES participated in the monthly meeting/call over 18 interagency and Tribal representatives attending. Topics included review of incidents in progress, or in Recovery Phase, including challenges and lessons learned. In progress are challenges to obtain enforcement/protection on Federal lands with exclusive jurisdiction, and ongoing efforts to improve interoperable communications with tribal radio links statewide in Nevada, Arizona, and California. OHSES offered to coordinate inter-tribal cooperative exchanges between those in the states working on these issues and will invite Tribes in other states to participate

- COOP Activation: On September 8, 2011, OHSES along with other DOI Bureau's traveled to Site C and stood up COOP operation during the President's speech on Jobs. Since the event brought together the majority of the leadership of the Government, the White House increased the readiness level to ensure readiness in the event of a threat to the Federal Government. DOI was asked to respond in the same manner as during the State of the Union which requires Federal alternate sites and capabilities be "warmed up" by an advanced team to ensure they are prepared to receive the full COOP team if necessary.

- Conference Call: On September 8, 2011, OHSES officials participated in the weekly conference call regarding the "State of the Southwest Border and Effects of the Arizona Surge". The State of the Border PowerPoint and NDIC Maps were provide and were shared with Tribal programs.

.**Organizational Improvement**

- *Administration Assessment:* The contractor, the Bronner Group, has submitted its Task 1 Report for review by the DOI/IA team. The main theme throughout the report is failure to properly plan and transition the original realignment of administrative functions and the lack of communication then and today. The team will provide its position on whether to accept the report. The draft of the report for Task 2 has been received and is under review by the team. This report provides Bronner's recommendations; the Task 1 report documented the research Bronner had accomplished prior to Task 2. Additionally, the contract's duration has been extended to the end of October, 2011, to allow for flex time to schedule the final presentation to DOI/IA team members on its final report. The extension was to allow for conflicting schedules to be accommodated within Interior.

- *Administrative Backlogs*: Continuing the effort to complete a goal in the Indian Affairs Corrective Action Plan for OIG Backlog Reports, to date approximately 1,400 managers and

supervisors have attended the training. A sixth, and final, Management Symposium was held on September 14-15 in Minneapolis, MN for those managers who have extraordinary scheduling conflicts which precluded their attendance at previous scheduled Symposiums. BIA, DASM and DAS-PED organizations have eliminated their OIG administrative referral backlogs.

Education

- Associate Deputy Director-West Bart Stevens continued his work with schools and the preparation for the roll out of the Coach Across America initiative. Six schools have been identified and this activity is moving forward with Physical Education personnel within the following schools: Bread Springs Day School – NM, Wa He Lut School – WA, Turtle Mountain Elementary School - ND - Seba Delkai Boarding School - AZ - Tiospaye Topa School – SD -(Pending) Rocky Ridge Boarding School – AZ. He is working with COA and Human Resources to address background clearance issues.
- Associate Deputy Director, Division of Performance and Accountability (DPA), Dr. Jeff Hamley attended a Closing the Achievement Gap meeting of DPA staff. The focus of the meeting was on how to work cooperatively to improve achievement among Special Education students. The meeting was facilitated by Mr. Wayne Ball, from the Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center. Part of the discussion highlighted the dilemma of isolating achievement data for Special Education students within the Native American Student Information System (NASIS). NASIS does identify students with Individual Education Plans (IEPs), but the state assessment, the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) Measures of Academic Progress (MAPs), and other assessment data, are not systematically entered. NASIS is working on that issue, but resolution will not be immediate.
- BIE staff charged with the safe and secure schools initiative held a teleconference with Infinite Campus to discuss the messaging system available through Infinite Campus, including the costs of deploying such a system. School Safety Specialist Eric North shared information about the messaging system used by the Department of the Interior that is designed for staff, but may be adaptable for use with our students. A cost comparison of the two systems is underway.

Let's Move! in Indian Country

- LMIC continues to move forward with its goal of developing healthy schools by transforming the school and afterschool environments of 100 schools that serve American Indian youth through increased access to USDA's Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) programs. BIE Program Analyst Juanita Keesing attended an on-line seminar targeted to the BIE on accessing the USDA Food and Nutrition Services Child and Adult Care Food Program. There were over 30 attendees.

Safety/Facilities

- The Beatrice Rafferty School, operated by Maine Indian Education for the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point, is on the new school construction list but has now found themselves without the land on which to build. They are working with the Indian Affairs Office of Facilities Management and Construction (OFMC) on the issue.
- The Cheyenne-Eagle Butte administration is still waiting to hear from OFMC about the portable facilities they requested.

Post Secondary Education

Haskell Indian Nations University

- Haskell held its Fall Convocation on Tuesday, September 6th and Director Keith Moore spoke to students and staff. Mr. Moore focused on new students and offered them encouragement to continue their education and seek out help when the obstacles seem too difficult. Many students and staff had positive feedback about the event.

- Stephen Prue, Executive Assistant at Haskell, represented Haskell at the Lawrence Interfaith 911 Commemoration held at the Dole Institute of Politics on the University of Kansas campus. Pentagon and Twin Tower survivors spoke and lit a community candle to honor the victims.

- Cathy Lewis of the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce visited Haskell President Chris Redman to discuss opportunities for broader engagement with the Lawrence business community with ideas for expanded internships with local businesses. Mr. Prue will be working with Ms. Lewis to facilitate meetings with Academics.

- Dr. Dan Wildcat, Acting Dean of the Natural Sciences, is making final preparations for the Inaugural World Human Geography Conference hosted by Haskell and the University of Kansas. The conference will focus on specific themes of importance to society and the discipline of geography. Participants are invited from all disciplines and communities concerned with peoples and places around the globe.

- Nicholas Cesare (Creek/Seminole) is a part-time student enrolled at Haskell. He also works part-time with the Wakarusa Township fire department. Nicholas was one of the local firefighters who signed up to participate in a memorial stair climb (over 2,000 stairs) at the Pavilion in Kansas City. The stair climb is an event to remember the 343 firefighters who died as heroes ten years ago. The stair climb simulates the same number of stairs the WTC had with 110 stories. The firefighters who participate in the event receive badges with pictures of the fallen firefighters of 9/11 to wear during their climb. Nicholas walked for Brian Cannizzaro and Michael E. Roberts both of FDNY.

Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

- On September 6, 2011, SIPI will be celebrating its 40th anniversary. SIPI's Student Life Committee is sponsoring a Fun Run/Walk, Indian Dances and a Community Feast. The event is funded by a grant from the American Indian College Fund

- Housing and Recreations

  The Student Senate worked on a float this week that they entered in the New Mexico State Fair Parade. Thirty-two students signed up to participate and be part of the Parade on Saturday, September 10, 2011.

Restoration of Tribal Homelands

Fee to Trust: The Fee to Trust Handbook was released to the field on July 13, 2011. The handbook will be implemented for use by BIA field staff. The BIA on behalf of the Department has accepted 31,349 acres into trust for the benefit of Tribal Nations during the 2011 calendar

year. The restoration initiative was prioritized and supported by the Secretary and Assistant Secretary to further self-determination and tribal sovereignty. The BIA's collective efforts have translated into 541 applications processed and accepted 122,213 acres in total for the initiative under the Obama Administration.

Legislative Activities

- Senate Committee on Indian Affairs**:**
  September 15, 2011 - Oversight Hearing on Tribal Transportation: Paving the Way for Jobs, Infrastructure, and Safety in Native Communities. The intent of the hearing is to gather the transportation needs in Indian Country as the President plans to seek Congressional action to reauthorize Transportation funding over the next five years. Witness is Paul Tsosie, Chief of Staff, accompanied by Leroy Gishi, Director, Indian Reservation Roads Program (BIA.)

  September 22, 2011 – Oversight Hearing on the Tribal Law and Order Act, One Year Later: Have We Improved Safety and Justice in Indian Country. Witness is Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs, accompanied by Michael Black, Director, BIA, and Darren Cruzan, Director, BIA Office of Justice Services.

- House Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs:
  September 22, 2011 – Hearing on 3 bills: H.R. 2444, Tribal Self Governance; H.R. 1461, Mescalero Water Leasing; and H.R. 1556, to amend the Omnibus Indian Advancement Act to allow certain land to be used to generate income to provide funding for academic programs. Witness is Jodi Gillette, Deputy Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs.

- Past Activities: September 6 – 9, 2011:
  On September 6, 2011 the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs held a roundtable discussion on "Building Secure Homelands: House and Infrastructure Development in Native Communities." The Committee's goal is to dialogue on housing and infrastructure issues, with some discussion on BIA's Housing Improvement Program (HIP) and the Indian Reservation Roads program. In attendance for Indian Affairs were Michael Smith, Deputy Bureau Director (BIA), and Jack Stevens, Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development (IEED).

Outreach

- Planned Events:

  Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs:

  September 16 – 17, 2011, ceremonies at Elwa Dam, Washington.

  September 20, 2011, scheduled to serve as panel speaker at the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Conference, Tulalip, WA.

  September 22, 2011, scheduled to testify before the Senate Indian Affairs Committee for its oversight hearing on the Tribal Law and Order Act, One Year Later: Have We Improved Safety and Justice in Indian Country.

  September 29 – 30, 2011, Cobell Tribal Consultation meeting, Phoenix, AZ.

October 7. 2011, scheduled to attend the Haskell Inauguration of recently appointed President Chris Redmon, Lawrence, KS.

October 11-12, 2011, Native American Finance Officers Association meeting, Uncasville, CT.

October 21-22, 2011, tentatively scheduled to attend AFN Annual Convention in Anchorage, AK.

Week of October 30, 2011, tentatively scheduled to attend NCAI meeting, Portland, OR.

Bureau of Indian Education

September 12-15, 2011, Special Education Academy in Tampa, FL.

September 19, 2011: The *No Child Left Behind School Facilities and Construction Negotiated Rulemaking Committee* will meet September 19 to 22, 2011, at the Residence Inn Capitol-Marriott, 333 E Street, SW, Washington, D.C. to finalize their report.

September 20, 2011: Tribal College and University presidents, AIHEC leadership, bureau representatives, and the BIE Director will meet to discuss the objectives and goals of the MOU. The Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) will learn about all of DOI's existing programs with TCUs and what accomplishments have been made in the past fiscal year. The AIHEC/DOI Leadership Group will also discuss ways to collaborate, improve upon current activities, and create new partnerships. The September 20th meeting will take place from 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. here at DOI, and will be the first time TCUs presidents have the opportunity to meet with all DOI bureaus.

September 21 – 22, 2011, Federal Partners in Bullying Prevention Summit. The U.S. Department of Education, Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools will hold the 2011 Summit at The Hilton Washington Hotel (1919 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.)

September 25-27, 2011, 8th annual South Dakota Indian Education Summit, Cedar Shores Resort in Chamberlain, SD. The theme of the Summit is "Supporting Culture, Building Expectations and Creating Partnerships."

CONFIDENTIAL

September 16, 2011

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
Attn: James E. Anderson, Special Assistant

From: Ray Joseph, Principal Deputy Special Trustee

Re: Assistant Secretary Report for September 19 to September 25, 2011

Office of the Special Trustee (OST)
Assistant Secretary Weekly Report
September 19, 2011

Schedule and Activities
Principal Deputy Special Trustee Ray Joseph

- Weekly management meetings in Washington (9/19-23, 9/29-30)
- Travel to Albuquerque, N.M., to attend the September 27 land consolidation tribal consultation (9/26-28)

Review – September 12 to September 16

- **Update:** OST met on August 30 with SOL attorneys regarding continuation of the quarterly report, which is no longer required by the Court. The issue was to determine if reports would continue to be generated for the Secretary of the Interior, and, if so, how they would mirror or differ from previous quarterly reports. OST submitted a memorandum to the Secretary. The Principal Deputy Special Trustee is reviewing the response to work this issue with the Cobell Implementation Team.

- **Update:** A Fair Labor Standards Act grievance was brought against OST by the Federation of Indian Service Employees Union. As a result of negotiations that happened on September 13, the parties agreed to a settlement amount plus 24 hours of compensatory time for each current exempted bargaining unit employee. The settlement agreement should be signed by September 16.

- **Update:** KPMG is carrying on with the annual audit process of the individual Indian and tribal trust funds. They continue to interview OST senior managers according to the *Statement on Auditing Standards No. 99: Consideration of Fraud*.

- **Update:** OST has expressed a concern about the 638 appraisal program managed by the Yakama Nation. There has been (since 2003) and continues to be a backlog of appraisal requests. The government has broached the idea with the tribe of voluntarily returning the program. OST has also initiated discussions with SOL regarding the government reassuming the program. On September 8, OST personnel met with the BIA awarding official. A BIA-OST team drafted “best practices” to be implemented by the tribe, which the team believes has the potential to reduce the appraisal request backlog. BIA and OST management are reviewing the draft.

- **Update:** The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes invited the Principal Deputy Special Trustee (PDST) to visit to discuss how OST can help the tribe get "shovel ready" to handle land consolidation requests. PDST Ray Joseph and BIA Director Mike Black met with CSKT on September 13 in Pablo, Montana. BIA/OST will facilitate the tribe's effort with zone appraisals and mineral evaluations so they can continue their progress on land acquisitions to consolidate fractionated acreage.

- **Update:** Nemont Utility Co. has received a USDA grant using ARRA funds to install a fiber optic infrastructure across the Crow Reservation, the Ft. Peck Reservation and on intervening private lands. Since ARRA grants have a deadline, it is critical that issues be considered and resolved as quickly as possible. Discussions have included valuation methodologies regarding rights-of-way and easements. OST recently provided the BIA Real Estate Appraisal Handbook to the contractor to convey information pertinent to the application of the Direct Comparison Method for right-of-way easement appraisals. Cost efficiencies and timing are factors in the ongoing discussions to protect the rights of individual and tribal beneficiaries and enable the success of this project.

Week Ahead – September 19 to September 23

- **New:** The PDST will meet September 20 with DOI IT personnel regarding their review of the functions of the Trust Fund Accounting System. Currently, OST does not have a master trust and custody or order management system. A process is being implemented to secure one as soon as possible, in addition to optimizing TFAS functions.

- **New:** The Taos Pueblo requested a joint agreement so it may reprogram unused appraisal program funds to other trust functions. While this is allowed, SOL determined the draft joint agreement was legally insufficient to protect the Secretary's trust responsibility. OST staff will meet with the PDST to review the agreement and determine how to proceed.

- **No Change:** The Acting Fiduciary Trust Officer (FTO) at the Great Lakes Agency will provide two financial skills training sessions, each two hours in duration, on September 19-20 to members of the Oneida Nation. One session will be attended by young adults; the other by middle-aged adults.

- **No Change:** The FTO at the Winnebago Agency will present financial skills training at Little Priest College in Winnebago, Nebraska, on September 20-22. Sessions will run a half day each, Tuesday through Thursday. Attendees will be Winnebago High School seniors. However, the training is also open to any of the 135 students enrolled at the college.

- **No Change:** Montana's Department of Commerce requested information on August 1 regarding trust income received on all Montana reservations from 2003 through 2010. The request was made to determine the economic contribution of tribes to the state economy for inclusion in a report produced by the state. OST is working with the Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs to determine which data can be provided without encroaching upon private tribal information. On the recommendation

of the Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs, OST is discussing with the analyst from the Montana Department of Commerce how we might provide aggregated data that does not divulge proprietary information.

On the Horizon

- **New:** OST's Director of the Office of Appraisal Services (OAS) and BIA and USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) personnel participated in a conference call on August 31 to determine how OAS and FSA could share appraisal data. They identified a basic difference in the national appraisal standards used by each organization. In order to work toward the goal of sharing data, another meeting will be scheduled. Sharing these data is essential to the OAS Mass Appraisal Program System (MAPS), which is under development.

- **Update:** OST's Office of Historical Trust Accounting (OHTA) has delivered three groups of tribe-specific trust fund Expedited Settlement Evaluation Method (ESEM) results to SOL since August 17, and is on schedule to deliver the remaining ESEMs by the end of September. There will be a total of 109, since SOL and DOJ agreed not to pursue ESEMs for 10 other tribes. In addition, OHTA's Aberdeen, Crow and Billings Special Deposit Account field offices are now closed, leaving only the Muskogee office, which is on target to close by September 30.

- **Update:** OST is working with Treasury's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fiscal Operations and Policy on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding an agreement for OST to invest funds for an account of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe. SOL is reviewing the MOU. There is a deadline of September 30 to effect this arrangement.

- **Update:** OST's Field Operations schedules outreach events, training seminars and meetings at powwows, schools and other venues. To date, 15 activities have been scheduled to occur in September.

U N I T E D S T A T E S
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

September 16, 2011

Memorandum

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
c/o James Anderson, Special Assistant

From: Rhea Suh, Assistant Secretary-Policy, Management and Budget

Subject: September 16, 2011, Policy and Other Issues

This provides major policy and other issues that fall under the purview of the Assistant Secretary – PMB.

POLICY

Partners in Conservation Award Ceremony. The awards ceremony for the 2011 Secretary's Partners in Conservation Award is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21. The awardees will be honored with a tour of the White House, a reception in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, followed by an Awards Ceremony with the Secretary's Keynote Address in the DOI South Interior Building. The award recognizes individuals and organizations that make exceptional contributions in achieving conservation goals through collaboration and partnerships.

Let's Move Indian Country at 2011 Indian Country Detention Summit: The Office of Youth will present this week on LMIC at the BIA-OJS Summit for Indian Juvenile Detention Centers in Denver, CO to detention center staff, police officers, and community members. The presentation will include an introduction to LMIC, advice on how they can support the initiative, and reasons why they should, highlighting statistics connecting physical activity and healthy eating to decreases in crime and violence.

MANAGEMENT

Pending BP Civil Penalty and Settlement Offer for prior $5.2 million penalty assessed against BP: ONRR's Office of Enforcement planned to assess a civil penalty against BP for "knowing or willful maintenance of false, inaccurate or misleading information." The penalty would have been over $11 million dollars, and would be the third highest assessed in ONRR's history. The planned penalty involves BP's reports for energy production that occurred on Southern Ute Indian Tribal (SUIT) lands in Southwestern Colorado. Last year, ONRR assessed

a $5.2 million penalty against BP for submitting false reports on Southern Ute Tribal leases, and they appealed that ruling. BP has still not corrected its reporting. On September 12, 2011 BP submitted a settlement proposal to ONRR and the SUIT that would resolve the $5.2 million penalty and BP's reporting for the time period covered by the pending $11 million penalty. ONRR, the SUIT, and the Office of the Solicitor are evaluating BP's proposal, and plan to meet with BP to discuss. Therefore, ONRR will request a stay of the hearing on the $5.2 million penalty and will put issuance of the $11 million on hold. If BP, the SUIT, and ONRR are unable to resolve the issues, ONRR will issue the pending penalty and add any additional penalties that accrue in the interim.

BUDGET

2012 Continuing Resolution. The House and the Senate are expected to clear a stopgap spending measure next week to avoid a government shutdown when the new fiscal year begins Oct. 1. The continuing resolution would run through Nov. 18. It would provide for a 1.5 percent across-the-board cut from fiscal 2011 spending to ensure the resolution lines up with the $1.043 trillion discretionary spending cap set in the debt limit law.

2012 Appropriations - Allocations. The debt ceiling compromise sets new caps for discretionary spending in 2012 that will dictate the level for House and Senate negotiations for 2012 appropriations. On September 7, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved its FY 2012 302(b) allocations – these are the allocations to each appropriations subcommittee and are shown below compared to the House budget resolution that was adopted last spring.

FY 2012 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ALLOCATIONS
Dollars in Millions

SUBCOMMITTEE	2011 Enacted	2012 President's Budget	House Allocation	Senate Allocation	House Change from 2011	Percent Change	Senate Change from 2012	Percent Change
Agriculture, FDA	19,921	21,983	17,250	19,780	-2,671	-13%	-141	-1%
Commerce, Justice, Science	53,326	57,675	50,237	52,701	-3,089	-6%	-625	-1%
Defense	513,025	538,938	530,025	513,025	17,000	3%	0	0%
Energy and Water	31,682	36,540	30,639	31,625	-1,043	-3%	-57	0%
Financial Service	21,953	26,008	19,895	21,731	-2,058	-9%	-222	-1%
Homeland Security	41,666	43,577	40,592	41,000	-1,074	-3%	-666	-2%
Interior, Environment	29,559	31,291	27,473	29,275	-2,086	-7%	-284	-1%
Labor, HHS, Education	157,434	180,801	139,218	157,134	-18,216	-12%	-300	0%
Legislative Branch	4,541	4,855	4,314	4,307	-227	-5%	-234	-5%
Military Construction, VA	73,150	73,791	72,535	72,532	-615	-1%	-618	-1%
State, Foreign Operations	48,162	50,796	39,569	44,640	-8,593	-18%	-3,522	-7%
Transportation, Housing	55,367	55,927	47,655	55,250	-7,712	-14%	-117	0%
TOTAL	1,049,786	1,122,182	1,019,402	1,043,000	-30,384	-3%	-6,786	-1%

2012 Appropriations. The House does not appear ready to move additional appropriations bills, while the Senate continues to work through Subcommittee and Committee markups.

- The House has passed six of its 12 fiscal 2012 spending bills so far including Energy and Water Development and members considered the still-unfinished Interior-Environment

bill (HR 2584) on the floor for several days in July. Four more measures have been approved in House appropriations committees or subcommittees, but have yet to make it to the floor. The Transportation-HUD bill was marked up in subcommittee last week, leaving only the Labor-HHS-Education bill.

- The Senate meanwhile, has passed only one spending measure, the Military Construction-VA bill and no others have made it to the floor. Appropriators signaled a more aggressive effort to move bills last week, however, by approving three fiscal 2012 measures — Homeland Security, Energy-Water and Agriculture — in committee. Action on the Interior bill is expected the week of September 19.

2013 Budget: Bureau Directors are briefing OMB on the 2013 budget. Assistant Secretary Suh presented an overview on Tuesday, September 13.

2013 OMB BRIEFINGS

Tuesday, 13 Sept	10am **Interior Department Overview**
Wednesday, 14 Sept	1:30pm **Reclamation** – 10103 NEOB
Thursday, 15 Sept	10am **BIA** – 9104 NEOB
	1pm **USGS** – 9104 NEOB
	3pm **SOL** – 6415 MIB
Friday, 16 Sept	2pm **OIG** – 4415 MIB
	3pm **BLM** – 5653 MIB
Monday, 19 Sept	12- 1:30pm **FWS** – 9116 NEOB
	1pm **BOEMRE** – NEOB
	3:30pm – **OIA**
Tuesday, 20 Sept	1pm **OSM** – 9104 –NEOB
	3pm **CUPCA** – JXN Room, WHCC
Wednesday, 21 Sept	3pm – **OS/DM** – 4103 MIB (tentative)
Thursday, 22 Sept	9:30 **NRDA** – 4013 MIB
	10-12am – **NPS** 8116 NEOB
	3pm **OST** – 7429 MIB
Friday, 23 Sept	10am **Fire** – 2654 MIB

Feds Feed Families. The Department of the Interior donated almost five tons of food and nonperishable commodities to the 2011 Feds Feed Families campaign that ended on August 31. This included 248 pounds from Interior's organic garden at the South Interior Building; 1,396 pounds from NBC employees in Denver; 2,422 pounds from USGS, including 1,167 from employees in Reston and 1,255 from USGS employees at other locations; 770 pounds from the Office of the Assistant Secretary – Lands and Minerals Management; 587 pounds from the Bureau of Reclamation; over 500 pounds each for the National Park Service and the Office of Hearings and Appeal, and almost 300 pounds each from the Office of Surface Mining, Regulation and Enforcement and the Office of the Assistant Secretary – Policy, Management and Budget. Nicholas Chomycia from the Office of Human Resources became this year's DOI Feds Feed Families Hero by donating over 125 pounds of food. Interior's 2011 total of 9,823 represents an increase of 1,157 pounds, or 13 percent, above last year's total of 8,666 pounds.

IG/GAO Reports. The list of current reports and their status is attached.

Attachments:
PMB Office Reports

cc: Deputy Assistant Secretaries—Policy, Management and Budget

Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget
Weekly Office Reports
September 14, 2011

POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

New: Alaska Interior-Regional Emergency Coordination Council (I-RECC) Meeting: The Alaska I-RECC will hold its quarterly meeting on September 15. The meeting will include the semi-annual update to the *DOI Disaster Response Plan for Alaska (Plan)*, which will be completed in October 2011 as well as lessons learned from the Anchorage Earthquake Annex Exercise on August 25. The Plan helps ensure that Alaska-based DOI bureaus/offices are prepared to immediately respond to Alaska-based DOI bureau/office emergencies and provide timely and coordinated assistance among those DOI bureaus/offices and their approximately 3,000 employees located in 30 communities throughout the State. The Plan also includes detailed information on responses to major earthquakes in the Anchorage and Fairbanks areas, terrorism incidents, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, and any other incident where one or more DOI bureaus requires assistance to save lives and/or property. The OEPC Alaska Office chairs the Alaska I-RECC and takes the lead on plan revisions.

Update: DEEPWATER HORIZON Oil Spill Response. Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance (OEPC) headquarters and regional staff continue to provide support to senior DOI officials, and the Gulf Coast Incident Management Team (GCIMT) based in New Orleans. The GCIMT is targeting an end of phase 3 and 4 operations by the end of this hurricane season, and an end to response operations by late November.

- OEPC continues to work with the DOI Pollution Funding Removal Authorizations (PRFA's) Cost Documentation Team to review and improve DOI bureaus/offices' reimbursable cost documentation packages and submit them to the US Coast Guard (USCG) National Pollution Fund Center (NPFC). DOI bureaus and offices have received PRFAs totaling $91.7 Million in reimbursable budget authority. So far, DOI has submitted cost documentation packages totaling $49.41 Million and the USCG has processed and reimbursed in full a total of $12.65 Million.

- FWS PRFA amendment #17 was approved by the Federal On Scene Coordinator on August 26, 2011. The amendment extends the FWS' period of performance from July 1 to September 30, 2011. No additional funding was included; total reimbursable budget authority for the FWS PRFA remains $65,759,469.

Office of Policy Analysis

New: Oceans Team To Receive Secretary's Partners in Conservation Awards. The Department of the Interior Ocean, Coasts and Great Lakes Activities Team will be recognized by Secretary Salazar as one of 17 recipients of the 2011 Secretary's Partners in Conservation Awards at a ceremony on Sept. 21. The Team has been recognized for leveraging collective resources and advancing diverse stewardship responsibilities with a one-DOI approach to

developing and implementing the National Ocean Policy. Policy Analysis provides coordination and support staff for the Oceans team.

New: Lacey Act Reform – FWS Briefing for DOI Invasive Species Liaisons. The Department's Invasive Species Coordinator arranged for a briefing of DOI invasive species liaisons and colleagues on September 15. Jason Goldberg, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Branch of Aquatic Invasive Species, provided information on new policy and administrative actions to speed screening and listing of injurious wildlife under the Lacey Act, the federal government's primary legal authority for limiting importation of invasive animal species.

Update: Arctic. Policy Analysis continues to work with NOAA and the State Department to plan an international meeting of Arctic ecosystem-based management (EBM) experts hosted by DOI on October 17-19. The Policy Analysis Director is co-Head of Delegation for the U.S. The EBM Experts Meeting was called for by the 2011 Arctic Council Ministerial Declaration.

Update: Trans-Pacific Partnership Free Trade Agreement. The National Invasive Species Council (NISC) staff participated in the Trans-Pacific Partnership Free Trade Agreement negotiations (Chicago, 6-15 September) where the U.S. delegation introduced text on invasive alien species for consideration under the environment chapter. The text was also referred to the negotiating group covering sanitary and phytosanitary matters, given its focus on animal, plant and human health. Further in depth discussion is anticipated at upcoming rounds of negotiation.

Update: Interagency Workgroup on Critical Minerals – Critical Materials Criteria and Prioritization. The DOI team, comprised of PPA and USGS staff, provided coordinated comments on a draft work plan for the DOE and DOD co-chairs of the Interagency Workgroup on Critical Minerals – Critical Materials Criteria and Prioritization. The principal contributions by the DOI team to the interagency workgroup will include identifying the initial segments of the mineral-material supply chains, end-uses of the processed material, major facilities associated with mine and processed production, and natural hazards that can disrupt supply chains. This effort is part of a National Science and Technology Council interagency initiative.

Update: Invasive Species Advisory Committee Appointments. The White House has approved the appointment of the entire slate of 14 individuals (6 new members, 8 re-appointees) to the Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC). When the appointment letters are signed by Secretary Salazar (expected this week), a press release announcing the appointments, and providing the names of the entire seventh class of ISAC will be distributed. The ISAC is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act to provide advice to the NISC on invasive species issues. The ISAC members serve 3-year terms representing local and state governments, academic institutions, environmental organizations, and industry from across the nation.

Update: Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act 2012. Policy Analysis represents the Department on the staff-level recreation fee working group, which also includes representatives of the five agencies authorized under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) (Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, NPS, FWS, and the U.S. Forest Service). The working group is preparing for a meeting of the recreation fee Steering

Committee, date and time to be determined. The meeting will focus on the FY 2012 work-plan and budget. The Steering Committee includes managers from the five FLREA agencies, and representatives from the Office of Policy Analysis, the Office of Budget, and the USGS will also be invited to attend.

Ongoing: Klamath: Economic Support. The Economics staff is continuing to prepare comments on the economic analysis included in the draft Secretarial Decision Overview Report and the technical reports summarizing the economic analysis.

Ongoing: Mineral Production Forecasts. Policy Analysis convened a meeting of staff from BOEME and BLM to discuss the potential for increasing consistency across Interior for the forecasting and reporting of mineral production and revenues. This second meeting of the workgroup focused on inputs and assumptions used by the bureaus in their models.

Ongoing: Monthly Brown Bag Session. Richard Dawson, Office of Restoration and Damage Assessment (ORDA), was the featured speaker for the PPA September 12 Brown Bag. The session, "*NRDAR 101(Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration*)," gave an overview of ORDA's responsibility to manage and administer the Department's NRDAR Program to restore natural resources under the Department's trusteeship that are injured as a result of oil spill in waters of the U.S. or hazardous substances releases into the environment.

Completed: Secretariat of the Pacific Region Environment Program. The National Invasive Species Council (NISC) was part of the U.S. delegation at the Secretariat of the Pacific Region Environment Program meetings in Apia, Samoa, September 11–15. The NISC provided talking points on the linkages between invasive species and climate change adaptation, food security and sustainable development issues, and highlighted the Micronesia Biosecurity Plan, regional invasive species cooperation in Micronesia, and Pacific-wide efforts to enhance collaborative invasive species management and prevention. The NISC also meet with regional staff from the United Nations Environment Programme, Secretariat of the Pacific Commission, Landcare New Zealand, and the Pacific Invasives Learning Network.

Office of Native Hawaiian Relations

Update: Conveyance of the Halawa Laundry Site to Hawaiian Home Lands- The State of Hawaii Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) is requesting the review of the proposed conveyance of the Halawa Laundry site from the Navy to the DHHL. This conveyance was agreed to in an MOA signed by the Department of the Interior, the U.S. Navy, the General Services Administration (GSA), and the State of Hawaiʻi on August 11, 1998. The conveyance has been delayed due to environmental contamination issues. The Office of Native Hawaiian Relations is meeting this week with representatives from the DHHL to discuss next steps for the conveyance or modification of the MOA.

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Office of International Affairs

New: Sustainable Tourism for Moroccan Representatives: Six Moroccan participants from the Ministry of Tourism and three of Morocco's parks, will be in the U.S. for a two-week study tour focusing on sustainable tourism. The U.S. activity will feed into the development of a national sustainable tourism ratings program for Morocco. This work is funded by the U.S. State Department.

Update: ICCPR Report Review: The OIA staff is working with the Office of Native Hawaiian Relations, Indian Affairs, and the Department of State to finalize the US government's Fourth Periodic Report to the UN Committee on Human Rights concerning the implementation of its obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Right (ICCPR).

Update: Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Trade Negotiations. The OIA represented DOI on the US delegation to the latest round of negotiations on this negotiation for a regional trade agreement in the Asia-Pacific in Chicago, September 6 – 16. The US is advancing novel proposals on several issues relevant to DOI. The OIA staff covered negotiations for the environment, regulatory coherence, and competition chapters (while PPA/NISC staff covered concurrent negotiating sessions on sanitary and phytosanitary measures which have implications for Lacey Act implementation and invasive species control). .

YOUTH, PARTNERSHIPS AND SERVICE

America's Great Outdoors Implementation

Update: American Jobs Act Latino Stakeholder Conference Call. The Director of the Office of Youth participated in a WH Latino Stakeholder Conference Call regarding the implications of the American Jobs Act on summer and seasonal youth employment on Monday, September 12th. Other participants included, Secretary Hilda Solis, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs at the White House Cecilia Muñoz, Deputy Director of the Office of Public Engagement at the White House Stephanie Valencia, Roberto Rodriguez from the Domestic Policy Council and Jorge Silva-Puras from the Small Business Administration.

Update: KEEN's World Wide Recess Day. The popular outdoor footwear company conducted a recess revolution in DC on September 14th, as part of a nation-wide movement to live healthier and happier lives by including the fun factor of 10 minute outdoor "recess" breaks during the workday every day of the week. Will Shafroth and the Youth Office represented DOI, running physical activity stations alongside the CEO of KEEN. The Youth Office will encouraged others to get their 10-minute recess as part of *Let's Move Outside!*

Renewed: Veteran/Youth Fire Corps. Although the Office of Youth was not able to execute a Cooperative Agreement in time to utilize the full $750,000 of year-end funding available from Bureaus within the Office of Wildland Fire Coordination to support Veteran/Youth Fire Corps,

we have renewed efforts to develop a multi-bureau cooperative agreement for $450,000. However, the lack of knowledge and systems in place to execute agreements continues to impede our ability to fulfill the Secretary's priorities of youth and veteran employment.

New: LMIC Service-Learning Training. The Office of Youth has identified 6 BIE Boarding schools that we will work with to provide LMIC service-learning training and technical assistance throughout the Fall Semester in order to implement LMIC service projects in the Spring and Summer. LMIC service projects will include school/community gardens, physical activity clinics, health/nutrition education, among other school and community-based efforts.

Ongoing: LMO: World Wide Day of Play. On September 24th the First Lady will join Nickelodeon's most famous stars and an expected 20,000 guests for Nickelodeon's 7th annual World Wide Day of Play. The Office of Youth is assisting the National Park Service to plan for "DOI related play" including a climbing wall and tent station. There will also be a *Let's Move Outside!* Junior Ranger swearing-in ceremony and 8,000 LMO Junior Ranger badges to give out!

Ongoing: Information Clearance for Youth-Go Sponsored Public Surveys. The Federal Register published a 60-day notice to request clearance for information collection related to DOI and partnership programs for youth employment and education. The deadline for public comments is November 14, 2011.

New: Chesapeake Bay Executive Order Federal Coordination Meeting. The Youth Office represented DOI at this meeting, led by NOAA, in preparation for the 2-day Mid-Atlantic Environmental Literacy Summit in November. The Summit provides DOI a place at the table with other federal STEM Education strategic plans and in the region's Mid-Atlantic Elementary and Secondary Environmental Literacy Strategy, to be released in November.

Ongoing: AGO Education Work Group. The Youth Office convened an AGO Education subcommittee meeting to advance planning for a report to the AGO Council on integrating place-based service learning in extended time activities.

Ongoing: FI-STEM Task Force Meeting. The Youth Office provided final comments and signed off on the Federal Inventory of STEM Education to inform OSTP's Committee on STEM Education (CoSTEM) in their role in developing a federal 5-year STEM education strategic plan.

New: USDA People's Garden Panel Review. Maria Arnold served as a panel reviewer for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), USDA's People's Garden Grant Program. These grants will support new (or expand existing) gardens for produce, recreation, or wildlife. A portion of available funding will support the use of gardens as science-based educational sites for community outreach and education.

Leveraging Resources

Update: KEEN Public/Private Partnerships. This week the Office of Youth has outlined their first AGO public/private partnership proposal with a member of the Outdoor Industry

Association. KEEN, a footwear and backpack manufacturer, is interested in partnering with DOI to carry out some of the AGO youth recommendations by supporting Youth Corps in two target markets, Los Angeles and Minneapolis. The Office of Youth has spoken with NFWF and believes they can assume fiduciary responsibilities for this partnership.

Ongoing: DOI Partnerships Website. Migration of old ASPMB Partnerships website to be converted to DOI.Gov by early August. Partnerships Coordinator trained by Figleaf contractor with PMB staff to convert website and train other Bureau Partnership Coordinators on how to edit and manage site. New Partnerships website will have fewer pages and less content as requested for all government websites by the Administration.

Update: Take Pride in America Event. The Take Pride in America program, in partnership with the C.A.S.T. for Kids (Catch a Special Thrill) organization, the Anna Arundel County Recreation and Parks Department, YMCA Camp Letts, is hosting a C.A.S.T. for Kids fishing event at YMCA Camp Letts in Annapolis, Maryland on Sunday, September 18th. The event will highlight the First Lady's Let's Move Outside initiative and is providing disabled children and their families an opportunity to recreate on our public waters.

TECHNOLOGY, INFORMATION AND BUSINESS SERVICES

Office of Hearings and Appeals

Update: ONRR Civil Penalty Regulations. OHA and ONRR held a conference call to discuss ONRR's idea of having appeals from violation and penalty notices go to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, rather than to an Administrative Law Judge. OHA expressed doubts over the legality and efficacy of that idea, and suggested an alternative approach that ONRR is willing to consider. OHA will draft regulatory text for ONRR to review.

Office of the Chief Information Office

New: .gov Reform Interim Progress Report. DOI completed the .gov Reform Interim Progress Report and submitted it to OMB. The Interim Progress Report provided OMB with sites that have been eliminated, merged or consolidated and described DOI's ongoing website streamlining efforts. OCIO will coordinate with the Office of Communications and DOI Web Leadership members to complete deliverables related to the .gov Reform Initiative which includes the development of a comprehensive Web Improvement Plan.

New: DOI Participation in U.S. Delegation to Pacific Territories. Following a request from the Department of State, DOI will be participating in a U.S. Delegation visit to the Pacific territories. DOI will be providing spectrum training and spectrum support coordination with the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of Palau. The visit is scheduled from October 5 to 14, 2011.

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Update: Court Developments on Google Lawsuit over Interior Email Procurement. DOI Office of the Solicitor and the OCIO continue to respond to court requests associated with the Google lawsuit resulting from DOI's cloud email procurement. Last week, the judge lifted the injunction for the procurement of email cloud services for approximately 5,000 Interior employees as a "Proof of Concept" and promised to issue a complete opinion this week. The judge additionally asked Interior, Google and Microsoft to submit to an independent assessment of Interior's IT security requirements for the procurement vis-à-vis the security capabilities of the offered solutions from Google and Microsoft. In good faith, the DOI CIO began planning and preparing for this assessment. Interior's cooperation was viewed favorably by the court. Microsoft also agreed to submit its security documentation for evaluation. To date, Google has not agreed to submit to an independent review prompting a delay in the judge's final ruling on this case.

New: ADIRs and OCIO conduct IT Transformation Meeting. OCIO Senior Leadership staff and DAS-TIBS met with the ADIRs to discuss their progress on Quick Wins and Continue to develop charters for the seven high-priority services. The first group of Quick Wins are scheduled to be completed by September 30 and include projects that were identified specifically for their ability to deliver immediate value to customers, including an enterprise share point and a pilot for implementing cross-bureau local IT support.

Office of Valuation Services

Update: OVS Policy Manual. Staff comments on the draft OVS valuation policy manual have been received and reviewed. The draft policy manual will be disseminated to bureau clients for comment within the next few weeks.

Update: Appraisal Staff. Vacancy announcements for review appraisers are expected to be advertised this week. Increasing the staffing levels of review appraisers is a key element in OVS' effort to reduce the amount of time to complete appraisals for clients.

Update: Contracting Office. All staff positions have been filled for the Contracting Office, and the staff are preparing to assume responsibility for NPS contracting effective October 1, with other bureau clients to follow in a staged-in process.

Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution.

New: Nutria Eradication Team. CADR is providing facilitation services for the interagency team developing a plan for nutria eradication in the Chesapeake Bay.

New: National Indian Gaming Commission. CADR will facilitate a leadership team meeting for the NIGC.

Update: Government-to-Government Consultation policy. CADR is facilitating the joint DOI-Tribal leadership team's review of public comments on the draft policy.

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Update: Public Participation Training. CADR is co-sponsoring a 40-hour course on Effective Public Participation this week with the Environmental Protection Agency.

Ongoing: Tribal Advisory Committee. CADR is assisting the National Indian Gaming Commission to design and facilitate the use of a Tribal Advisory Committee to revise existing regulations.

Ongoing: Geospatial Pilot project. CADR is assisting with the coordination of a process for developing a geospatial pilot project with the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution of the Udall Foundation.

Ongoing: 2012 Environmental Conflict Resolution conference. CADR continues to assist in planning the national bi-annual conference on ECR to be held in Tucson, AZ in May. DOI is a co-sponsor of the event and CADR will host a meeting for DOI participants during the conference.

Geospatial Information Officer

Update: Landscape Conservation Geospatial Portal Project. The memorandum of agreement with the Udall Foundation's Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution memorializing the Department's partnership with the Foundation for development of a pilot geospatial collaboration portal for executive level landscape decision support was signed on September 9th. An RFP for the pilot project is expected to be released this week, with contract award in early November and phase one of the pilot complete no later than early January 2012. The RFP is structured as a flexible contract vehicle that will allow for follow on work if required by the Department once the pilot portal is complete.

National Business Center

New: AMD Collaboration with USFWS and The Nature Conservancy for Aviation Requirements in the South Pacific. AMD continues collaboration with FWS and The Nature Conservancy to establish an affiliate agreement for transport of FWS personnel on Nature Conservancy aircraft to the Palmyra Atoll National Wildlife Refuge, which is 1,000 miles south of Honolulu, HI. AMD assists the two agencies to ensure compliance with OMB and Departmental policies for transport of Federal government employees on non-government aircraft. AMD also conducts an inspection of the aircraft to ensure compliance with FAA and DOI aircraft requirements for long range, over water operations.

New: AMD Supported the DOI Office of Wildland Fire and DAS Law Enforcement, Security and Emergency Management. AMD provided technical review of a critical USFS Large Air Tanker solicitation to ensure that the Forest Service contracted aircraft meet DOI requirements for use in interagency wildland fire suppression missions. This interagency collaboration ensures the mission readiness of both DOI and USDA.

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New: Project Search Internship program. This internship program teaches competitive, marketable, transferrable, and employability skills to disabled students from the Kennedy Institute with the goal of achieving employment. NBC Staff plan to participate in the program and are developing a list of duties and required skills , as well as reviewing the profiles for the nine student candidates to find the best fit for the student and facilities management.

New: Team Building Training by the Collaborative Dispute Resolution Office. Key NBC Staff participated in an all-day team building training seminar. The goal of the training was to improve working relationships, customer service, productivity and morale.

Update: Relocation of the OLES Security ID/Key Office. At the request of OLES, the Security ID/Key Office has been relocated to room 1320 in the MIB.

New: NBC works with OCIO to consolidate Customer Service Delivery in support of the IT Transformation. NBC, working with OCIO, is in the process of gathering requirements and developing on-boarding schedules to provide Tier 1 Information Technology support to offices within the Office of the Secretary. Potential candidates for this support are the offices of OHTA, OHA, SOL, OIG, OST, and Alaska Affairs. The NBC Customer Support Center currently provides Tier 1 help desk support to over 300,000 Federal Employees both inside and outside of the Department for IT and other proprietary products and services.

Update: NBC Workforce Plan Update. The NBC is updating its original Workforce Plan, which will provide human capital direction and build upon the adopted recommendations that will be made as a result of the on-going Strategic Assessment. A final vendor selection should be finalized the week of September 12th .

Update: Migration of HR and Personnel Security support for Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR) to The National Business Center (NBC). The NBC Human Resources Operations Division (HROD) held two information sharing sessions at ONRR. The first was for employees only and the second was for supervisors and managers. The transition is on target and proceeding as planned.

Update: FBMS implementation. NBC senior management for property, finance, accounting, and acquisition met with the FBMS implementation management office for a two-day planning session. The group met to agree on plans for post-implementation work and staffing. The meeting set a positive tone for further joint discussions with all team members to provide optimum support of the Office of the Secretary FBMS implementation.

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HUMAN CAPITAL AND DIVERSITY

Office of Human Resources

New: USAJOBS Assess. DOI is participating in an OPM pilot program called USAJOBS ASSESS, a state of the art candidate evaluation program that measures the level of possession candidates have in the competencies needed at the grade level of the job being filled. It differs from the traditional self assessment evaluation commonly referred to as "occupational questionnaire" where candidates choose from a range of no experience to expert. ASSESS uses Situational Judgment Tests, Occupational Reasoning and other assessments to measure the level of possession of a competency and is completed in an automated environment as part of the initial application. The outcome of the Assess program is to improve the quality of applicants referred without adding time to the hiring process. DOI hosted a Webinar on August 11, 2011, that was conducted by OPM to introduce the program and demonstrate its uses and train potential users on how to participate in the pilot. There were 125 HR professionals from throughout DOI who participated in the Webinar. Since the Webinar, three Bureaus have already indicated interest in participating in the pilot to assist in filing current vacancies.

Office of Civil Rights

New: 462 Report Preparers Seminar. On September 14, 2011, the Office of Civil rights will present the 462 Report Preparers Seminar for Bureau and OS preparers of the 462 Report. The seminar will be held in the Kiowa Room, Main Interior Building.

New: EEO Compliance Training, Office of the Solicitor. On September 16, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) will conduct EEO Compliance Training, Part I (4 hours) for fifty-six members of SOL (SES and GS-15). The training was ordered by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) following a finding of discrimination against DOI/SOL. The training will be presented via webinar to 28 of the aforementioned employees, located outside of the Washington, D.C., Metropolitan Area.

New: National Hispanic Heritage Month. The Department of the Interior joins the Nation in observing September 15 - October 15, 2011, as National Hispanic Heritage Month. Each year during this time, we remember the many contributions of Hispanic Americans in the history of this Nation. This year's theme is "Many Backgrounds, Many Stories … One American Spirit." In observance of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) and Bureau of Land Management are sponsoring an exhibit of artifacts and information on the contributions of Hispanic Americans. The exhibit is located on the 4th floor, 4300 Corridor, Main Interior Building.

New: Minority Serving Institutions Community of Partners Council. On September 13, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights participated in the Minority Serving Institutions Community of Partners Council training workshop. The workshop took place at the Department of Commerce, located in Washington, D.C. The training is entitled "MSI Program Coordinators Roles and Responsibilities.

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New: Diversity Solutions Best Practices Conference. On September 15, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights will attend the 10th Annual Diversity Solutions Best Practices Conference at the Westin Washington Hotel, Washington, D.C. The conference is designed to assist public and private sector organizations in creating a strategic competitive advantage through identifying and implementing diversity best practices. The conference focuses on state-of-the-art knowledge, tools, techniques, principles, practices, and methodologies for diversity leadership and management.

Completed: DOI Multi-Cultural Day. On September 8, 2011, the Department held its annual DOI Multi-Cultural Day program to recognize contributions of all cultures to the history of our great Nation and the Department. Activities included training workshops across the country, a photography contest, and a food sampling fair to bring awareness of the culturally diverse backgrounds in our workplace and the value added to the Department. The opening program keynote speaker was Ms. Laura Liswood, Secretary General, Council of Women World Leaders. Approximately 100 employees attended the program to hear Ms. Liswood speak on *"Making Diversity Work."* Immediately following the opening program, two workshops, *"Generational Differences in the Workplace,"* and *"Ouch, That Stereotype Hurts"* were conducted in the MIB. Approximately 75 employees attended the workshops. Additionally, DOI employee resource groups and bureaus held exhibit booths, and a food sampling, representing diverse foods found throughout the country, took place in the Cafeteria and the Rachel Carson Room.

Completed: Micropact's Annual 462 Conference. On September 7, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights participated in Micropact Engineering, Inc.'s 462 Conference, at the Marriott Metro Center, in Washington, D.C. This conference included workshops on properly preparing and submitting the Annual Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Statistical Report of Discrimination Complaints (462 Report) for FY 2011. Additional workshops included new icomplaints features, and generating efficiencies in complaint processing.

<u>Office of Strategic Employee Organizational Development</u>

Update: Mentoring Programs. The week of September 19, 2011, the Office of Strategic Employee and Organization Development (OSEOD) is launching a year-long Policy, Management and Budget (PMB) mentoring program. We are currently matching protégés to mentors for the program.

Update: No Fear 2011. The 2011 No FEAR course was released on September 1, 2011 for DOI employees in DOI Learn and the TMS. The LAN announcement went out to all employees on September 8, 2011. Employees must complete the training by December 30, 2011. To date 2,600 DOI employees have taken the course.

New: As of September 12, 2011, Laura Moore has started as the Chief of OSEOD's Learning Technology Solutions Division. Ms. Moore comes to DOI from DHS where she has been in charge of the eVerify program.

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New: OSEOD Director Sandy Wells and Deputy Director Jerry Gidner attended the TATA Learning Forum on September 7 – 9. The forum is hosted by TATA Interactive Systems, and demonstrated state of the art online learning and simulation modules.

LAW ENFORCEMENT, SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Immediate Office of the DAS

Update: Forward Operating Bases (FOB). There are three FOBs currently being planned. Two of these, Ajo and Douglas, are to be constructed with funds expiring this FY. The third in the boot heel of New Mexico, near Animas does not have expiring funds.

Ajo FOB: Customs and Border Protection (CBP) published a draft Environmental Assessment on August 4th. The public comment period closed on September 2, 2011. CBP is finalizing it's record and there do not appear to be any issues which would preclude reaching a decision to obligate funds. Many questions have arisen over operational activities that will need to be address through a separate process. Several NGOs filed comments focused mainly on operational issues. Construction of the new, expanded Ajo facility is proposed for the tower site now occupied by a temporary camp which was relocated from the Bates Wells area. BP Agents (approximately 10 agents) are now operating at the site in temporary facilities-the new facility will be able to support as many as 32 agents.

Douglas FOB: This FOB is proposed for a site on state of Arizona lands and there do not appear to be any issues with threatened or endangered species. The review for this FOB is on a similar track to that for Ajo.

Animas FOB: The site selected for this FOB is on private land about 50 miles south of Lordsberg. Construction is expected to begin this fall. No significant DOI issues are connected with this site.

Update: Northern Border EIS Being Prepared by CBP. CBP will publish the draft PEIS on September16th. There will be a 45 day comment period and public meetings are scheduled for the first two weeks of October. DOI received electronic copies of the document which have been loaded to the DOI Sharepoint site. A DOI consolidated response will be prepared in coordination with the Bureaus. CBP hopes to sign a Record of Decision this year.

Update: Fire IT Project. Organizing and planning for initial team meeting to take place in Boise the week of September 12. Met with OCIO staff to discuss requirements and expectations for the roadmap.

Update: Radio Transformation. Briefed the ADIRs on the status of the project. Prepared for field trip to Boise area the week of September 12 and Denver area the week of September 26.

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No Change: Environmental and Cultural Stewardship Training Module. Customs and Border Protection, USDA, and DOI Bureaus have developed a two hour, on line, mandatory course to be used to orient CBP personnel to DOI and USDA Forest Service lands and resources. Comments on the Beta version of the module were received after review by a panel of BP agents reviewed the module. Deployment of the module is expected to occur at the end of September. The objective of this module is to educate and thus reduce unnecessary impacts on natural resources and the environment.

No Change: CBP to Prepare NEPA documents for Maintenance of Tactical Infrastructure Along the Southwest Border. Draft NEPA documents have been issued for Arizona and were sent to DOI/DOA land managers on August 12 for a short review prior to public comment which will begin on or about September 1 and last for 30 days. The process is expected to be completed in October. Endangered species review is continuing and it is hoped that enough measures may be put in place to reach a not likely to adversely affect decision but discussions are continuing with the Fish and Wildlife Service. A letter describing efforts to date and the plan for preparing NEPA documents for "non-waived" tactical infrastructure was sent to land managers and permitting offices. The scope of the analysis includes no "new" construction but does include routine operational maintenance of constructed projects, e.g., roads and fencing. TIMR contracts for other border maintenance work will be finalized this summer. CBP has identified a list of Project Managers for TIMR. These managers will work closely with the Public Lands Liaison Agent to identify and address maintenance needs. Draft EAs for CA and NM are expected in mid September with a public release in mid October and the EAs for Texas are expected in mid October with a public release on or about November 1.

No Change: Carrizo Cane Study Funding for DOA. The Border Patrol expects to obligate about $2.2 million in funding for bio control research and release of biological controls (scale and wasp) for Carrizo Cane in Texas. Carrizo cane is an invasive exotic with the usual adverse impacts on riparian habitats. It also provides cover for illegal activities along the border. This study and releases will be lead by the Agricultural Research Service of USDA.

No Change: Integrated Fixed Towers - OTIA (Office of Innovation, Technology and Acquisition) Program Development (formerly known as SBInet. Previously proposed sites on Cabeza Prieta NWR were reviewed with refuge staff the week of July 20th. Additional site visits took place the weeks of August 15 and 22. Work is not expected to occur on Cabeza Prieta for several years. The initial review resulted in the proposal to move some of the sites to avoid impacts on Sonoran Pronghorn Antelope. CBP has indicated that project planning will not ramp up until November or later for this project.

It should be noted that the original sites in Cabeza Prieta NWR were expected to result in a jeopardy opinion if constructed in the proposed locations. Discussions are continuing internally at CBP to assess the site proposals.

No Change: Northern Border Operations/Access and Possible Impacts on Endangered Species. A cooperative effort led by Lincoln County, Montana with partners from Montana Game and Fish, private groups, the Flathead District of the US Forest Service and the U.S.

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Border Patrol is seeking to provide funds to assess grizzly bear populations in the region. The information is badly needed to provide a better understanding of bear status and facilitate decision making on CBP access to areas occupied by bears.

No Change: Interagency Agreement with Customs and Border Protection. FY 09 and 10 dollars that had been set aside in support of this agreement were lost in the final budget resolution for FY 11. CBP is evaluating other options to support the agreement with end of year funds. Discussions on the amendments to the existing Interagency Agreement are continuing so that when funding becomes available the approved projects in the amendment can be executed. The amendments under consideration would provide justification for as much as 22 million dollars to purchase lands to mitigate for the impacts of waived border infrastructure projects in California (San Diego NWR) and Texas (South Texas Refuge Complex). Borderlands Coordinator Andrew met with FWS to discuss the final mitigation proposal for Texas on July 22nd. The region is reviewing the rationale and will provide comments by August 15. The revision would then be reviewed by CBP and the Project Description Worksheets will be revised. Resolution of the final mitigation justifications is expected in the next month. The IAA will not be revised until funding becomes available.

No Change: Mitigation Project on Lower Colorado River. BLM and CBP had negotiated an agreement to offset impacts of CBP activities through restoration of riparian habitat. After substantial planning and design work BOR noted that the proposed project was located on a site planned for dredge spoil deposition. BLM and BOR are discussing at the regional level and seeking solutions which will allow the planned project to move forward. The field meeting originally scheduled for early March is now scheduled for May 18. Alternative sites have been identified for mitigation and will be evaluated on this field trip.

No Change: Department of the Interior Borderlands Strategy. Borderlands Coordinator Andrew has drafted a new strategy – updating the one prepared in 2003. The current draft incorporates issues raised during GAO audits, strategic plans prepared since 2003 and the provisions of several MOUs/MOAs. Significant environmental objectives were added to the strategy. After an initial internal review the draft will be circulated to the Bureaus for review and comment.

No Change: Short-term Access to Government Computers for Emergency Response. The "fire team" has completed its proposal for managing various types of non-federal employees that need logical access to federal systems while responding to fires. This proposal will be supplemented with information from the personnel and IT security staffs in DOI and USDA and presented to the Chief Information Officers in both Departments for review and concurrence.

No Change: Use of National Technical Means (NTM) in Support of Wildland Fire. On August 10 an interagency meeting of representatives from wildland fire, geospatial programs, and the intelligence community took place to discuss opportunities to better utilize information from national technical means assets of the intelligence community in support of various aspects of the wildland fire program. An interagency governance group to identify requirements and opportunities and to coordinate better delivery of services will be created.

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No Change: Gulf Coast Response Staffing. The DOI Level 4 staffing plan has been approved by the Coast Guard.

No Change: Interagency Interoperability. The Interagency Interoperability Oversight Group meeting scheduled for August 11 was cancelled due to many schedule conflicts. A written briefing was provided instead. A future meeting will be scheduled to discuss development of a Secretarial level MOU to guide and direct ongoing interoperability and interconnection activities.

No Change: Civil Applications Committee Coordination. The chair of the CAC (USGS Deputy Director Suzette Kimball) and the Interior CAC representative (Deputy Assistant Secretary – Water and Science) briefed the Deputies Operating Group in March on the mission and purpose of the CAC and solicited bureau input on improving coordination within Interior.

No Change: Interagency Dispatch Improvement. All bureaus/agencies have signed the charter. Plans for a meeting or conference call of the Steering Committee are underway.

Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES)

New: The IMARS Team will Attend the NNALEA conference. The IMARS program will provide presentations and software demonstrations and staff an information booth at the National Native American Law Enforcement Association (NNALEA) Training Conference to be held September 20-22, 2011.

New: OLES Heightened Alert Over the 9/11 Weekend. All components of OLES (MIB Security Team, Security Division, LE Division, and the Intel Division) were placed on a heightened alert beginning on Friday September 9th and ending on Monday, September 12th. During this period additional patrols of the MIB were initiated, contacts with the Intel agencies were maintained and all employees were placed on 24 hour response.

Update: IMARS Version 1.0 delivered to the IMARS Governance Council. The version of IMARS that contains the DOI-specific configuration changes was tested by the Council and they have returned testing results to the IMARS Project Team. The Council met on September 7th to review and prioritize change requests.

Update: Main Interior Building (MIB) Security. The MIB is currently undergoing the following security upgrades:

- **Electric Bollards:** The G bollards are in place and the ramp is operational.
- **Exterior Guard Booths:** The A and C ramp guard booths have been installed and are operational. G ramp guard booths were completed during the last week of August and are now open.
- **Physical Access Control System (PACS):** Proposals have been submitted and reviewed. An award is pending a final decision.
- **OPM/GSA Campus Initiative:** Internal Security continues to download OPM/GSA personnel files to allow unfettered access for GSA and OPM employees into MIB.

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- **Intrusion Detection System (IDS) and Camera Rehabilitation:** Significant progress has been made on the IDS. Work should be completed within the next month.
- **MIB Child Care Center:** OLES Director and DAS briefed on the estimated ($472,095) security upgrade costs associated with this initiative. A talking points paper was submitted for follow-up.
- **MIB Entrance Re-design**: DAS Andrew Jackson commissioned a study to redesign the C and E street entrances into the MIB. OLES has reviewed and commented on this plan. A conceptual drawing (from a security prospective) has been submitted to the GSA for additional review and comments.
- **New Badging Office:** The new badging office is now fully operational.

No Change: OLES Surveys the Secretary's Temporary Office for Security Enhancements. As part of the on-going MIB modernization project, the Secretary's office is scheduled to be relocated to the South Penthouse in February 2012. OLES, in coordination with the United States Park Police and representatives from the modernization project, conducted a law enforcement/security survey of the proposed area. OLES has documented several security enhancements for this location and is in the process of making specific recommendations. OLES has scheduled a meeting with a security contractor to further discuss these enhancements.

No Change: The IMARS Cloud Computing Statement of Work (SOW). The Contracting Officer is preparing the solicitation for IMARS Cloud Computing.

No Change: OLES Departmental Security and Intelligence Workshop. This workshop provides required in-service training that satisfies part of the required 40-hour annual training for DOI security and law enforcement personnel. The security portion of the workshop will highlight the team effort between the Golden Gate Bridge Authority, National Park Service, United States Park Police, California Highway Patrol, San Francisco Police Department and the U.S. Coast Guard in supporting the security program at one of the Nation's most iconic structures, the Golden Gate Bridge. The intelligence portion of the workshop will focus on topics that have a direct nexus to the Department, with attendees being able to leave with "tools" they can readily use upon returning to their duty stations. A tour will be given of the Northern California Regional Intelligence Center and the Joint Terrorism Task Force. Agendas have been completed, the appropriate contracts are in draft, and logistics are being developed.

No Change: Coordination of Geographic Information System (GIS) Mapping of Terrorist Contacts. OLES is continuing to pursue improved tracking of terrorist contacts near icon sites through GIS mapping. A highly productive meeting was held last week with members of the Terrorist Screening Center and the DC Fusion Center. Next steps will be to pilot test the transfer of DC area terrorist contact data, especially near icon sites, into mapping software without much human interaction. Concomitantly, we will be working at a national level to establish GIS tracking as a baseline capability in Fusion Centers across the US.

Final: Classified Systems Review and Audit. The OLES conducted an audit and review of classified systems outside of the DC area. This mandatory inspection will result in a response to the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) and will provide information necessary for the

OLES to conduct follow-up inspections as early as next calendar year in partnership with the National Counter Intelligence Executive.

Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

New: Monthly Emergency Management Council (EMC) Meeting. OEM held the monthly DOI Emergency Management Council (EMC) meeting on Wednesday, September 7. The central topic of the meeting was the Department's role in responding to Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. Updates on ongoing recovery operations on DOI assets were given by bureau emergency management coordinators. Other topics included the All-Hazards Positions and Qualifications Guide including IQCS/ROSS, COOP assignments for the President's speech to a joint session of congress, Indian Affairs Study, and Continuity of Operations updates.

Update: Emergency Response Activities. The Interior Operations Center (IOC) monitored the following activities during the past week:

- *Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee Recovery:* The landfall of Hurricane Irene resulted in 11 states receiving federal major disaster declarations. Shortly after Irene moved northward as far as New England, Tropical Storm Lee made landfall near New Orleans, LA and proceeded to follow a track up the Appalachian Range, dropping immense amounts rain (up to 20 inches on some locations), causing catastrophic flooding through the Southeast into the mid-Atlantic states. The high winds and flooding impacted numerous Parks and Refuges. At the height of the response to both storms, more than 500 DOI personnel were working on response and recovery operations. USGS had more than 85 teams in the field recording flood data. BOEMRE reported that approximately half the Gulf oil/gas production was shut-in due to TS Lee, but almost all of the production has now returned to normal. Some portions of some DOI facilities remain closed due to the damage from these storms.
- *Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Response:* Fifty-five DOI personnel continued to work full-time on Deepwater Horizon cleanup planning and operations. The Gulf Coast Incident Management Team has a goal to complete cleanup operations by November 30. Gulf Coast cleanup operations were stopped by heavy rains and high surf from Tropical Storm Lee last week, but aerial surveillance found no new sheen or oil deposits after the storm.
- *Wildfires on DOI Lands:* The fire community is reporting that 12 large fires are burning on DOI lands; AK (5), AZ (2), GA (1), OR (3) and VA (1). A total of 14,433 federal interagency personnel, of which 1,704 are DOI personnel, are fighting wildland fires. The National Wildland Fire Preparedness Level was raised to Level 4 on September 9, reflecting the additional resources being used for firefighting and all hazards responses.
- *Yellowstone River Crude Oil Spill in Montana:* EPA, BLM, BIA and FWS continue to monitor cleanup and mitigate efforts for the impacts that resulted from a 42,000 (est.) gallon crude oil spill into the Yellowstone River. A decision has been made to let the remaining oil naturally attenuate. Some seeding will take place on BLM land to cover the mud roads made by the cleanup crews.
- *Kilauea and Cleveland Volcanoes:* USGS has upgraded Cleveland Volcano in the Aleutian Islands back to Alert Level Watch/Color Code Orange due to new thermal anomalies. There are currently two U.S. volcanoes at heightened alter level, Cleveland and Kilauea.

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Update: Indian Affairs Emergency Management Expert Study: The Director of BIA and Assistant Secretary Indian Affairs briefed the Deputy Secretary on September 7 on their action plan to address issues raised by the study. The Director of OEM subsequently met with the Director of BIA's Office of Justice Systems to discuss timelines for improvement plans. OEM continues to support ASIA/BIA improvement plans and emergency management planning efforts.

Update: Continuity of Operations (COOP) Plan Update. OEM has begun the editing process for the FY 2011 update of the DOI COOP Plan. Last week, OEM gathered input from offices and bureaus to update the COOP Plan Pocket Reference Guides. Revision of the plan will be completed prior to the end of the fiscal year.

Update: Occupant Emergency Planning (OEP). OEM will be hosting a Brown Bag lunch session about Shelter-in-Place on September 27 from 12-1 p.m. in the Rachael Carson room. Additional copies of the Occupant Emergency tri-fold cards have been printed and will be distributed to HR offices and the security office. The 2011 version of the Occupant Emergency Plan and the Occupant Emergency Employee Guide, including the earthquake update, will be printed this week and then distributed to members of the Evacuation Support Team.

Update: Interagency Emergency Health Policy. LCDR Elaine Wolff, U.S. Public Health Service Officer detailed to OEM, participated in the National Security Staff-led Emerging Pandemic Threats sub-Interagency Policy Committee (sub-IPC) on Monday, September 12.

Update: National Preparedness Directive / Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8). The latest draft of the National Preparedness Goal will be submitted to the Domestic Resilience Group (DRG) for final approval on Monday, September 12. It is anticipated that the Goal will be approved and then submitted to the Deputies Committee for review and approval prior to submission to the Principals and finally the President by the end of September. DOI's Emergency Management Council submitted a small number of comments which were adjudicated by FEMA. The issuance of PPD-8 significantly refined the shape of the Nation's preparedness activities related to mitigation, response, and recovery from emergencies and disasters.

Update: All-Hazards Positions and Qualifications Guide. OEM, in coordination with the EMC is working to develop a Project Management Plan based on the policy established in *Emergency Management Policy Bulletin (EMPB) 2011-1: Department of the Interior All-Hazards Incident Staffing*. The Project Management Plan will include the technological needs, training, guidance documents, business processes, administrative procedures, budget targets and timeline for bureaus and offices to implement the policy based on the recommendations of the Deputies Operating Group to implement a "single-point" ordering system for resources needed in all-hazard emergencies. Coordination with interagency partners is also ongoing to identify partners who can advise bureau and office Emergency Coordinators on implementation activities.

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No Change: All-Hazard Incident Management Planning. OEM is continuing to engage in the All-Hazard Response Task sub-group's final reviews of the "NIMS Qualification Process Guide". OEM is continuing involvement on the Incident Management Organization Succession Planning (IMOSP) Team, which is primarily focused on sustainability of National Wildfire Coordinating Group's (NWCG) Incident Management Teams (IMT). In addition, OEM continued monitoring of the NWCG All-Hazard Support/Coordination Doctrine Task Team in coordination with OWF.

No Change: Enterprise-level Emergency Management Applications. OEM and OCIO last week completed and are now testing the enterprise-level Contact Management System. OEM used CMS to notify and provide a link to all emergency personnel to update their contact information. The CMS project has streamlined the process of managing lists of DOI emergency personnel thereby ensuring alerts are properly delivered and received during emergency situations, and that rosters, e-mail group lists, and telephone alerts all use a common database.

No Change: Upgrade of Viewer for Interior Geospatial Emergency Management System (IGEMS). OEM and our collaborators at USGS will be upgrading the on-line geospatial map viewer for IGEMS. The Data analysis tool has been upgraded to allow more flexibility in information display. The new viewer will allow end-users to quickly display customized GIS information without requiring additional programming. Enhanced functions include dynamic legends and additional data point analysis.

No Change: Secure Video Teleconference (SVTC). Departmental headquarters maintains SVTC capabilities to coordinate interagency response during continuity events and other emergencies. Equipment now being used is becoming outdated and is not operating reliably. An initiative is underway to identify new solutions to improve reliability and provide 24/7 turnkey support. A team made of personnel from OLES, OEM, OCIO and USGS has met last week to formulate recommendations of an enterprise solution.

No Change: Multipoint Video Teleconferencing (VTC). OEM and NBC are coordinating the installation of a multipoint VTC capability in the IOC Conference Room. Location for the device has been identified and planning for the move is in progress. This capability will provide for internet (IP) and ISDN video teleconferencing in the IOC conference room and at other VTC locations in the Main Interior Building, with no incremental costs for departmental offices using the system.

No Change: Corrective Action Program. Status updates from the Corrective Actions Program (CAP) item and Improvement Plan primary agencies have been collected and will be included in the CAP/IP update to senior leadership now being formulated. The EMC approved Corrective Actions Recommendations (CAR) will be vetted through surnaming process before being presented to AS PMB. The new CAR items emanate from the Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill, the NLE-11 catastrophic earthquake exercise, interagency exercise Dark Zephyr which explored readiness for an anthrax emergency, and lesson learned which were compiled for the National Security Staff exploring DOI emergency planning shortfalls should the U.S. suffer an event similar to the tsunami and nuclear power plant emergency in Japan.

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No Change: Exercise Eagle Horizon-2011 (EH-11). OEM continues to follow up after action items discussed at the DOI After-Action conference on August 19. Participants included most Bureaus and several OS offices; discussions included decisions about corrective action planning as well as lessons learned during the successful exercise. The report will be finalized by September and will provide a framework for EH-12 planning.

No Change: National Recovery Tabletop Exercise (NRTTX): An updated calendar of events has been published by FEMA. The final NRTTX Planning Conference is scheduled for September 7. There is no change to the date of the NRTTX itself, which is scheduled for September 27-29. FEMA will host the National Lessons Learned Conference on September 13-15.

No Change: National Level Exercise (NLE) 11. The final draft NLE-11 National Response TTX After Action Report has been completed and is under review. A National Recovery Seminar (NRS) was conducted July 19 to focus on recovery considerations of a catastrophic earthquake event and develop a summary report of key discussion points.

Office of Wildland Fire (OWF)

New: National Fire News. (September 12 at 9 am) The National Preparedness Level is at PL 4 (on a scale from1to5). Nationally, wildland fire activity was light (191 new fires). There are currently 34 uncontained large fires. Isolated to widely scattered showers and t-storms, mainly wet, will move across much of northern CA and northwest NV. Temperatures will return to normal or slightly below normal for much of the West Coast. Scattered showers and thunderstorms will also move through the eastern Great Basin, the southern and central Rockies. A cold front will drop into the central U.S., bringing cooler weather to the northern Rockies and the northern Plains states. Hot and dry conditions will continue in the south from TX and OK to the southeast coast. Showers and thunderstorms will dot the Northeast and the Great Lakes region.

New: Emergency Management Coordination: OWF emergency management coordinated support to ESF-4 for FEMA disaster declaration to Texas wildfires as well as continuing support for flood response operations from Tropical Storm Lee.

Update: Hazardous Fuels Reduction: Work continued this week with the Bureaus to further clarify what the DOI Hazardous Fuels Prioritization and Allocation System (HFPAS) policy defines as "critical discrepancies." These need to be well defined and documented in order to adjust the rank of any one Fire Planning Unit (FPU) as determined through the Ecosystem Management Decision Support (EMDS) analysis. Such adjustments must be as systematic and transparent as has been (or is being) achieved in the rest of the HFPAS process. Additional documentation was received from the Bureaus that is intended to further clarify the rationale used to recommend adjusting the results for critical discrepancies. Also, the Bureaus have identified some potential discrepancies in the results of the Project Priority System (PPS), which may lead to recommendations to adjust some PPS results.

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Update: Authorization for Home-to-Work Transportation. A need exists for home-to-work transportation authority for abnormal conditions during the wildland fire season for the purpose of establishing command and control and providing fireline leadership in an emerging incident. OWFC and Bureau Fire Directors are developing a draft Authorization for Use of Government Passenger Carrier(s) for Home-to-Work Transportation of Those Employees Essential for the Safe and Efficient Performance of Wildland Fire Response Duties. The recommended authorization guidance was discussed at the August 29, 2011 Interior Fire Executive Council (IFEC) conference call and a final was submitted in September.

No Change: National Wildland Fire Management Cohesive Strategy - Phase II. The Cohesive Strategy effort is an all-lands, all-hands approach to addressing wildland fire and reducing risk. The Northeast and Southeast Regional Strategy Committees met face-to-face the week of 7 September to develop the final draft of their regional assessments. Other subcommittees continue their work towards the 30 September deadline for Phase II and for implementing the communication plan for Phase III.

No Change: LANDFIRE 2008 "Refresh" Production - Work has progressed on Group "B" deliverables for the conterminous United States. The following data sets have been completed and are now available on the LANDFIRE Data Distribution site: Biophysical Settings (BpS), Fuel Loading Models (FLM), Fire Regime Groups (FRG), Mean Fire Return Interval (MFRI), Percent Low-severity Fire (PLSF), Percent Mixed-severity Fire (PMSF), Percent Replacement-severity Fire (PRSF), and Succession Classes. Group "B" deliverables, namely Fire Regime Condition Class (FRCC) and FRCC Departure Index, will be completed in the next couple of weeks with the same Group "B" deliverables being completed through the remainder of the summer for Alaska and Hawaii.

No Change: International Fire Program: A data call for information on cross border fire operations to include frequency and information flow was sent to the DOI fire directors. This information is in preparation for a potential modification to the US Mexico border agreement.

No Change: Community Assistance: The Community Assistance (CA) program leads met on June 23 to continue work to fulfill the recommendations of the Office of Inspector General's (OIG) evaluation of the DOI's CA program. They are currently working to establish a national methodology and process to share educational and outreach products developed through Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) grants and other sources.

No Change: Wildland Fire Boots. OWFC and Bureau Fire Directors are developing a Department-wide policy covering wildland fire boots. The NWCG Risk Management Committee was tasked to complete documentation addressing the appropriateness of NWCG's boot standard for the wildland fire environment. Due to interest by appropriations staff, the draft policy will be discussed with bureau fire executives to ensure consistency across all bureau fire programs.

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No Change: Forest Service Risk Management Initiative. OWFC and Bureau representatives met with the Forest Service on August 31, 2011 to participate in an information exchange to better understand the initiative and enter into a conversation to explore the concept further.

No Change: Wildland Firefighter Safety – Annual Report to Congress. Interior and the Forest Service prepared the joint report to Congress on wildland firefighter safety practices, including training programs and activities for wildfire suppression and prescribed fire during the 2010 calendar year. The report is in the surnaming process now.

BUDGET, FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND ACQUISITION

Office of Acquisition and Property Management

New: Suspension and Debarment Program – Recent Actions. On August 1, 2011, DOI debarred Kelly Andrew Holland. The debarment is based on Holland's 2009 conviction on charges of Obstruction of Justice and Possession of a Stolen Firearm. Holland, while employed as a criminal investigator by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), concealed, with the intent to impair availability for use in enforcement proceedings, objects obtained from a suspect in a FWS investigation; represented in writing to FWS officials that he had returned certain objects to the suspect when he in fact had not done so; and knowingly possessed a stolen firearm.

On September 1, 2011, DOI proposed to debar Marlon Jackson Butler, James Bobby Butler, Jr., Travis T. Dardenne, Jeffery P. Brown, and Edith M. Kadlec.

- The proposed debarments of Marlon Butler and James Bobby Butler are based upon their 2011 convictions on charges of Conspiracy to Violate the Lacey Act; and Violation of the Lacey Act. They conspired to illegally hunt, sell and transport in interstate commerce, wildlife, specifically deer and provided deer hunting guide services using hunting permits not valid for the county in which the hunt occurred. James Butler also attempted to obstruct investigation by FWS agents.

- The proposed debarments of Dardenne and Brown are based upon their 2010 criminal convictions on charges of knowing unlawful acquisition of an endangered species, specifically an American alligator, in contravention of the Endangered Species Act, and the aiding and abetting thereof, in violation of the Lacey Act. In September of 2006 they guided a client of the outfitter on an alligator hunt into an area in which they were not authorized to hunt and an 11'5"' trophy sized alligator was shot.

- The proposed debarment of Kadlec is based upon her 2011 criminal conviction on a charge of Theft. Kadlec, while Associate Director of the West Wisconsin Land Trust (WWLT), a private nonprofit corporation engaged in habitat conservation and restoration activities, was a party to the fraudulent use of WWLT funds by the WWLT Director to purchase a tractor mower for his personal use.

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On September 1, 2011, DOI debarred Patricia Rose Thin Elk, and Dane Paul Henry. DOI debarred Thin Elk based upon her 2009 criminal conviction for Embezzlement and Theft from an Indian Tribal Organization while Thin Elk was employed as the Deputy Clerk for the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Court System in Todd County. She embezzled at least $4,000 in bond or fine money belonging to the Tribe or the Tribal Court System. DOI debarred Henry based on his 2009 criminal conviction for Theft of Government Property Henry, employed as a National Park Service (NPS) Superintendent at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, in Glynco, Georgia, stole a Browning 7mm rifle, a Sako Forester Model .243 caliber rifle, and fifteen Sig Saur ammunition magazines belonging to the NPS.

On September 2, 2011, DOI proposed to debar Gunther Wenzek, Linda Longee Christiansen, and Edward Orvel Smith. The proposed debarment of Wenzek is based upon his 2010 conviction on charges of smuggling into the US for sale "stony" coral from the Philippines and engaged in substantial efforts to hide the true nature of the shipments from United States officials. The proposed debarments of Christiansen and Smith are based upon their respective 2011 and 2010 convictions on charges of Theft from an Indian Tribal Organization, and the aiding and abetting thereof. Christiansen and Smith, members of the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation, participated in a scheme to steal approximately $26,250 in Fort Peck Tribal Credit Department loan program funds by fraudulently negotiating tribal short-term loan checks.

On September 6, 2011, DOI debarred Florence A. White Eagle. DOI based the debarment on the fact of a 2011 jury verdict against White Eagle finding her guilty of Conspiracy to Convert Tribal Credit Program Proceeds by Federal Employees; Theft and Conversion from an Indian Tribal Organization and the aiding and abetting thereof; Bribery; Concealment of Public Corruption; Public Acts Affecting a Personal Financial Interest; and Misprision of a Felony. White Eagle, while employed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs as Superintendent at the Fort Peck Agency in Poplar, Montana, participated in a conspiracy to embezzle, steal, and convert to personal use tribal funds from the Fort Peck Tribal Credit Program through fraudulent loans, and engaged in actions including bribery to conceal the scheme.

On September 9, 2011, DOI proposed to debar Arthur George Greybull III. The proposed debarment is based upon Greybull's 2011 conviction on a charge of Theft from an Indian Tribal Organization, and the aiding and abetting thereof. Greybull, a member of the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, participated in a scheme seeking to defraud the Credit Department of tribal funds through fraudulent loans from the Tribal Credit Department and embezzled over $38,000.

Office of Budget

Update: 2013 Budget Formulation. On September 12, the Secretary submitted his 2013 budget to OMB. The overall budget, consistent with OMB guidance, presents a freeze budget at the 2011 level and scenarios with reductions of 5% and 10% from the FY 2011 level. Individual bureau budgets have been posted to the MAX community page for OMB to review. On

September 13, the AS-PMB briefed OMB on the Department's submission. POB will coordinate bureau and office briefings with OMB examiners.

Update: Natural Disasters Datacall. At the request of OMB, the Office of Budget worked with bureaus to provide preliminary estimates on damages associated with the August 23 earthquake and Hurricane Irene. Early estimates indicated damage amounting to approximately $196 million across FWS, NPS and USGS. POB will continue to refine these estimates as more exact data arrives from field offices.

No Change: Deepwater Horizon Litigation. On May 13, the Department of Justice submitted a letter of demand to BP seeking reimbursement for $694.6 million in Federal Government expenditures on activities beyond those funded through the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (via PRFAs with the U.S. Coast Guard). The portion of those expenditures attributed to DOI ($13.2 million) was provided by bureau financial systems and submitted to DOJ by the Office of Budget. DOJ has since asked for backup documentation on several specific activities included in those costs, and it has provided feedback on the first set of documentation submitted. POB, in consultation with PFM, is working with bureaus/offices to assemble the necessary materials based on DOJ's feedback. The personnel and resources used in this effort will be supported by Supplemental funds set aside for this purpose.

Office of Financial Management

Update: Internal Control and Audit Follow-Up. PFM is working with the bureaus and offices on the completion of GAO and OIG audit recommendations. The Department's goal is to complete 85% of the goal base. As of September 8, only 66% have been closed out. Bureau close out percentages are shown in the right hand column of the chart. Those that are below the 85% goal are highlighted. Last year we were able to exceed the goal and closed out 90% of the corrective actions.

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OIG AND GAO AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS
FY 2011 DEPARTMENTAL PERFORMANCE GOAL FOR CLOSING AUDITS
As of September 8, 2011

					COUNT		WEIGHTED		
BUREAU	Beginning Balance OIG	Additions OIG	Beginning Balance GAO	Additions GAO	TOTAL RECS	IMPLE-MENTED	OPEN	IMPLE-MENTED	GOAL BASE %
DEPT/OS	16	39	12	4	71	45	62.0	35.0	56%
NBC	2	4	0	0	6	6	5.0	5.0	100%
OST	2	5	0	0	7	5	7.0	5.0	71%
ONRR	5	7	5	1	18	9	13.0	6.5	50%
IA	15	21	3	1	40	26	35.5	23.0	65%
NPS	5	25	5	0	35	27	28.0	20.0	71%
FWS	2	25	1	0	28	24	22.0	18.5	84%
BLM	18	22	19	1	60	38	55.0	33.0	60%
BOEM	5	40	9	0	54	40	55.5	41.5	75%
OSM	0	2	0	0	2	0	2.5	0.0	0%
BOR	0	3	0	1	4	4	4.5	4.5	100%
USGS	1	5	3	0	9	7	8.0	6.0	75%
TOTAL	**71**	**198**	**57**	**8**	**334**	**231**	**298.0**	**198.0**	**66%**

Departmental Annual Performance Goal = 85% (weighted)

Update: Reporting PFM is developing a travel tracking report in collaboration with bureaus and will be sharing it on a regular basis to monitor travel spending. In collaboration with the Office of Budget (POB), the Office of Financial Management (PFM) is coordinating the collection of FY 2011 Administrative Costs. This data call is in response to the Office of Management and Budget's Accountable Government Initiative, in which agencies are encouraged to look for ways to cut waste and save money, and makes government more open and responsive.

Update: Financial Audit. PFM continues on-going audit activities to include coordination of upcoming Provided by Client (PBC) items, updates of the financial package, and review of the Treasury closing package. PFM also facilitated numerous meetings with KPMG, the Solicitor and PFM to address contingent liabilities and their proper recording.

Update: Incidence Response Cost Tracking. PFM met with the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to begin requirements collection for incident response cost tracking. PFM also coordinated with OEM to provide effective reporting as an opportunity to obtain reporting value through the Financial and Business Management System (FBMS).

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Office of Planning and Performance Management

Update: Priority (Performance) Goals. PMB has led meetings with bureaus and DOI senior officials and OMB to discuss and finalize the Department's Priority Goals for FY 2012 and FY 2013. Results from these meetings include:

- OMB concurred with DOI's recommended changes to expand the programs that support the water conservation goal.
- For the renewable energy goal, OMB agreed with the qualitative addition of other renewable energy opportunities while the much larger quantitative BLM contribution is the focus of the goal's target value. The ability to add in BIA-related contributions is being explored.
- OMB generally agreed with the continued effort to reduce crime impacting four Indian communities and the addition of two new communities.
- The youth goal will be shifted from tracking hires to the number of on-board individuals between the ages of 15 and 25.
- For the newly proposed oil and gas oversight goal, OMB stressed the need to define the goal in quantifiable terms that would be of interest to the public, which would be associated with getting off the GAO high risk list.
- OMB has generally concurred with the climate change goal.

The FY 2012-2013 Priority Goals will be submitted to OMB with the Department's FY 2013 budget submission.

Update: GPRA Modernization Act of 2010 Implementation. The Office of Planning and Performance Management has consolidated bureau and office inputs into a single annual performance plan which is being provided to OMB this week along with the Department's FY 2013 budget submission. PPP also summarized bureau submissions for an inventory of congressionally required reports including a proposal to terminate some of the reports.

Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization

New Item: OMB Guidance on Inherently Governmental Functions. A final policy letter on inherently governmental functions was published in the September 12 Federal Register. It provides new details on how agencies should analyze functions to determine whether they are inherently governmental or not. A lower priority will be placed on in-sourcing of functions which are not inherently governmental. This is intended to help small businesses which are doing much of this support work which is contemplated.

Complete: Federal Interagency Leadership and Learning Small Business Conference, Shepherdstown, WV. On September 8, the Office of Personnel Management conducted an outreach event for small businesses involved in training. The Department participated in the event attended by approximately sixty small businesses.

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Update: Scheduled Events.

- **September 15: New Mexico Outreach Event, Albuquerque, NM.** The Deputy Secretary of the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture will host a joint small business outreach conference entitled "Building Partnerships – Revitalizing America" at the Albuquerque Convention Center. The Small Business Administration is planning to support this event and will exhibit at the conference. This event is expected to include over 500 small businesses.
- **September 27-30: Minority Enterprise Development Week, Washington, DC.** Deanna Archuleta will represent the Department in the Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week 2011 Conference. It is the largest federally sponsored event in minority enterprise development.

<u>FBMS Program Management Office (PMO)</u>

Update: Deployment 6 (D6) User Acceptance Testing (UAT). The D6 UAT ended on September 9, 2011. The purpose of UAT was to confirm the FBMS D6 solution meets the business process requirements of the Departmental Offices (DO), FWS, and the bureaus already using FBMS, and is ready for production. Testers from DO, FWS, USGS, BLM, BOEM, BSEE, and OSM offices from across the country participated in the testing that began on August 22, 2011. Testers tested functional area test scripts selected by D6 Bureau Leads and Functional Leads from the test scripts tested during D6 Integration Test Cycles 1 and 2. Over 490 test scripts from 21 business areas were tested. Executing test scripts was demanding work, and UAT testers performed their testing duties with attention to detail, objectivity, and enthusiasm. More test scripts were completed during D6 UAT than during previous FBMS deployments. D6 UAT was a tremendous success. UAT testers have been asked take an online D6 UAT survey which will provide information for the FBMS PMO's Continuous Process Improvement Review Process.

New: Internet Payment Platform (IPP) System Notices. On September 9, 2011, the FBMS Program Management Office (PMO) began sending email notices to Departmental Office (DO) and FWS Vendor points of contact informing them of the requirement to start submitting their invoices electronically effective November 7, 2011, when FBMS's Deployment 6 functionality goes live. Over 20,000 email notices will be sent to DO and FWS Vendor points of contact. The IPP system has recently been identified by Treasury as one of its cornerstone modernization cross-agency systems, and DOI is one of the first major agencies to begin use of the system. FBMS interfaces with IPP, a secure web-based electronic invoicing and payment information system. IPP allows Federal agencies and their vendors to exchange electronic purchase orders (POs), blanket POs, invoices, and payment information in one easy to access web portal that streamlines the order to pay process. IPP is benefitting DOI by: eliminating the time-consuming and expensive paper-based processes in the order-to-pay cycle; enabling compliance with Prompt Pay requirements; expediting invoice approvals via online routing within IPP; and (4) improving relationships with vendors. Special IPP website notices announcing this new requirement for vendors doing business with DO and FWS have also been posted on FedBizOpps' Website, NBC's Public Websites, FWS's Public Website, and the FBMS PMO's Public Website.

Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget
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September 14, 2011

Departmental Offices FBMS Implementation Office (OS IMO)

New: OS FBMS Pilot Training. On September 12, OS FBMS pilot training sessions began in Herndon and Denver. Bureau trainers and co-trainers along with their super users for each functional area have been encouraged to attend. Session(s) were designed to help them become familiar with the course, the concepts and transactions along with the flow, and other concepts.

Update: OS IMO "Brown Bag Lunch and Learn." The OS IMO will be hosting several "Brown Bag Lunch and Learn" for the OS community. This is an opportunity to get questions about FBMS answered, learn more about the system and how it will affect you. There are three opportunities to hear about all things OS FBMS. The first Lunch and Learn will be on September 22 from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm in the Stewart Udall Main Interior Building Rachel Carson Room; the second will be on September 26 from 11:30 am -1:30 pm at the USGS National Center Main Auditorium in Reston, VA; and last at the Denver Federal Center, Bldg 20, Ford Room on October 5 from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm. Those interested in participating should RSVP no later than September 19th to Sandra Christian at Sandra_t_christian@ios.doi.gov or 703-964-3565.

Update: Training Workshops. OS FBMS final training workshop will be held on September 27 in the Stewart Udall Main Interior Building and at Denver Federal Center. This final workshop is designed to prepare FBMS co-trainers and coaches to support the user community after Go-Live. Key messages to supervisors and managers are included to better support staff through the transition to FBMS.

No Change: FBMS Knowledge Transfer. Knowledge Transfer Sessions continue for the Office of the Secretary staff to learn from knowledgeable subject matter experts. Subsequent sessions will be held every Friday for the duration of the blueprinting phase which is currently scheduled thru 9/30, and as needed and time allows through October

No change: OS Implementation Office is *Tweeting*! Follow us on Twitter "***@OSFBMS***". This social media forum is an opportunity for our OS community to ask questions, send comments, and learn more about the Deployment 6 Financial & Business Management Systems and the Implementation Management Office.

OFFICE OF NATURAL RESOURCES REVENUE

Office of Natural Resources Revenue

Strategic Review Implementation Work Group (IWG) Update (Ongoing): The 2012 Strategic Review IWG's will have a kick-off meeting with Assistant Secretary Suh and senior

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ONRR managers on Monday, September 19th, 2011, in the Denver office. Afterwards, the teams will break into their individual missions to share background information and receive the vision and direction from IWG Sponsors. Also, McKinsey will facilitate a discussion with ONRR senior managers to develop organization-wide performance measures.

Royalty Simplification – Valuation Regulations (No change): The comment period for the two Advance Notices of Proposed Rulemaking: "Federal Oil and Gas Valuation" and "Federal and Indian Coal Valuation" closed on July 26, 2011. ONRR reviewed the written comments and scheduled public meetings to discuss the comments and solicit further feedback. ONRR published the announcements for the oil and gas and coal public meetings on September 9, 2011, in the Federal Register. In addition, ONRR prepared a press release, and updated the communications plan. The public meetings are scheduled for the following dates:

Federal Oil/Gas Public Meetings

- Houston, Texas September 27, 2011
- Washington, DC September 29, 2011
- Denver, Colorado October 4, 2011

Federal and Indian Coal Public Meetings

- Denver, Colorado October 12, 2011
- St. Louis, Missouri October 18, 2011
- Albuquerque, New Mexico October 20, 2011

Report to Congress: Analysis of RSFA Provisions and Adjustments to Royalty Payments (No Change): ONRR has prepared a report to Congress as requested in GAO-08-893R, *Mineral Revenues: Data Management Problems and Reliance on Self-Reported Data for Compliance Efforts Put MMS Royalty Calculations at Risk*. The report examines the six-year time period during which companies may adjust their Federal royalty data without ONRR approval and ONRR's seven-year time period for issuing monetary demands. The report notes that the majority of company adjustments occur within the first three years of the six-year period. ONRR received and incorporated comments from the Office of Congressional Liaison (OCL). OMB has the report for review.

Indian Oil Negotiated Rulemaking (Update): ONRR is in the process of forming a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee (Committee) to address the valuation of crude oil produced from Indian leases. ONRR worked with the Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution and the Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to obtain a third party neutral to serve as facilitator for the Committee. The White House liaison approved the nominees for Committee membership. The Secretary signed a second *Federal Register* Notice of Intent, published August 22, 2011, to establish the Committee and propose the membership. The comment period on this notice expires September 21, 2011. Following expiration, ONRR will review all comments and prepare the Notice of Establishment and the Indian Oil Valuation Negotiated Rulemaking Charter. The Secretary will need to sign the charter for filing with Congress. The target date for the first meeting of the Committee is October 2011.

Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget
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September 14, 2011

Strategic Review Implementation Work Group (IWG) Update (Ongoing): The 2012 Strategic Review IWG's will have a kick-off meeting with Assistant Secretary Suh and senior ONRR managers on Monday, September 19th, 2011, in the Denver office. Afterwards, the teams will break into their individual missions to share background information and receive the vision and direction from IWG Sponsors. Also, McKinsey will facilitate a discussion with ONRR senior managers to develop organization-wide performance measures.

False Claims Settlement with BP Amoco Corporation (No Change): ONRR completed a $19.5 million settlement, plus interest, with BP Amoco Corporation (BP) and its affiliates to resolve False Claims Act accusations resulting from the Wright Qui Tam case. The U.S. Department of Justice and the ONRR Office of Enforcement negotiated the settlement agreement with assistance from the OIG and Office of the Solicitor. The settlement requires BP and its affiliates to pay $19.5 million plus interest for taking unallowable processing deductions and erroneously reporting royalties as unprocessed gas when they should have reported and paid royalties as processed gas. BP and its affiliates also failed to perform dual accounting on Federal leases as required. As in past settlements, the Justice Department will likely issue its own press release. ONRR's press release is currently under review by management and will issue it in conjunction with the Department of Justice release.

Cooperative Agreement Reviews (Ongoing): Staff from the State and Tribal Support office conducts Cooperative Agreement Reviews to enhance our partnership with the States and Tribes and comply with Section H 10 of the 202/205 Agreements and CFR Title 30, Part 227 (Delegation to States) and Part 228 (Cooperative Agreements with Indian Tribes). On a cyclical basis, ONRR is required to conduct attestations to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the Delegations/Agreements. The main areas reviewed include the audit work done under the Agreement, contract costs incurred under the Agreement, special provisions for safeguarding and maintaining work papers, and records developed under the Agreements and equipment. The California Cooperative Agreement Review will take place October 5-6, 2011.

Outreach with Individual Indian Mineral Owners (Ongoing): ONRR continues its outreach with individual Indian mineral owners. These meetings enable us to listen to concerns and suggestions for royalty accounting improvement, answer questions, and identify and resolve mineral-related problems in partnership with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Office of the Special Trustee. ONRR's goal is to enhance our trust responsibility and foster a positive working relationship with the Indian community. ONRR has scheduled an Outreach session on September 21, 2011, with mineral owners of the Kauley Settlement, in Anadarko, Oklahoma.

From:	Kemkar, Neal
To:	Neal Kemkar (CEQ) (nkemkar@ceq.eop.gov)
Subject:	FW: Bureau Reports
Date:	Wednesday, November 23, 2011 5:57:44 PM
Attachments:	Bureau Reports 2011.11.23.pdf Department-wide_Reports_awaiting_management_response_as_of_November_18_2011.xlsx

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From: Anderson, James E
Sent: Wednesday, November 23, 2011 5:52:40 PM
To: DOI_Politicals
Subject: Bureau Reports
Auto forwarded by a Rule

Good evening,

Attached are this week's bureau reports. The weekly report schedule will return to normal next week. Thanks to everyone for being flexible these last few weeks.

Have a great Thanksgiving!

Jamey

OIG - Reports Awaiting Management Response

November 18, 2011

Reports	Report Title	Bureau/ Office	Status	Response Due Date	Contact	Comments	PFM Action/Remarks
ER-IS-BIA-0010-2011	U.S. Department of the Interior Program Startup Inspection: Bureau of Indian Affairs Youth Initiative Program	IA	Due	12/14/2011	Patty Vendzules 703-390-6458		
ER-IS-BOR-0012-2011	U.S. Department of the Interior Program Startup Inspection: Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Grant Program	USBR	Due	12/14/2011	Elaine Ferrari 303-445-2788		
ER-IS-OSM-0011-2011	U.S. Department of the Interior Program Startup Inspection: Office of Surface Mining Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative	OSM	Due	12/14/2011	Towanna Thompson 202-208-2726		
Final R-GR-FWS-0004-2011	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Grants Awarded to the State of Georgia, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, From July 1, 2008, Through June 30, 2010	FWS	Complete	11/7/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		Response received by the OIG on 11/17/11.
Draft R-GR-FWS-0007-2011	Maryland Dept of Natural Resources	FWS	Extension	11/21/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0008-2011	Michigan Dept of Natural Resources & Environment	FWS	Extension	11/21/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0009-2011	Hawaii Dept of Land and Natural Resources	FWS	Extension	11/29/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0010-2011	Maine Dept of Marine Resources	FWS	Extension	11/21/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		
Draft R-GR-FWS-0011-2011	North Dakota Game and Fish	FWS	Complete	11/17/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		Response received by the OIG on 10/31/11.
Draft WR-EV-FWS-0003-2011	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Conservation Easement Monitoring and Enforcement	FWS	Complete	11/14/2011	Kathy Garrity 703-358-2551		Response submitted to the OIG on 11/15/11.
Final WR-EV-OST-0010-2011	Indian Land Consolidation Advisory: Need for an Appraisal Tracking System	OST		12/31/2011	Ray Joseph 202-208-3947		

Early Alert - Coming up
Due - Due within 10 business days or less of the response due date.
Late - After the response due date.
Extension - Reports that have been granted a response due date extension.
Completed - Response sent to OIG.

Attorney Client Communication – Confidential & Privileged

Office of the Solicitor Weekly Report for the Week of November 28, 2011

Deepwater Horizon Matters

Multi District Litigation

(b) (5)

Renewable Energy Litigation Updates

Upcoming Renewable Energy Decisions (Rice Solar Project – connected action project)

(b) (5)

Defending Other Renewable Energy Projects

(b) (5)

.

(b) (5)

Other Matters

Yellowstone Grizzly Distinct Population Segment

(b) (5)

Yellowstone Snowmobile Litigation

(b) (5)

Polar Bear Special 4(d) Rule

(b) (5)

Sonoran Desert Bald Eagle

(b) (5)

Challenge to the Grand Canyon Withdrawal Final Environmental Impact Statement -- Yount v. Salazar and BLM (D. Ariz.)

(b) (5)

Theodore Roosevelt Conservation P'ship v. Salazar (D.C. Cir.): Pinedale Anticline Project Area

(b) (5)

Native Village of Point Hope v. Salazar (D. Alaska)

(b) (5)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
THREE WEEK OUT REPORT
November 25, 2011

WEEK AHEAD

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area and Middle Delaware National Scenic River (PA/NJ) – Special Use Permit. On November 21, the Susquehanna to Roseland Line Right of Way (ROW) special use permit EIS package was published in the Federal Register; the 60-day public comment period will end January 31, 2012. The associated EPA Notice of Availability is not expected to appear in the Federal Register until December 2. Public meetings on the alternatives are scheduled to be held the week of January 23. The DEIS examines only the portions of the lines crossing the park and trail.

Roger Williams National Memorial (RI) – Special Use Permit. The park received special use permit applications proposing a First Amendment activity from a group calling themselves Occupy Providence. The park could not accommodate their initial request, as camping outside of designated sites or areas is prohibited, and there were no specific dates supplied for the proposed activity. Their second application was approved as it stated the proposed activity would be a "24/7 vigil to support Occupy Wall Street" and did not include any indication of camping and specified dates (November 15-29). The applicant could potentially apply for an unlimited number of sequential permits.

Point Reyes National Seashore (CA) – Extension of Public Comment Period for Draft EIS. Due to the release of the Marine Mammal Commission report regarding harbor seal ecology, the park extended the public comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company Special Use Permit to December 9.

Long Walk National Historic Trail Feasibility Study/Environmental Impact Statement Record of Decision. The NPS has completed the evaluation of the Long Walk for its feasibility and suitability as a National Historic Trail. The study finds that the Long Walk meets the criteria for National Historic Trail designation. However, the Navajo Tribal Council resolved not to support trail designation, and in subsequent consultations, the Nation favored no action on trail designation. The Mescalero Apache Tribe did not provide comments on the draft study to indicate any support for national historic trail designation. Therefore, the NPS respects the Navajo Nation's stated position and recommends a No-Action Alternative. Senator Tom Udall sponsored the passage of the study act in 2002. He is aware of the study's findings and has expressed an interest in seeking further consultation on his part with the Navajo to seek the Nation's support for National Historic Trail designation.

Canyon de Chelly National Monument (AZ) – NAGPRA Process Opposed by Navajo Nation. The initial consultation with Tribes for repatriation of human remains under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) began in June 2011. As all the land within the park is tribal trust land, the Navajo Nation Department of Justice recently sent a letter stating that the human remains are the Navajo Tribe's property, the NPS does not have the

legal authority to undertake the NAGPRA process, and the tribe may take the NPS to court if the park continues with the process. NPS and BIA solicitors have discussed this issue and have determined that the park must complete NAGPRA according to law and regulation. The NPS will be proceeding with the NAGPRA process unless the tribe files a court action.

Mammoth Cave National Park (KY) – Green River Crossing Rehabilitation Project. The Southeast Regional Director has signed the draft FONSI for the Green River Crossing Rehabilitation project. The project outlines improvements to be made to the infrastructure of the Green River Ferry Crossing within the park; however, a funding source has not yet been secured. Local residents supported construction of a bridge across Green River, which is not economically or environmentally feasible. A press release announcing the FONSI will be issued within two weeks.

Minute Man National Historical Park (MA) – Anticipated Appeal of Municipal Zoning Decision. The Town of Lincoln seeks to build a facility on a parcel landlocked by the NPS and the U.S. Air Force at Hanscom AFB; approval is anticipated at an upcoming zoning board meeting. Working with the solicitor's office, DOJ and the USAF JAG, the NPS plans to appeal the zoning approval to preserve park resources and maintain visitor safety.

ON THE HORIZON

Boston African American National Historic Site (MA) – Reopening of African Meeting House. The nation's oldest documented African American church building will reopen to the public on December 6, following a four-year overhaul that received $4 million in ARRA funding through NPS.

North Cascades National Park Complex (WA) – Release of Final Ross Lake National Recreation Area General Management Plan. The Ross Lake NRA GMP will be released on December 11. The key aspects are a name change, designating the portions of the Skagit River under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, converting a portion of potential Wilderness to Wilderness, and addressing seaplane use. The final GMP/EIS does not include expansion of the park's boundaries, a provision supported by some non-profit organization.

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park (AK) – Record of Decision for the Nabesna Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan and Final EIS. The Alaska Regional Director will sign a Record of Decision (ROD) in early December that will approve a management plan for Off-Road Vehicles and trails in the Nabesna District of the park and preserve. The NPS agreed to try to complete the EIS and decision by December 31, 2011, pursuant to a settlement agreement from a 2006 lawsuit by National Parks and Conservation Association, Alaska Center for the Environment, and the Wilderness Society. The ROD provides for improvement of nine trails in order to maintain one alignment and prevent resource impacts associated with degraded trails; permitting of recreational ORV use on improved trails in the National Preserve; continued allowance of subsistence ORV use in both the park and preserve; and a monitoring system that will prevent expansion of impacts associated with unimproved trails. The ROD also includes a proposal to re-classify eligible wilderness, which will result in a net gain of 16,929 acres of eligible

wilderness. The reclassification will result in motorized corridors that were in existence prior to 1986 being classified as ineligible, and a net gain in eligible acres. The Wilderness Eligibility Reclassification requires Director approval.

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park and Rock Creek Park (DC/MD/WV) – Non-motorized Boathouse Facilities. On December 13, a public meeting will be held regarding a feasibility study examining non-motorized boathouse facilities along the Georgetown waterfront in Washington, DC. The study will evaluate the structures and facilities that can be accommodated within this Non-Motorized Boathouse Zone. It will lay the groundwork for future decision-making regarding scenarios for improvement of NPS facilities or potential land exchanges for private development of boathouses, and compliance with NEPA and NHPA to implement the Non-Motorized Boathouse Zone.

WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument (HI) – Pearl Harbor Day 70th Anniversary Commemoration. On December 7, the park will hold its commemoration, the last one with a formal Pearl Harbor Survivors Association role as the organization folds on December 13. Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus, Senator Daniel Inouye, and Governor Abercrombie are scheduled to attend. The remains of a USS Arizona survivor will be interred at an NPS/US Navy ceremony in the afternoon.

Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site (MT) – General Management Plan Meeting. On December 14-15, a workshop will be held in Billings, Montana, to make the preliminary selection of the recommended preferred alternative for the park's GMP. Billings was selected as the site for the meeting to accommodate the needs of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, one of the park's four congressionally directed partners. All four of the park's tribal partners, plus the State of Colorado, and representatives of Kiowa County, are expected to be in attendance at the meeting.

Natchez Trace Parkway (MS/AL/TN) – Governor to Transfer Land to the NPS for Improved Native American Mound Access. The State of Mississippi is preparing to transfer an 86-acre corridor of land to the NPS for improved access to the Emerald Mound Native American Burial/Ceremonial Mound. The 56-acre site is currently managed by the NPS; however, access to the site requires visitors to take a poorly maintained county road. The exact date of the transfer has not been determined.

Joshua Tree National Park (CA) - Western Governors Association Meeting. The Western Governors Association (WGA) will hold its next regular meeting on December 7-8 in the Coachella Valley. The meeting will focus on two primary tracks: the recreation and tourism economy and greater interest and involvement in the outdoors by American youth. The role of national parks and their gateway communities in these two areas will be a specific focus of the meeting. As part of the meeting, the governors will visit the park and take part in a curriculum-based education program offered by park staff.

Week Ahead Report
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
November 21, 2011

Initiation of Public Scoping on Wolf Depredation Management Strategy for Western Oregon and Washington: In mid-December, FWS will issue a Notice of Intent to develop an Environmental Impact Statement for gray wolf management actions relating to wolf depredations on livestock in areas of Oregon and Washington where gray wolves are federally protected under the Endangered Species Act. This is similar in concept to what these states have done to prevent and address chronic depredation situations in the eastern parts of the states, where wolves are part of the recovered Northern Rocky Mountain population that is no longer listed. FWS will invite public input and hold public meetings in both states, probably in January. Controversial.

Proposed Rule to Revise Critical Habitat for the Lost River and Shortnose Suckers: FWS is revising proposed critical habitat for the Lost River sucker and shortnose sucker (fish) in two occupied units in Klamath and Lake Counties, Oregon; and Modoc County, California. Within the Upper Klamath Lake Unit, most of the acreage/miles occur on private lands whereas most of the acreage/miles in the Lost River Basin Unit are on Federal land (primarily FWS and Forest Service). This action is court-driven. The agricultural community is fearful that critical habitat may result in additional regulation and affect the economic viability of their operations. Because of potential controversy in the Klamath Basin, FWS has already begun contacting stakeholder groups and local government officials to explain and clarify the process, what it could mean to them, and the opportunity to comment when the proposed rule is published in the Federal Register. The target for submitting to the Federal Register is November 30, 2011.

Notice of 6-Month Extension of Final Determination and Reopening of Comment Period for the Proposed Listing of the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard as Endangered: The Service will publish in the Federal Register a notice of a 6-month extension of the final determination, and reopening of the comment period for 30 days, for the listing of the dunes sagebrush lizard under the ESA. Since the publication of the proposed rule, there has been substantial disagreement regarding the interpretation of the limited surveys used to determine the lizard's status and trends. This has led to a significant disagreement regarding the current conservation status of the species in New Mexico and Texas. In addition, there was sparse information on the lizard's presence in Texas, leading to substantial disagreement on the accuracy of our analysis of lizard habitat loss in Texas. Therefore, in consideration of the disagreements surrounding the lizard's population status and the loss of lizard habitat throughout the range, we are extending the timeframe for the final determination for up to 6 months in order to solicit information that will help to resolve these issues. This notice must publish in the Federal Register before December 15, 2011, in order to comply with the statutory deadlines of the Act.

FWS Smokey Canyon Superfund Site Report: Senator Barbara Boxer and the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee requested FWS to provide a technical review of the Smokey Canyon Superfund site report. The completed report has been sent to three outside reviewers. The FWS Director's office will be briefed in late November; all the reviewers' comments have been received and analyzed. FWS' report back to the committee is due December 1, 2011. FWS anticipates controversy.

2012 Update to the Federal Falconry Regulations: FWS will publish an update to the federal regulations governing falconry the week of November 21. Beginning January 1, 2012, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Tennessee, Virginia and Wyoming will operate under the revised federal regulations. Falconers in those states will no longer need federal permits to practice falconry. A number of small technical changes for clarification were also made to the regulations.

30-day comment period beginning on Draft Environmental Assessment for the Wildlife Ponds Project at Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Refuge in San Luis Obispo County, California: The FWS Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge Complex has issued a public notice that will appear in Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo (CA) newspapers Nov. 18, 2011, initiating a 30-day public comment period for the Wildlife Ponds Project EA. The EA proposes to create five to nine wildlife ponds occupying approximately 0.6 to 1.0 acres on the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Refuge. The primary purposes of the action are to benefit the federally threatened California red-legged frog, three federally endangered plants, and other wildlife species. This EA is not expected to be controversial.

Nisqually NWR Estuary Restoration award: On December 10 at Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge in Washington, the Coastal America Partnership will present awards to members of the Nisqually Estuary Restoration Team for its work on the largest estuary restoration in the Pacific Northwest. The team of state, federal, tribal, local and NGO representatives worked for more than 15 years to plan, fund and implement the restoration of over 900 acres of tidal habitat in the Nisqually Delta. Not controversial.

FWS concludes consultation on Boy Scout Reserve site: The FWS West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office has finalized the Boy Scout Reserve (Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve) ESA section 7 consultation and Corps of Engineers permitting process. The Scout Reserve is located in Fayette County, West Virginia. The construction crews will begin work on Monday, November 21; the national Boy Scout Jamboree is scheduled to occur on the site from July 15 to 24, 2013.

LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT
November 20 – December 3, 2011

SENIOR OFFICIALS' ACTIVITIES

Week of November 21, 2011
Acting ASLM Burke – In Houston Monday through Wednesday. Celebrating Thanksgiving on Thursday and (b) (6) .
DAS Baca – In the office Monday through Wednesday afternoon. Celebrating Thanksgiving on Thursday. (b) (6)
DAS Farquhar – In the office all week, except on Thanksgiving.

Week of November 28, 2011
Acting ASLM Burke – (b) (6) In the office Tuesday through Thursday. On travel to Houston on Friday to participate in the State of the Gulf of Mexico Summit.
DAS Baca – In the office all week.
DAS Farquhar – In the office all week.

HOT TOPICS

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Renewable Energy

- ***Update:*** **RECO Workshop:** *On Nov. 15-17, the BLM held a Renewable Energy Coordination Office (RECO) Workshop in the Washington Office. The RECO Workshop agenda included discussions of renewable energy policies and issues, updates on current initiatives, interagency coordination discussions, and several joint sessions with a National Transmission Project Managers' Workshop also underway in the Washington Office. On Nov. 15, the Secretary met with the RECO leads and Project Managers in a joint session.*

- ***Update:*** **Solar Priority Projects:** *On Nov. 3, the BLM Washington Office received the decision package for the 150-MW Rice Solar project. The DOI Strike Team cleared the ROD package for 150-MW Rice Solar project on Nov. 9. The Department is awaiting State SHPO approval of the cultural resources MOA for the project. The Rice Solar project is a 2011 Priority Project.*

- ***Update:*** **24 Solar Energy Zone:** *The BLM is scheduled to publish an amended withdrawal petition/application for the Solar Energy Zones (SEZs) by Feb. 29, 2012, following the end of the public comment period on the Supplement to the Solar PEIS. The BLM anticipates that the number of SEZs will likely decrease from 24 SEZs (677,000 acres) to 17 SEZs (304,000 acres).*

Fluid Minerals

- ***New:*** **Utah Sale Raises $49.5 Million:** *BLM-UT generated $49.5 million in bonus bids from the sale of 11 parcels covering 8,271 acres in its Nov. 15 oil and gas auction. The BLM offered 13 parcels covering 9,606 acres in total. The high bid per acre was $12,100, and the high bid per parcel was approximately $18.6 million. Six of the parcels sold contain portions of six parcels previously offered in BLM-Utah's December 2008 oil and gas lease sale. In an Oct. 2009 report, the review team concluded that the portions included in the six parcels offered on Nov. 15 could be suitable for leasing and environmentally responsible oil and gas development. The BLM prepared two environmental assessments to evaluate the potential effects of leasing the proposed parcels and to provide opportunities for public input and comment. On Sept. 15, the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance filed a protest on the six parcels. A proposed decision to deny the protest was forwarded to the Utah State Director on Oct. 2, and is awaiting signature.*

- ***New:*** **GAO Review of Hydraulic Fracturing Regulations:** *On Nov. 14, the GAO notified DOI of an inquiry into the BLM's hydraulic fracturing rulemaking. Specifically, GAO will look into the federal and state requirements governing oil and gas development from unconventional reservoirs, as well as the regulatory gaps or challenges federal and state agencies face in overseeing oil and gas development from unconventional reservoirs. The GAO is conducting the inquiry at the request of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the House Committee on Natural Resources.*

Congressional

- ***New: Briefing on BLM Draft Shooting Policy:*** *On Nov. 21, the BLM will brief the staff of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Minority Committee Staff on the BLM's draft policy on shooting sports. The BLM is working with the FACA-chartered Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council to develop guidance to protect long-term access to recreational target shooting. Rep. Jeff Flake (R-AZ) introduced monuments/shooting legislation, which proposes to keep monuments open to shooting unless there's a scientifically demonstrated conflict with public safety, national security, or existing statute. This proposed bill would effectively prevent line managers from making decisions based on local input and resource conflicts that are not specifically addressed by law (i.e., Endangered species or cultural resources issues could prevail but other public land uses like recreationists would not).*

OSM/BLM Consolidation

- ***New:*** **BLM & OSM Consolidation*****:*** *Directors Pizarchik and Abbey have held employee meetings in Denver, CO; Pittsburg, PA; and Alton, IL. On Nov. 21, the Secretary addressed OSM and BLM employees, along with OSM Director Joe Pizarchik and BLM Director Bob Abbey, discussing the consolidation of OSM within BLM. Approximately 100 employees attended the meeting in person, with almost 150 participating via conference call, and many more participating via streaming video. The Secretary's visit was a follow-up to his October 26th employee meeting, when he first discussed the Secretarial Order with OSM and BLM employees. On Nov. 22, the*

bureaus submitted a scoping report to DAS Baca. The outreach efforts will now focus on stakeholder meetings, as well as continued internal dialogue and opportunities on the web for both employees and stakeholders to provide input.

Wild Horses and Burros

- ***New:*** **Tri-State Calico Complex Gather:** *As of Nov. 20, 51 horses were gathered. The BLM-NV Winnemucca District will gather approximately 1,300 wild horses and 140 wild burros, of which as many as 350 wild horses would be released back to the range following the gather. Of the wild horses released back to the range, approximately 85 to 115 mares would receive a 22-month a PZP vaccine treatment. The AML for the HMA is 572 to 952 wild horses and 39 to 65 wild burros.*

- ***Update:*** **Red Desert Gather:** *As of Nov. 21, 899 horses were gathered by the BLM-WY Wind River/Bighorn Basin District. There were two gather-related deaths. The BLM plans to gather 1,140 wild horses from both inside and outside the HMA and remove about 800 horses. The AML for the HMA is 480-724 horses.*

Timber Sales

- ***New:*** **Oregon Timber Sales:** *The BLM-OR Ashland Resource Area is reviewing five timber sales scheduled for Dec. Three of the sales (Rio Rumble, Rio Sag, and Rio Power) are covered by a single EA. These sales total 480 acres and an estimated 2.6 MBF from density management and mistletoe reduction prescription. The MC Thin sale totals 178 acres and approximately 1 MBF. The O'Lickety sale totals 120 acres and approximately 1.3 MBF.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

- **No Change: Next 5-Year OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program (2012-2017):** The Proposed Program was publicly announced on Nov. 8, and was published in the Federal Register on Nov. 10. The NOA of the Draft PEIS was also published in the Federal Register on Nov. 10. Public hearings for the PEIS will be held on Dec. 5 through Dec. 16 in Washington, D.C.; Houston, TX; Mobile, AL; New Orleans, LA; and in the following locations in Alaska: Wainwright, Nuiqsut, Kaktovik, Fairbanks, Anchorage, Kotzebue, Pt. Hope, Pt. Lay, and Barrow.

- ***Update*****: Western Gulf OCS Lease Sale 218:** *The Final Notice of Sale and the NOA of the ROD were published in the Federal Register on Nov. 14. The Lease Sale 218 is scheduled for Dec. 14. The BOEM has agreed to host a delegation from Uganda at the lease sale, as requested by the BSEE Office of International Programs.*

- ***Update:*** **Mid Atlantic Wind:** *The BOEM expects to finalize the EA and FONSI by the end of Nov. On Nov. 14, a revised draft Programmatic Agreement for Section 106 consultations was sent to consulting parties for a 30-day review.*

- ***Update:*** **Atlantic Wind Connect:** *The BOEM has prepared a Request for Competitive Interest for a right-of-way for transmission to support offshore wind in the mid-Atlantic. The Federal Register Notice is in surnaming within BOEM.*

- ***Update:*** **Alaska Chukchi Exploration Plan**: *The BOEM is preparing an EA of the EP. The BOEM now has 30 calendar days to analyze and evaluate the EP. The public comment period for the EA closes on Nov. 26. The comment period on the EP closes on Dec. 7.*

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

- ***Update:*** **Shell Requests Clarification on BSEE Standards for Well Containment System:** *Shell submitted a matrix delineating BSEE and U.S. Coast Guard authorities for its proposed well containment system for its proposed Beaufort and Chukchi Sea exploratory drilling programs. Shell is requesting confirmation of what the regulatory boundaries are and what design standards will apply to the system. On Nov. 17, the Regional Director and staff met with Shell to continue discussions on capping and containment systems, as well as well capping analysis.*

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

- ***New:*** **Senate Energy & Natural Resources Full Committee Hearing:** *Directors Pizarchik and Abbey accompanied the Deputy Secretary to the Senate Committee Hearing at the Nov. 17 hearing on "the Secretary's Order No. 3315 to Consolidate and Establish the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement within the Bureau of Land Management."*

- ***New:*** **BLM & OSM Consolidation:** *Directors Pizarchik and Abbey have held employee meetings in Denver, CO; Pittsburg, PA; and Alton, IL. On Nov. 21, the Secretary, addressed OSM and BLM employees, along with OSM Director Joe Pizarchik and BLM Director Bob Abbey, discussing the consolidation of OSM within BLM. Approximately 100 employees attended the meeting in person, with almost 150 participating via conference call, and many more participating via streaming video. The Secretary's visit was a follow-up to his October 26th employee meeting, when he first discussed the Secretarial Order with OSM and BLM employees. On Nov. 22, the bureaus submitted a scoping report to DAS Baca. The outreach efforts will now focus on stakeholder meetings, as well as continued internal dialogue and opportunities on the web for both employees and stakeholders to provide input.*

- ***New:*** **OIG Review of OSM Reforestation Program:** *On Nov. 10, the OIG issued a report entitled, "U.S. Department of the Interior Program Startup Inspection: Office of Surface Mining Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative Report." In its report the OIG recommended that OSM develop performance measures for its Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative program. The final response is due by Dec. 9.*

WEEK AHEAD – November 20 to December 3, 2011

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Tuesday, November 29:

- **No change: Public Meetings on Coal Lease:** The BLM-UT Kanab Field Office will hold public meetings on the Draft EIS for the Alton Coal Tract Lease by Auction (LBA). The LBA covers Federal coal on 3,581 acres of public and private land near Alton, UT.

Friday, December 2:

- ***New:*** **Taos, NM RMP Issued:** *The BLM-NM will release the proposed Taos RMP and Final EIS for a 30-day comment period. The proposed RMP covers about 595,100 surface acres and 1,517,850 acres of mineral estate.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

Tuesday, November 29:

- ***Update:*** **Visit with House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee Chair:** *Director Beaudreau is scheduled for a courtesy visit with House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee Chair Mike Simpson.*

Wednesday, November 30:

- ***New:*** **Shinnecock Tribal Meeting:** *Director Beaudreau will hold an initial government to government meeting with representatives of the Shinnecock Indian Nation. Discussion topics will include: program initiatives, ascertaining the programs and geographic areas in which the Tribe has interest, establishing tribal designees/points of contact for future consultation meetings, establishing BOEM designees/points of contact for future consultation meetings; and discussion of any other matters of interest or concern the Tribe has that are relevant to BOEM's renewable energy initiatives.*

Thursday, December 1:

- ***New:*** **Visit with House Energy & Mineral Resources Subcommittee Chair:** *Director Beaudreau is scheduled for a courtesy visit with House Energy & Mineral Resources Subcommittee Chair Lamborn.*

- ***New:*** **Visit with Senate Interior Appropriations Committee Chair:** *Director Beaudreau is scheduled for a courtesy visit with Senate Interior Appropriations Chair Reed.*

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

Wednesday, November 30:

- ***No change:*** **Clean Gulf Conference:** BSEE Oil Spill Response Division headquarters and regional staff will be attending the Clean Gulf Conference in San Antonio, TX. The Conference brings together regulators, operators, responders, and other companies working on the oil and chemical spills, maritime security, and marine salvage industry. It promotes the latest products, services, technologies, and best practices as well as reviews the latest trends and developments in the oil spill response industry. Staff will make presentations at the Mega Session and during the State/Federal Update.

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

- ***Update:*** **Stream Protection Rulemaking (SPR):** *The contractor is scheduled to submit completed drafts of the EIS chapter 4 and the RIA by mid-Dec. OSM will conduct Tribal consultations on the rule in Dec. 2011, and will meet with state cooperating agencies in Jan. to provide an update on the rule's development and to solicit state participation in the review process. OSM is on track to publish a proposed rule by Apr. 2012, and a final rule by Dec. 2012.*

WEEKS AHEAD

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Wednesday, December 7:

- **No change: Oil and Gas Lease Sale in Eastern States:** BLM-ES will auction 45 parcels covering 20,949 acres in OH, LA and MS. The protest period closed on Oct. 7. The BLM received 34 protests on five parcels in Ohio's Wayne National Forest. Issues identified in the protests include the impact of drilling on endangered species and the impact of hydraulic fracturing on water resources.

- **No change: National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A) Lease Sale:** BLM-AK will hold an oil and gas lease sale in the NPR-A. A total of 283 tracts (3,060,176 acres) will be offered. Of those tracts being offered, 178 tracts (1,817,186 acres) are located within the Northeast planning area, and 105 tracts (1,242,990 acres) are located within the Northwest planning area. These tracts are being offered on the same day as a State of Alaska oil and gas lease sale, at which the state will be offering both onshore and offshore parcels.

Thursday, December 8:

- ***New:*** **Meeting on Wilderness Activities in Utah:** *BLM-UT St. George Field Manager Jimmy Tyree will meet with the mayors of Hildale and Colorado City, UT to discuss acceptable activities within the Canaan Mountain Wilderness Area. This meeting was requested by the mayors' through the office of Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT).*

Thursday, December 15:

- ***New:*** **Sage-Grouse Meeting Hosted by Nevada Governor:** *The office of Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval and the Nevada Department of Wildlife are tentatively scheduled to host an open house on sage-grouse issues on Dec. 15. The meeting will be open to the public and key stakeholders will be encouraged to attend. The meeting will coincide with the planned publication of the BLM's National Sage-Grouse Planning NOI, as well as the release of the BLM's National Interim Policy and the National Technical Team report. On Nov. 14, the BLM-NV briefed the governor's staff on the greater sage-grouse timeline.*

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

Early December:

- **No Change: Offshore Renewable Energy Development Workshop**: The BOEM is planning a workshop to provide a forum to exchange information between offshore energy developers, both traditional and renewable, relating to engineering and operations in the ocean environment. The workshop is scheduled for early Dec. and will be held in Washington, D.C.

Thursday December 8:

- ***Update:*** **Wind Offshore Maine:** *The BOEM has scheduled a BOEM/Maine Intergovernmental Task Force meeting in Portland, ME. A primary point of discussion will be the unsolicited request from Statoil for a commercial wind energy lease.*

December 5-16:

- **No Change: 5-Year program:** Public hearings for the Draft PEIS for the Proposed OCS Leasing Program will be held on Dec. 5 through 16 in the following locations: Washington, D.C.; Houston, TX; Mobile, AL, New Orleans, LA, and in the following locations in Alaska: Wainwright, Nuiqsut, Kaktovik, Fairbanks, Anchorage, Kotzebue, Pt. Hope, Pt. Lay, and Barrow.

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

Monday-Wednesday, December 5-7:

- **No Change: Energy Governance and Capacity Initiative (EGCI):** BSEE staff will provide the second technical assistance workshop for the Government of Papua New Guinea (PNG). The workshop entitled, "Regulating Offshore Field Operations through Exploration and Production and Pipeline Management: The U.S. Model" will be held in the capital of Port Moresby. BSEE expects 30 regulatory officials from the Government of PNG to attend the workshop. The EGCI is under the auspices of the Department of State.

Tuesday, December 6:

- ***New*: First Planned Safety and Environmental Management Systems (SEMS) Audit:** *Pacific OCS Region Field Operations has received the first 30-day notification of a planned SEMS Audit for a platform in the Pacific OCS. The audit will be conducted by a company called "Dcor", which will begin its audit on Dec. 6 at its onshore office, and will then move offshore to Platform Gina on Dec. 7. Consistent with applicable SEMS regulations, BSEE staff intends to accompany Dcor to observe and participate in this audit.*

Wednesday-Friday, December 7-9:

- **No Change: Regional Oil Pollution Preparedness, Resp*onse, and Cooperation (OPRC) Seminar:*** *The International Maritime Organization (IMO) is facilitating a Seminar entitled, "Regional OPRC to Focus on Developing National Plans for Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response Related to Offshore Units and Regional Cooperation," Dec. 7-9, in Nassau, Bahamas. The following countries will participate in the OPRC: the Bahamas, Cuba, Jamaica, Mexico, and the United States. The U.S. delegation will include representatives from U.S. Coast Guard, BSEE, DOJ, the Department of State, NOAA, and EPA.*

Wednesday, December 14*:*

- ***No Change: Interagency Coordinating Committee for Oil Pollution Re*search (ICCOPR):** *BSEE Oil Spill Response Division staff will participate in a meeting of the ICCOPR in Washington, D.C. The committee is currently finalizing a revision to its charter, completing a biennial report to Congress on interagency oil spill research, and initiating the development of a new national research priorities list.*

December 2011:

- **No Change: BSEE Inspection of Saipem's Scarabeo 9 Ultra-Deepwater Drilling Rig:** *BSEE personnel from the Gulf of Mexico Region and Headquarters will review Repsol's application for a permit to drill a well offshore Cuba in the FL Straits between Cuba and Key West, FL. Additionally, BSEE staff are planning to perform an initial inspection of the new ultra-deepwater drilling rig Scarabeo 9 owned by Saipem Drilling before drilling begins off the shores of Cuba.*

- ***Update:* BSEE/Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):** *In Early Dec., BSEE staff will meet with EPA to discuss mutual compliance and enforcement programs. This meeting will include determining appropriate points of contact to re-initiate the MOU between BSEE and EPA.*

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

- ***New:*** **Publication of an Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Navajo Mine Significant Permit Revision*****:*** *On Feb. 15,2011, BHP Navajo Coal Company submitted an application for a significant permit revision for the Navajo Mine, located on the Navajo Reservation. This request proposes to expand mining operations to approximately 800 Acres of Area IV North. By Nov. 30, OSM will release the EA and an unsigned FONSI on OSM's Western Region web site for a 30-day public comment period. The Navajo Mine has generated considerable public interest in the past from the Sierra Club, Dine CARE, and San Juan Citizens Alliance.*

Weekly Report
November 22, 2011

Memorandum

To: Meghan Conklin
Associate Deputy Secretary

From: Anne J. Castle
Assistant Secretary for Water and Science

Subject: Weekly Meeting Issues

Senior Officials' Activities Nov 21-Dec 9:
Anne J. Castle - Nov 22 in DC; (b) (6) ; Nov 28–Dec 9 in DC.
John Tubbs - (b) (6) ; Nov 28–Dec 9 in DC.
Lori Caramanian - Nov 21 in DC; Nov 22 in Phoenix, AZ for Glen Canyon AMWG meetings; Nov 23-30 in DC; (b) (6) ; Dec 6-9 in DC.
Tanya Trujillo - Nov 22-23 in DC; (b) (6) ; Nov 28-Dec 9 in DC.
Marcia McNutt - Nov. 14-22, McMurdo and South Pole Stations, Antarctica, National Science Foundation Official Visitors Program, including the U.S. Antarctic Program and the Antarctic Center at McMurdo Station; (b) (6) .
Mike Connor - Nov. 21-22 in DC; (b) (6) .

Reclamation

Reclamation – Shasta Lake Water Resources Investigation, Release of Draft Feasibility Report and Preliminary Draft EIS for Public Review (California)
The Mid-Pacific Region is planning to release the Shasta Enlargement Draft Feasibility Report and Preliminary Draft EIS by November 30 for a 90-day public comment period. These documents discuss the results of the engineering, environmental, economic, and financial studies to date, and will inform interested agencies, organizations, and individuals as Reclamation continues to refine and assess the potential benefits and impacts of alternative plans. A Draft EIS incorporating comments received on the Preliminary Draft EIS and updated water project operations studies will be prepared in the spring/summer of 2012.

Reclamation Phasing Out Private Boat Dock Permits at Vallecito Reservoir (Colorado)
Reclamation is phasing out private boat dock permits at Vallecito Reservoir, near Durango. The permits have an expiration date and do not include terms and conditions for renewal. New permits will not be issued in compliance with 43 C.F.R. 429, *Use of Bureau of Reclamation Land, Facilities, and Waterbodies*. On November 9, Reclamation's Western Colorado Area Office met with Colorado Senators Michael Bennet and Mark Udall as well as Congressman Scott Tipton's staffers in Durango, Colorado, regarding private boat dock permitting at Vallecito Reservoir.

Reclamation to Educate Public Opponents on the Closed Basin Project (Colorado)
The Closed Basin Project provides water to the Rio Grande to be sent to New Mexico as part of Colorado's Rio Grande Compact water. Without the project, local farmers would have to leave that amount of water in the Rio Grande. The project also provides water for wildlife mitigation in the area. Reclamation's Albuquerque Area Office has been dealing with a small group of opponents to the Closed Basin Project in Alamosa, Colorado, that continues to post letters in the local newspaper. The latest letter placed in the *Alamosa Valley Courier* criticizes the project and proposes that a documentary be produced to show the impacts of the project on groundwater levels in the San Luis Valley and the tremendous cost for operation. Last year, staff of the Closed Basin Project took a group of the critics out to tour the project and presented a PowerPoint presentation on some of the facts of the project. However, it is clear that the tour did little to sway their position. The Albuquerque Area Office and its Alamosa Field Division are working on a message to release to show the facts of the project. The Rio Grande Conservancy District has also started responding to some of the letters to the editor.

Film Maker to Visit Reclamation's Brackish Water National Desalination Research Facility in New Mexico
Reclamation's Albuquerque Area Office is working with an Albuquerque film producer and his crew who paid a visit to Reclamation's Brackish Water National Desalination Research Facility in Alamogordo, New Mexico, on November 15. The film crew will be conducting interviews and getting footage of the facility for a documentary being produced for New Mexico State University on the life and achievements of former Senator Pete Domenici, who was an advocate for the facility.

Blackfeet Water Rights Settlement Legislation (Montana)
On November 7, DOI met with the Blackfeet Tribal Council regarding the Blackfeet Tribe-Montana Compact and S. 399, the Blackfeet Water Rights Settlement Act of 2011. Great Plains Regional Director Michael Ryan accompanied Del Laverdure and Dion Killsback, from the office of the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, for a tour of the Blackfeet Reservation and the meeting. The group discussed concerns of the Department regarding the Compact and S. 399, as well as the Blackfeet Tribe's recent proposal to the Department which would significantly modify S. 399. Mr. Laverdure indicated additional work would be needed on the proposal before the Department could move forward. The group agreed to work together on the technical and programmatic parts of the proposal.

Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) Biological Opinion (BiOp) Litigation (Oregon, Montana, Washington, Idaho)
A September 27, 2011, meeting at the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) provided a forum to assure government alignment on the response to Judge Redden's August 2, 2011, Opinion and Order in the long-running FCRPS litigation. The judge found the 2008/2010 FCRPS Biological Opinion (BiOp) to be arbitrary and capricious on the grounds that habitat mitigation measures were not specifically identified beyond 2013, i.e., for the last five years of the ten-year BiOp period, and remanded the BiOp with direction to address specific deficiencies by January 1, 2014. The CEQ meeting addressed pros and cons of appealing the ruling and what the scope of activity would be in conducting the remand. The Action Agencies (the Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Bonneville Power Administration) and

the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration proposed a focused and aggressive approach to addressing the court's issues during the remand. The focused approach includes identification of habitat projects through 2018, improving the reporting of habitat research and monitoring results, and, through discipline, resisting efforts to "start over." On September 30, 2011, the Federal government filed a protective notice of appeal regarding the court's August 2, 2011 ruling. The protective notice preserves the government's option to pursue an appeal at a later date. On the same date, the 2010 FCRPS BiOp annual progress report was released to the public and filed with the court. After receiving an extension of time to comment on the 2010 FCRPS Annual Progress Report, Plaintiffs submitted their comments to the court on October 25, 2011. Plaintiffs' comments were highly critical of the FCRPS BiOp Annual Progress Report, claiming that the report does not allow the public to gage progress and asking for additional involvement of the court. The comments include a request that Judge Redden appoint a settlement judge to mediate the scope of the remand with the Plaintiffs and the Federal defendants, and that a panel of independent scientific experts be appointed to assess implementation of the Reasonable and Prudent Alternative. DOJ plans to file a response by November 16, 2011, opposing both of these requests and has provided the agencies with a draft brief for review by November 14.

Reclamation to Participate in Oregon Water Resources Congress (OWRC) 2011 Annual Conference in Hood River (Oregon)

Commissioner Connor will make the initial presentation to kick-off OWRC's annual conference on November 30. Later during the conference, Pacific Northwest Regional Director Karl Wirkus will participate with Robyn Thorson (Pacific Region Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) and others in a December 1 round table discussion on "Meeting Oregon's Water Needs." OWRC is an association of local governments, water districts, and other entities involved with irrigation in Oregon.

Remand Process for Coordinated Long-term Operation of the CVP and SWP Biological Opinion (California)

Parties to the litigation in the Delta Smelt Consolidated Cases and Consolidated Salmon Cases have been working toward December 2, deadlines to file a written report in each case, stating whether the parties have jointly agreed upon a schedule for completing the remand process to develop revised biological opinions (BOs) and complete National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance. If there is not agreement among all parties to the Delta Smelt Consolidated Cases, then the draft BO must be transmitted to Reclamation no later than December 14, and the timeline for NEPA compliance in the final amended judgment stands. If there is not agreement among the parties to the Consolidated Salmon Cases, then the parties must describe in the report to the Court the issues which the parties agree and the parties' separate positions regarding matters on which they disagree. The parties must also file proposed judgments including a schedule for remand on both ESA and NEPA.

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Proposed Rulemaking on Klamath Dam Removal (Oregon)

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality is proposing a rule stating the policy and procedures DEQ would use to evaluate whether or not the removal of J.C. Boyle Dam on the Klamath River would comply with the Clean Water Act, should a water quality certification for

the project be requested. A water quality certification may be requested if the Secretary of Interior determines that the dam should be removed and a federal license or permit is required. A public hearing will be held on December 6 in Klamath Falls. DEQ is seeking public comments by 6 p.m. on December 15.

Congressional Activities

- December 8: Senate hearing on "Water Security, Opportunities and Challenges Related to Technology." Details TBD.

US Geological Survey

International Energy Agency CO2 Storage Workshop, Paris: USGS energy scientists attended an International Energy Agency (IEA) hosted workshop "Second CO2 Storage Capacity Estimation Seminar: Developing Guidelines" in Paris, France, November 16-17, 2011. The IEA intends to recommend the U.S. Geological Survey's geologic carbon dioxide storage assessment methodology as a global standard. The USGS discussed the methodology and will assist in writing the guidelines for the IEA.

New Study to Determine Presence of Hibernating Bats and White-nosed Syndrome: White-nosed syndrome (WNS), a fungal disease that kills cave-hibernating bats, has spread rapidly from the northeastern United States to the mid-Atlantic region, and there is concern that the disease may soon affect western bat populations. There have been few bat surveys and no winter surveys of National Wildlife Refuges (NWRs) in the Pacific Northwest, so it is unknown if any of the potential 16 bat species are present. USGS wildlife biologist Joan Hagar is leading an assessment of the status of wintering bats at selected NWRs because hibernating bats are particularly susceptible to WNS. Study objectives are to determine whether potential hibernation sites at Little Pend Oreille (WA), Sheldon-Hart Mountain (OR/NV), and Mid-Columbia River (OR/WA) NWRs are occupied by bats in winter and by which species; evidence of WNS or other disease will be documented. Results will assist resource managers and scientists to minimize the threat of WNS.

Modeling Forest Disturbances and Carbon Cycling: USGS scientist, Shuguang Liu, is the lead author for the paper "Simulating the impacts of disturbances on forest carbon cycling in North America: Processes, data, models, and challenges," published on November 8 in the Journal of Geophysical Research. This research on the impacts of forest disturbances on the carbon cycle will help quantify regional and global carbon dynamics. This article finds that significant advances have been made in representation, scaling and characterization of disturbances that should be included in regional modeling efforts; there is a need for better modeling capability to quantify the immediate and long-term impacts of disturbances on various scales; and that there are inadequate databases on disturbances at the continental scale to understand their effects on the carbon balance in North America.

USGS Assists Partners in Siting New Idaho Streamgages: The USGS is assisting public utility Idaho Power Company (and the Idaho Department of Water Resources) in siting new Idaho Power streamgages near its hydroelectric projects along the middle Snake River in southern Idaho. Idaho Power operates other gages along the middle Snake, but both the utility

and the State water resources agency want to improve the availability and accuracy of streamflow information by installing gages nearer to dams. The accuracy of streamflow data along the middle Snake is particularly important when streamflow is near the minimum levels for hydropower operations. Area stakeholders need accurate streamflow data to avoid unnecessary curtailment of water rights. The USGS will continue to work with Idaho Power and the Idaho Department of Water Resources to check quality assurance of any newly-installed gages and on a water balance survey of reservoirs along the middle Snake River.

New York Times Conducts Background Interview on Induced Seismicity: USGS scientist William Leith, Associate Program Coordinator for the Earthquake Hazards Program, was interviewed by Henry Fountain of the New York Times and asked to provide background on induced seismicity. Mr. Fountain was not focused on the Oklahoma earthquake, but had been drawn to the question of earthquakes and fracking by the recent induced quakes in England and the recent report on past quakes near Oklahoma City. Dr. Leith explained that the larger earthquakes are triggered, in some cases, by the wastewater injection activity, not the fracking itself. Mr. Fountain asked if it would be prudent to put sensors in at injection sites. Dr. Leith said yes, for long-term high-volume operations--this has been a persistent recommendation of the USGS. Dr. Leith explained that USGS had only recently reestablished a research project on induced seismicity because of the increase in cases due to enhanced recovery activities. It is unclear if Mr. Fountain will publish any of the interviews as he called on the basis of background information only.

USGS TV Interview with NCSE on National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center: Douglas Beard, Chief of the USGS National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center (NCCWSC), received a TV interview request from the National Council for Science & the Environment to discuss the NCCWSC. The exact date of the interview is still being coordinated; however, it will take place at the 12th National Conference on Science, Policy and the Environment in Washington, D.C., January 18-20, 2012. The Science & the Environment Channel is broadcasting at the event and interviewing several organizations, focusing on how changes to the environment and climate may potentially impact key human requirements such as water, food, health, and energy. The conference will address how government, scientific, academic, business and environmental communities can work together to find solutions to these issues.

NPR/BBC Interview on Sea-Level Projections: USGS scientist Virginia Burkett was interviewed by NPR/BBC during the week of November 13, about the latest projections for sea-level rise. Burkett is a lead author of past and forthcoming IPCC chapters on sea level rise, and is involved in the USGCRP National Climate Assessment. The reporter expressed interest in sea-level projections from Harold Wanless of University of Miami and James Hansen regarding rapid pulses of sea-level rise over the period of decades instead of centuries. Burkett was asked questions about her research as well as whether those projections will be considered in the next IPCC report.

FGDC Launches New Geospatial Website: The Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC), in conjunction with several geospatial partners has released a prototype Geospatial Platform website providing an initial view of the future of user-friendly, integrated, Federal data collections on common geographic maps. Through the website, users can create their own maps

by combining their data with public domain data and can collaborate in public and private groups with others who share their interests. Maps assembled through the Geospatial Platform can be shared with others through web browsers and mobile technologies. All of this is possible without requiring users to install software on their own computers.

Memorandum

To: Chief of Staff

From: Chief of Staff, Indian Affairs

Subject: Indian Affairs Weekly Look Ahead Update

FOCUS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23, 2011

INDIAN AFFAIRS

Education

- BIE is developing individual school profiles and BIE "Fingertip Facts" for use by the political team and others wanting to know more about the BIE.
- The BIE Assessment is underway to determine areas of improvement and organizational realignment and it is having weekly meetings to update and monitor progress.
- BIE hosted a Native Language Institute which hosted 70 teachers and administrators providing professional development to assist in planning and designing Oral Native Standards and Assessments to tribes.
- BIE has been notified that it is being sued over the BIE's authority to make and enforce certain disallowed costs determinations and asking for a new policy regarding administrative expenditures of tribal grant schools. This matter has been referred to the Solicitor's office for legal opinion.

Organizational Improvement

- Administration Assessment: The contract completion date has been extended to December 16, 2011; all draft chapters have been provided to the internal IA team.

Economic Development

Leasing Regulations: On November 28, 2011, the Secretary will hold a press call to announce the proposed rule revising Indian Affairs leasing regulations (25 CR 162) to replace outdated provisions with transparent procedures for obtaining BIA approval of residential, business, and wind and solar resource leases on Indian land. This proposed rule would help facilitate leasing on tribal land by adding certainty to BIA approval timelines, eliminating unnecessary reviews, and provides deference to Tribes by approving leases at whatever amount they negotiate. The proposed rule will be available in the *Federal Register* public inspection website on November 28, 2011; it will appear in the *Federal Register* on November 29, 2011. Tribal consultation sessions will also be announced for the targeted dates: January 10, 2012, Seattle, Washington; January 12, 2012, Palm Springs, California; and January 18, 2012, Rapid City, South Dakota.

Indian Reservation Roads: The BIA and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) jointly provided a briefing to the staff of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on "Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century" or MAP-21. This bill as introduced by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works has significant changes for the largest program in the BIA. It will change the name of the program and the negotiated rulemaking of 2004 between the

Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Transportation and the tribes. The most significant change takes the negotiated formula (required by TEA-21, P.L. 105-178) by tribal governments and changes it from a road data/needs based concept to primarily population from the USHUD-based population data. The briefing by BIA and FHWA strictly identified the differences of what is now in the program and what is being proposed. No formula runs were shared, as they are still being reviewed by both BIA and FHWA. When this information is available, a briefing on its impacts will be provided to Indian Affairs leadership.

Outreach

- Planned Events:

  Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs:
  November 23, 2011, Speech, National American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month to FBI staff, Washington, DC.

  December 6 -7, 2011, quarterly meeting of the Tribal Interior Budget Committee, Washington, DC.

  PEPFAR Tribal Consultations:
  November 29, 2011 , Hilton Crystal City National Airport, Arlington, VA.
  December 7, 2011, US Grant Hotel, San Diego, CA.
  December 9, 2011, National Indian Training Center, Albuquerque, NM.
  December 12, 2011, Billings Hotel and Convention Center, Billings, MT

CONFIDENTIAL

November 23, 2011

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
Attn: James E. Anderson, Special Assistant

From: Ray Joseph, Principal Deputy Special Trustee

Re: Assistant Secretary Report for November 21 to November 25 and November 28 to December 2, 2011

Office of the Special Trustee (OST)
Assistant Secretary Weekly Report
November 23, 2011

Schedule and Activities
Principal Deputy Special Trustee Ray Joseph

- Management meetings in Washington (11/21-23,25, 11/28-12/2)

Review – November 14 to November 18

- **Update:** OST is concerned about the 638 appraisal program managed by the Yakama Nation. There has been (since 2003) and continues to be a backlog of appraisal requests. A BIA-OST team drafted a letter with best practices to be implemented by the tribe to reduce the appraisal request backlog. The letter also suggests that the Nation voluntarily return the program if it cannot implement the best practices and it contains an action plan that describes how the Office of Appraisal Services would handle the Yakama Nation appraisal workload in the event of a retrocession. The letter was forwarded to the BIA Awarding Official on November 17. BIA SOL is reviewing the letter for legal sufficiency prior to the Awarding Official sending it to the Yakama Nation.

- **Update:** The annual audit of the Individual Indian Money and tribal and other trust funds was released November 10. It was published on the OST website.

- **Update:** On November 16, the Fiduciary Trust Officer (FTO) at the Northern Cheyenne Agency conducted financial literacy training for at-risk youth in the Second Season Program. The program is funded through a government grant to redirect youth involved with the Northern Cheyenne Prosecution Office.

- **Update:** The trial for the Jicarilla Apache Nation v. U.S. litigation commenced November 8 and concluded on November 17. The Nation is seeking an accounting and to recover monetary loss and damages related to the U.S. government's breach of its fiduciary duty in allegedly mismanaging the Nation's trust assets and other funds.

- **Update:** FTOs at the Osage Agency and the Tulsa Urban Office presented a fourth financial skills workshop at the Wah Zha Zhi Cultural Center in Pawhuska, Okla., on November 19. The event provided general information regarding financial education and was geared to Osage shareholders who anticipate receiving funds from the tribal

litigation settlement signed October 21. However, the workshop was open to the public and covered sudden wealth, credit and debit, investing, avoiding scams, the psychology of money, probate and estate planning, and whereabouts unknown.

Week Ahead – November 21 to December 2

- **New:** DOI and DOJ hope to make offers to 74 Settlement Proposal to the Obama Administration (SPOA) tribes a few weeks after the third White House Tribal Nations Conference on December 2. In support of the settlement work, the Office of Historical Trust Accounting is updating joint account Expedited Settlement Evaluation Methodology (ESEM) results for 11 tribes, providing trust-land acreage information for nine tribes, and summarizing trust fund ESEM results into judgment and non-judgment account categories. The Office of Appraisal Services is providing market study evaluations for agriculture and grazing in four regions, as requested by SOL. Also, DOJ and SOL are discussing counter-offer ranges for the Otoe-Missouri and Miami tribes.

- **New:** The FTO at the Colville Agency is presenting three financial skills training sessions at Grand Coulee High School's career day, in Grand Coulee, Wash. The training will take place November 23.

- **New:** On November 28, the FTO at the Osage Agency will present a financial skills workshop at the Hominy Cultural Center in Hominy, Okla. Another workshop will be held November 30 at the Grayhorse Community Center in Fairfax, Okla. These events will provide general information regarding financial education and be geared toward Osage shareholders' anticipation of receiving funds from a recent tribal settlement. The workshops will be open to the public and cover such topics as sudden wealth, credit and debt, investing, avoiding scams, the psychology of money, probate and estate planning and whereabouts unknown.

- **Update:** OST's Field Operations schedules outreach events, training seminars and meetings at powwows, schools and other venues. More than 20 activities were held in November.

- **No Change:** The OAS Rocky Mountain Regional Office carried over last fiscal year's appraisal request backlog of 153 for a total pending workload of 479. Both the quantity of requests and a period of time when the region lacked full staffing contributed to the backlog. The Office of Appraisal Services proactively addressed the issue by sending a special backlog team to tackle it. Team members were deployed for two weeks, starting October 24. The team's effect on the workload numbers will be available when the appraisal reviews are completed, around late November.

- **No Change:** OST is finalizing information submitted by other DOI offices and bureaus for the quarterly *Status Report to the Secretary of the Interior from the Principal Deputy Special Trustee for American Indians*. OST's IT Manager and IT staff members visited DOI's Advanced Security Operations Center on November 9 to study IT security risks to be reflected in the report. The final report will be available early in December. The report continues to compile a record of trust activities in lieu of the discontinued Quarterly Report to the Court.

On the Horizon

- **New:** The FTO at the Blackfeet Agency will partner with personnel from the Browning Community Development Corporation to provide financial skills training to Browning High School students. The training will be held December 5-6 in Browning, Mont.

- **Update:** Treasury's Financial Literacy and Education Commission (FLEC) was scheduled to meet with OST personnel on November 18 to discuss OST's culturally sensitive financial skills training. The meeting was postponed. OST is seeking to emulate Treasury's best practices and to determine if an OST-Treasury relationship would result in this audience-specific financial skills training being implemented through other agencies.

- **Update:** BIA and OST are working with USDA to create a central point of access and a uniform loan application to improve the loan process in Indian country. OST is participating on the training and technical assistance subcommittee of the working group.

- **Update:** On October 3, Treasury transferred the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Act funds of $290 million principal and $144 million interest for OST to invest. Pursuant to the Economy Act, Treasury requested that OST invest and manage the transferred principal and an interagency agreement (IAA was signed on October 25. Treasury would have incurred expenses for comparable investment services at a higher rate through the private sector. Treasury and OST are working on six additional IAAs and memoranda of understanding for similar legislative settlement act funds. SOL is currently analyzing the on-off budget nature of the six funds.

- **No Change:** Nemont Utility Co. received a USDA grant to use ARRA funds to install a fiber optic infrastructure across the Crow Reservation, the Ft. Peck Reservation and on intervening private lands. The week of November 7, Nemont's contract appraiser and OST's Review Appraiser in Montana appraised Phase I of the fiber optics rights-of-way on the Crow Reservation. Nemont has provided notice that their board of directors has given restart approval, which contains a go-no/go decision in January as a safety precaution to ensure things are all still moving in the right direction.

- **No Change:** Tribes raised the issue last winter about deposits of successful oil and gas bidders being held in interest bearing accounts while leases await approval. BIA and OST personnel met with members of the Fort Peck Tribe to advance resolution of this issue. To reconcile concerns raised by the tribe, discussions continue among the tribe, SOL, AS-IA and OST regarding draft statutory language.

U N I T E D S T A T E S
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

November 22, 2011

Memorandum

To: David Hayes, Deputy Secretary
Meghan Conklin, Associate Deputy Secretary
c/o James Anderson, Special Assistant

From: Rhea Suh, Assistant Secretary-Policy, Management and Budget

Subject: November 22, 2011, Policy and Other Issues

This provides major policy and other issues that fall under the purview of the Assistant Secretary – PMB.

POLICY

Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC) Meeting: The Invasive Species Advisory Committee convenes their fall 2011 meeting December 6-8 in Washington, DC. This is the first meeting for new members who were appointed earlier this fall. The theme of the meeting is invasive species and commerce with presentations on ballast water discharge and regulation and advanced invasive species detection methods. In addition, there will be a special session on e-commerce activities and the sale of many invasive species or potentially invasive species over the internet. Lori Faeth, DAS for Policy and International Affairs will welcome new members to the ISAC.

Senior Officials Exercise. Larry Broun represented the Department at Senior Officials Exercise 3-11, which addressed intentional contamination of the food chain with massive fatalities in the U.S. The exercise was led by the White House National Security Staff; lead agencies were HHS, USDA, FDA, DOJ/FBI and DHS. The exercise highlighted the need for rapid identification of the source of such contamination and the need for effective information sharing across all agencies and levels of government. While DOI does not have specific responsibilities in this scenario, the exercise reinforced our previous lesson-learned during from H1N1 influenza preparedness that DOI should assure that Tribes and DOI bureaus with responsibilities for public safety on Federal lands are effectively wired into the information-sharing process during health emergencies.

MANAGEMENT

ONRR Receives Clean CFO Audit for Fiscal Year 2011: In a clear demonstration of ONRR's effective processes and controls, and for the first time in its history, ONRR did not receive a single financial CFO audit finding for Fiscal Year 2011. This accomplishment reflects ONRR's commitment to continuous improvement and excellence in all aspects of mineral collection and disbursement. Additionally, ONRR was lauded by the CFO auditor for submitting every 'prepared by client' (PBC) deliverable by or before the due date. Timely PBC submissions are an effective indicator of ONRR's strong internal controls and organization.

BUDGET

2012 Continuing Resolution. The government is operating under the second 2012 continuing resolution PL 112-36, which funds government operations through November 18. The third CR (HR 211) that would continue government operations through December 16 was passed by the House and Senate as part of the 2012 Agriculture, Commerce-Justice-Science and Transportation-HUD spending measure. The measure, which the President is expected to sign on Saturday, passed the House by a vote of 298-121 on Thursday afternoon and the Senate passed the measure on Thursday night by a vote of 70-30.

2012 Appropriations. Current thinking is that the remaining nine appropriations bills will be combined into one omnibus spending package. Efforts to build a second minibus package around the Energy-Water bill (HR 2354) stalled in the Senate. The conference agreement set more generous funding levels for certain food programs than those in the House-passed version of the Agriculture appropriations measure. Also, momentum is building in the House against the passage of 2012 appropriations at the level set by the Deficit Reduction Act. Budget Chairman Paul D. Ryan of Wisconsin and Deficit Committee Co-Chairman Jeb Hensarling of Texas, voted against the first minibus because it contains more spending than the House-backed budget resolution (H Con Res 34).

Collapse of Deficit Committee Negotiations. Leaders of the deficit panel on Monday confirmed what had been expected for nearly two weeks: They could not "make any bipartisan agreement" for cutting the deficit by $1.2 trillion before their Wednesday deadline. Although the co-chairmen and several of the other members of the bipartisan panel expressed hope that "Congress can build on this committee's work," it is unclear how the chambers will be able to address the difficult and polarizing issues that drove the 12-member committee to failure.

The Budget Control Act requires that in the absence of an agreement on deficit reduction, there will be $1.2 trillion in automatic budget cuts, known as sequesters. The first automatic cuts will take effect Jan. 2, 2013, and will fall equally on defense and non-defense accounts, including both discretionary spending and some mandatory, or entitlement, spending. The second sequester will occur a month later, when the president submits his budget for fiscal 2014; the sequester will change the caps on that year's discretionary spending levels and impose across-the-board cuts in mandatory programs. Subsequent sequesters will occur each year with the submission of the president's budget request. Medicaid, Social Security, veterans' spending and programs targeted at low-income Americans will be largely exempt from automatic cuts. Medicare cuts can amount

to no more than 2 percent of the program's outlays, and they will affect only payments to providers, not to beneficiaries.

A new law would be required to change the sequesters. After the Thanksgiving recess, some GOP senators, led by John McCain of Arizona and Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, are expected to offer an amendment to the pending fiscal 2012 defense authorization bill that would lift the sequester on defense dollars. But proposals for eliminating those cuts drew rebukes from the White House. President Obama said in a statement Monday evening that he would veto "any effort" to end sequestration and said there should be "no easy off-ramps" to coming up with the $1.2 billion in deficit reduction. Opponents of undoing the sequester are likely to cite a new statement from credit rating agency Standard & Poors that said the committee's failure to reach a deal would not affect the United States' credit rating because spending will still be reduced under the sequester — but the report also noted that could change if the cuts did not stand.

OTHER

2011 Combined Federal Campaign for the National Capital Area (CFCNCA). As of November 17, Interior is one quarter of the way towards our 2011 CFCNCA campaign goal of $600,000, having raised $149,965, an increase of over $47,000 from November 7. Unlike last year, the CFCNCA is indicating that the campaign will end in just over four weeks on December 15. The table below shows the status of contributions and the goals relative to the December 15 date. It is important to note that last year, most of Interior's contributions came in after December 15.

DOI's Got Brains! weekly trivia competition continued to narrow the field to reach the final four teams to compete on November 30. Here are the results:

- November 9: NPS fell victim to the unbeaten OIG Trust, But Verify team and the BLM Brainy Managers beat out the OSM Surface Miners.
- November 10 – Special Veterans Day game: Air Force's Air Superiority finally overtook the Army/Marines Commandos Team after several rounds.
- November 16: Office of Strategic Employee and Organizational Development Team #2 fell victim to the FWS Wise Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Woodchucks, who then in turn were trounced by the Air Force Air Superiority team. The IA Hanging Around the Fort team was victorious over the BOEM/BSEE Refried Brains team.

Upcoming events include:

- November 30 – **Interior's Got Brains! Final Four games**: Air Force Air Superiority against IA Hanging Around the Fort and OIG Brain Trust, But Verify against BLM Brainy Land Managers. Noon in the Bison Bistro.
- December 8 – **DOI's Got Talent!** at 10 am in the Yates Auditorium. Talent is still being sought for this event.
- December 14 – **CFC Extravaganza!** Final event will feature the DOI's Got Brains! championship, an auction, bake sale, karaoke and announcement of the winner of contest to identify the total donations in the CFC change jug.

IG/GAO Reports. The list of current reports and their status is attached.

Attachments:
PMB Office Reports

cc: Deputy Assistant Secretaries—Policy, Management and Budget

Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget
Weekly Office Reports
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POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

New: OEPC Alaska Office Coordinates Information on Bering Sea Storm: During the recent Bering Sea Storm, in accordance with the *DOI Disaster Response Plan for Alaska*, the OEPC Alaska Office served as the Alaska-based single-point-of-contact for providing information to Alaska-based DOI Bureau Emergency Contacts on the storm, collecting information on DOI Bureau employees and facilities at risk from storm-related winds and flooding, and communicating appropriate information to the DOI Watch Office. The OEPC Alaska Office also stood ready to help coordinate DOI Bureau assistance that may have been required.

Update: National Response Framework (NRF). Signed by President Obama in March 2011, Presidential Policy Directive (PPD) 8 aims to strengthen the security and resilience of the United States through systematic preparedness for the threats that pose the greatest risk to the security of the Nation, including acts of terrorism, pandemics, and catastrophic natural disasters. As part of this Directive, a multi-agency workgroup has been assembled to review the NRF and revise the Framework as needed. The OEPC is part of this endeavor due to their role as primary agency for Emergency Support Function #11 – Protection of Natural and Cultural Resources and Historic Properties under the NRF. The first workgroup was held November 7. During the workshop, the OEPC representative was successful in advocating for consideration of response activities to tribal lands and insular areas as issues to be addressed in the rewrite of the NRF.

Update: DEEPWATER HORIZON Oil Spill Response. The OEPC headquarters and regional staff continue to provide support to senior DOI officials, and the Gulf Coast Incident Management Team (GCIMT) based in New Orleans. The GCIMT is targeting an end of phase 3 and 4 operations by the end of this hurricane season, and an end to response operations by late November.

- The OEPC continues to work with the DOI Pollution Removal Funding Authorization (PRFA) Cost Documentation Team to review and improve DOI bureaus/offices' reimbursable cost documentation packages and submit them to the US Coast Guard (USCG) National Pollution Fund Center (NPFC). DOI bureaus and offices have received PRFAs totaling $96.8 Million in reimbursable budget authority. So far, DOI has submitted cost documentation packages totaling $51.49 Million and the USCG has processed and reimbursed in full a total of $14.76 Million.

- The U.S. Coast Guard's Federal On Scene Coordinator (FOSC) Report on the DWH Oil Spill Response was recently submitted to the National Response Team (NRT), which was briefed at its last meeting. The FOSC report refrains from strongly scoring key issues encountered in the DWH spill response and avoids making recommendations. Rather, it

provides a Coast Guard narrative of the DWH spill response, with input from DOI and other agencies that participated in the Unified Command.

- The U.S. Coast Guard submitted its draft Commandant Instruction memo for Spills of National Significance (SONS) response management to the NRT for review, with concurrent review by the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. The memo would institutionalize many features of the SONS response structure and functions that were utilized during the DWH oil spill response, and addresses certain recommendations contained in reports issued by the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling; the National Incident Command; the USCG's Deepwater Horizon Incident Specific Preparedness Review (ISPR); and the FOSC Report on the DWH Oil Spill Response. Finalization and implementation of the draft Commandant Instruction memo for SONS response management is anticipated by Jan 1, 2012.

Office of Policy Analysis

New: Convention on Biological Diversity and Invasive Alien Species. The National Invasive Species Council staff attended the 15th meeting of the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (7-11 November, Montreal) to provide input into the development of recommendations on invasive species as related to: the pet trade, live bait and live food; the use of international standards; and future priorities for work. The recommendations will be considered by the CBD's Conference of the Parties in 2012. Presentations on the development of national invasive species strategies and on linkages between invasive species and the Global Island Partnership were delivered at events during the week.

New: Water Research Foundation. The National Invasive Species Council staff will serve on a Professional Advisory Committee together with the Bureau of Reclamation and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection experts to help guide a Water Research Foundation (WRF) funded project concerning microscopic algae that can disrupt potable water storage reservoirs and drinking water treatment facilities.

Update: Arctic. Policy Analysis is leading intercessional work of the Arctic Council EBM Experts Group; in particular an effort to ascertain the science and traditional knowledge needs for pan-Arctic EBM. The Policy Analysis Director worked with Canadian and Norwegian delegates to the Experts Group to identify process and objectives. Policy Analysis worked with representatives from BOEM, IARPC, the Special Advisor for Alaska Affairs, and the Deputy Secretary's office to help plan a workshop on science needs for offshore policy decisions in the Arctic.

Update: Agency Adaptation Working Group. Policy Analysis is participating in the Interagency Adaptation Working Group, which supports the Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force and is cultivating ongoing interagency coordination on adaptation. The Working Group met on November 17 and discussed possible guidance for agency climate change adaptation planning. In support of the DOI Climate Adaptation Working Group, Policy

Analysis provided information and expertise to revise the High Priority Performance Goals for this Departmental priority.

Update: Technology Transfer. Policy Analysis met this week with USGS and BOR subject matter experts and started drafting a Departmental Manual chapter that would deal with, and update, policies and procedures related to technology transfer.

Update: Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act. Policy Analysis participates on the recreation fee working group, which includes representatives of the five agencies (Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and U.S. Forest Service) authorized under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA). On November 15 and 17, the working group held meetings to discuss a communication strategy and a legislative strategy leading up to sunset of FLREA at the end of 2014.

Ongoing: Estimating the Benefits and Costs of DOI's Fire Program. Policy Analysis, the DOI Wildland Fire Coordination Office, and bureau fire program staff held a teleconference on November 22 to discuss the benefit/cost project, identify contacts, and address any questions regarding the approach to the analysis. Policy Analysis is continuing its work to prepare a review of the literature and fire models.

Ongoing: Economic Report. Policy Analysis is continuing to hold meetings with bureaus to discuss various technical issues related to preparation of the FY 2011 Economic Report. Over the coming 2 weeks, the Office will compile data on grants/payments necessary for the economic contribution analysis. On November 22, Policy Analysis, the USGS, and bureaus held a teleconference to discuss the next steps involved in estimating the number of jobs and economic contribution from DOI-related restoration projects.

Ongoing: Klamath Economic Support. The Economics staff is continuing to review preliminary data and results from the non-use survey and provide additional comments on the economic analysis included in the draft Secretarial Decision Overview Report. Some additional preliminary results were provided by the contractor early in the week of November 14, with a final report from the contractor delivered on November 18. Staff also reviewed a number of draft responses to economics related comments that were received on the draft environmental impact statement.

Office of Native Hawaiian Relations

New: Hawaiian Home Lands – The ONHR is meeting with the Chairman for the State of Hawaii Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to discuss ONHR concerns with the potential improper issuance of leases to non-qualified beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act. The ONHR and the Chairman will also discuss a possible hydrogen/micro-grid project for Hawaiian Home lands on the Island of Hawaii. Initial discussions with the Office of Electrical Reliability and Office of Hydrogen, Fuel Cells, and Infrastructure Technologies at the

Department of Energy regarding the hydrogen/micro-grid project are set for the week of November 28.

New: US Fish & Wildlife Service Cultural Orientation – Diversity Training – The ONHR coordinated and co-presented a Cultural Orientation training for 15 Ecological Services, Law Enforcement, and Fisheries staff and 6 Refuges staff, providing the participants with some history about Hawai‘i and Native Hawaiians, an overview of the various laws protecting Native Hawaiian rights and interests and requiring consultation, and tools and practical guidance on working with Native Hawaiian organizations and the community in general. The training was well-received and greatly appreciated, with participants asking for more. The participants also received diversity credit for the training.

Update: US Fish & Wildlife Service Sharpe Law Fellowships – The ONHR assisted the Region 1 office in conducting interviews of law students at the University of Hawai‘i William S. Richardson School of Law for three fellowship positions in the summer of 2012. One position will be with the Pacific Islands Climate Change Cooperative, another is with Ecological Services, and the third is in Virginia with the Office of ESA Litigation. ONHR will be participating as one of the mentors for the student selected to work with Ecological Services.

Office of International Affairs

New: Colorado River Negotiations: On November 15**,** OIA staff hosted a conference call with Jennifer Pitt, Director of Environmental Defense Fund’s (EDF) Colorado River Project, as well as BOR and Solicitor’s office staff to discuss U.S./Mexico cooperation on the Colorado River. BOR and SOL staff provided an update on negotiations of a new minute for comprehensive management of the Colorado River Basin under the 1944 U.S./Mexico Boundary Waters Treaty. EDF expressed appreciation for the Department’s leadership, and encouraged DOI to take a proactive role, in partnership with the conservation community, to explore options for financing water conservation measures needed to restore the Colorado Delta ecosystem, which has been decimated by inadequate environmental flows in recent decades.

New: Briefings and Discussion on USGS international programs: On November 9, the OIA Director and Policy Division met at USGS headquarters with the Acting Director of the USGS International Office and her staff of regional specialists as well as USGS substantive leads for international work on issues such as biodiversity, Earth observations and water. The discussion and briefings were extremely useful for deepening OIA’s understanding of USGS programs and strengthening DOI/USGS relationships to serve and support coordination with those programs, improve communication, and support information needs of DOI management.

New: Field Coordinating Committee: The OIA staff participated on a Field Coordinating Committee (FCC) conference call on November 16 to debrief last week’s meeting in Silver City, NM and to determine how often future meetings should be convened. The Committee decided that subsequent FCC meetings should be held annually (vs. biannually) due to Department-wide cuts in travel budgets. One suggestion was to “piggyback” or dovetail off of an existing

conference/meeting (e.g. the Trilateral Committee in Santa Fe, NM on May 14-18, 2012) and/or add an extra day to the agenda.

New: Indigenous Peoples in Voluntarily Isolation Regional Workshop: The OIA-ITAP will sponsor an international workshop of Indigenous Peoples in Voluntarily Isolation in Bogota, Colombia on November 24-25, 2011. The workshop objective is to open a multi-country dialogue and review (1) the current status of how these countries approach Indigenous Peoples in Voluntarily Isolation and Initial Contact, (2) existing protection policies and (3) legal frameworks and policies among Andean Amazon countries. Government representatives and technical experts from Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia and Brazil will attend. This work is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

New: Assessment of Indigenous Territories in Peru: The OIA-ITAP will conduct an initial assessment of several indigenous territories in the Loreto Region of Peru to evaluate the general threats to these territories (e.g., deforestation, climate change, extractive industries projects) and their impact on the local economy. DOI will also develop a baseline on the knowledge, use of, and threats to medicinal plants in indigenous territories. The data will help the Loreto Regional Government and the indigenous communities define specific activities to protect their territories, traditional knowledge, and use of medicinal plants. This work is funded by the USAID.

New: Natural Resource Management Curriculum Development in Oman: An OIA-ITAP protected areas management specialist will attend a workshop in Oman in preparation for the creation of Oman's National Field Research Centre for Environmental Conservation. The establishment of this research center is an important part of OIA-ITAP's work in Oman. The specialist will also travel to Jordan in order to initiate dialogue between Omani and Jordanian partners to contribute to cooperation on the national ranger training center being developed in Jordan, with support from OIA-ITAP. This work is funded by the Department of State.

Update: Arctic Policy: The OIA staff attended a November 10 interagency meeting chaired by the State Department to discuss access challenges inherent in working in the Russian Arctic. The agenda covered the documentation and logistical hurdles necessary to work in Russia and the merits of various potential solutions (including revamped bilateral agreements, regular interagency lesson sharing, and specific actions for the US embassy in Moscow). As a next step, DOS is collecting more information from particular agencies. USGS and FWS were also in attendance. OIA has shared meeting notes and next steps with BOEM, BSEE and NPS.

Update: Automation of Foreign Travel Approval Process: On December 1, OIA will launch the automated approval process for the DI-1175 foreign travel request form. The new system will increase efficiencies in the approval process and will allow OIA to store and search data on the foreign travel of DOI employees. The system, based on a SharePoint platform, will cover all bureaus except USGS, whose existing system requires additional development time and is expected to be incorporated by March 2012. The OIA will be hosting demonstrations of the new system for interested parties on December 1 and 2.

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YOUTH, PARTNERSHIPS AND SERVICE

New: Office of the Secretary Interns. The OS internship program has completed its recruitment process for the Spring semester and will be making selections in the coming weeks.

Ongoing: MOU between DOI, USDA, U.S. Army Corps and Wilderness Inquiry. Five year Memorandum of Understanding undergoing revisions to renew agreement between DOI (BLM, BOR, NPS, FWS), Forest Service and the Army Corps of Engineers to cooperate on providing increased opportunities for outdoor recreation for people of all abilities, economic circumstances and cultural backgrounds.

Ongoing: MOU between DOI, USDA and HistoriCorps. DOI SOL and USDA attorneys have completed review of a new MOU between DOI (BLM, FWS, NPS), USDA (Forest Service), HistoriCorps, The Corps Network and the Student Conservation Association to cooperate on projects and activities related to preservation of historic structures, sites, artifacts, landscapes, and other resources and to conduct heritage education at the national, regional, and local levels.

Ongoing: OPM Pathways Program Advisory Council. The Office of Youth in the Great Outdoors represents the Department on the Federal Pathways Advisory Council. The Office plays a key role in advising OPM on the history and future of Federal Internships. The Youth Office representative is chairing a subcommittee on implementation guidance for the Pathways Program.

New: Federal Advisory Committee on a 21st Century Conservation Service Corps. The Office of Youth completed a comprehensive website to share, in real time, information on the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps Federal Advisory Committee. The office worked collaboratively with the Office of the Secretary's New Media Office.

New: Federal Advisory Committee on a 21st Century Conservation Service Corps. Lisa Young and Eugenie Bostrom participated in a two day training to become familiar with rules, regulations and workings of Federal Advisory Committees.

Renewed: Veteran/Youth Fire Corps. The Office of Wildland Fire, Youth Office, SOL staff and ASPMB Acquisitions & Property Management are working together to develop guidance to DOI Offices and Bureaus on the use of "multi-bureau cooperative agreements." A pilot agreement focused on Veteran/Youth Fire Corps will be one of the first model agreements to distribute as an example.

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TECHNOLOGY, INFORMATION AND BUSINESS SERVICES

Office of the Chief Information Office

New: IT Shared Services Strategy. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provided its draft Information Technology (IT) Shared Services Strategy document to federal agencies in the Executive Branch for comment. This is in alignment with the "Shared First" concept, presented by the Federal Chief Information Officer (CIO). The strategy calls upon agencies to achieve some key deliverables within one year. Agencies are asked to identify three functional (administrative) areas for migration to a shared service by April 2012, and complete these migrations by December 2012. The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) compiled comments to OMB on the draft document from the Department of the Interior (Department), and Bureau and Office stakeholders. While the Department is supportive of the overall shared strategy concept, concerns were voiced over the practicality of the aggressive timeline set by OMB, as well as need to take a more business-centric approach. The Department recommended that the document be reviewed by other federal governance bodies including financial, acquisition and human resources officers before being issued in final version.

New: Electronic Mail Outage. At approximately 11:50 a.m., on Thursday, November 10, 2011, the Office of the Secretary Exchange Mail System failed due to a server problem. This outage affected both internal and Outlook Web Access users. The operations staff restored service at approximately 12:45 p.m. Some customers lost electronic mail credentials during the outage and needed assistance.

New: Mandatory Compliance with Enterprise Information Technology Solutions Released. The CIO issued a memorandum mandating compliance with enterprise IT solutions. The memorandum was issued in response to several Bureaus and Offices expressing their intention to pursue their own IT product purchases independent of the Department. Several Bureaus and Offices have also indicated their plans to make their own IT standardization decisions rather than participating or leading Department-wide IT product decision-making and policy activities. The memorandum reminds Bureaus and Offices that in order for the IT Transformation to be successful, all organizations within the Department must participate in and adhere to enterprise IT initiatives. This will drive standardization for the overarching IT infrastructure, which will reduce costs and improve performance over time. Bureaus and Offices were reminded that they are not to pursue independent IT infrastructure acquisitions and implementation activities, but must work in collaboration with Department-wide efforts.

Update: IT Transformation Quick Wins. The OCIO announced the completion of four Quick Wins: (1) Collaborative IT Support in the Field, (2) the Interim Unified Messaging Solution, (3) the procurement of an enterprise Mobile Device Management solution to expand the deployment of tablet computers and (4) the migration to an External SharePoint infrastructure that fosters collaboration with DOI partner organizations. The email also announced the next round of Quick Wins for first quarter of fiscal year 2012. These will be completed by December 31, 2011, and include:

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1. Secure web access to Quicktime for all Department employees;
2. The implementation of instant messaging across all Departments;
3. Bureau of Indiana Affairs (BIA) and the Office of Special Trustee for American Indians (OST) activities with the OCIO to streamline the Department IT network for greater interoperability and reduced cost of operations; and
4. The implementation of the recently acquired enterprise Mobile Device Management solution.

Update: IT Workforce Planning. OCIO staff held a joint meeting with SRA, the consultant engaged to lead the IT workforce planning for the IT Transformation and McKinsey Consulting, who is leading the development of the detailed IT Transformation implementation plan. The purpose of the meeting was to coordinate work between the two consultants, eliminate any gaps in deliverables, and ensure a smooth integration between their respective bodies of work.

Update: Enterprise Asset Discovery Initiative (EAD). The EAD project is on track for the November 30, 2011, completion. USGS and BIA preliminary scans are complete. NPS is still seeking approval from its officials to proceed. All participating Bureaus are awaiting the risk acceptance document from the Department's CIO to proceed with more detailed scans of their infrastructure. The risk acceptance document has been submitted to the CIO for signature.

Update: FY11 Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) Report. The metrics for this year's FISMA report to OMB and Congress were distributed by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and validated by the CIO Council. The completed report is was submitted to OMB on November 15, 2011. While the FISMA report identified potential areas to work on for next year, no material weakness were identified by KPMG, our external auditors, or by the OIG.

Office of Valuation Services

New: NACT Meeting. The NACT meeting is scheduled for Thursday, where we will be updating the OVS performance metrics through FY 2011.

Update: OVS Appraiser Positions. We have received the list of eligibles for the GS-13 review appraiser vacancies. The applications are being reviewed this week.

Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution.

New: Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative. CADR is providing process guidance and support for the team staffing Assistant Secretary Rhea Suh on this Open Government initiative.

New: OSM-BLM employee meetings. CADR is providing advice and facilitation services to senior managers holding employee meetings to discuss the possible merging of the OSM and the BLM. Field office meetings were held last week and an a DC meeting will be held next week.

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New: Youth program needs assessment. CADR is assisting in a process for gathering feedback and input on the current and future state of the youth program and office.

Update: FOIA ADR training. The first FOIA ADR training was delivered last week for DOI FOIA practitioners and attorneys. The goal of the conflict resolution training is to improve communication and efficiency in processing FOIA requests and reduce complaints and delays.

Update: National Indian Gaming Commission Tribal Advisory Committee. CADR continues to provide process design and facilitation services for the NIGC's Tribal Advisory Committee. The committee is working on regulatory revisions.

Ongoing: Geospatial Project. CADR is facilitating the coordination between DOI's core team and the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution in support of the joint effort to select a vendor and deliver the phase 1 prototype of a landscape geospatial information tool for use by senior leadership.

Update: Landscape Conservation Cooperatives. To reduce contract costs, CADR is facilitating a meeting of the 21 LCC regional coordinators next week to gather input on the LCC National Council.

National Business Center

New: AMD Assists FEMA in Continuity of Operations Planning for Bering Sea Storm. An AMD employee who has trained extensively in emergency management was lauded for her assistance this past weekend in Alaska. This employee responded to a call for her expertise when western Alaska experienced some of the highest winds and surf on record. Our employee was mission assigned by FEMA to provide aircraft scheduling and support. Her efforts were recognized by the DOI Regional Environmental Officer.

New: **AMD Participates in USGS/OSM Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Operations.** AMD personnel participated in a joint USGS/OSM Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Proof of Concept mission in Charleston, WV. The operation involved operation of the Raven RQ-11A Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) in airspace over the Powelton Mine, Fayette Co, West Virginia. The flights were used to determine the operational effectiveness, cost-benefit and future use of remote sensors to provide assistance with oversight of the West Virginia coal regulatory and abandoned mine land programs designed to ensure that surface coal mining operations are conducted in accordance with the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977.

Update: Financial and Business Management System implementation. The NBC has been and will continue to provide off hours support for FBMS processing for the Fish and Wildlife Service and Office of the Secretary implementations. We have worked with the FBMS Project Management Office to process and complete all catch up files for all Deployed bureaus.

Update: Fiscal Year 2011 financial services year-end close. The NBC successfully completed

the End of the Year close for its financial services customer the Federal Trade Commission, and International Trade Commission.

New: Interior financial services. The Bureau of Indian Affairs contacted the NBC for financial management services. BIA is considering using NBC's Permanent Change of Service (PCS) and Travel Payment services, with work to begin in January 2012. Also, if approved, the NBC will assist BIA with their FBMS implementation in these areas.

New: NBC Administrative Operations and GSA hosted the International Editorial Food Service Council (IEFSC) Briefing and Tour of the Bison Bistro. The facilities management staff provided coordination and logistics for the meeting on November 9th. The DAS-TIBS, representatives from GSA, and Sodexo welcomed the 27 members of the IEFC and briefed them on the vision for the Café, construction, innovative food service contract, health and sustainability in menu offerings and earning the LEED Platinum certification by the Green Building Council. A tour of the facility followed with an emphasis on the composting equipment and program.

New: Administrative Operations Schedules Bureau and Office Administrative Contact Meeting for November 17th. An invitation was sent to DOI Bureaus and Offices administrative contacts on Nov 8th. The purpose of the meeting is to inform contacts of upcoming projects and changes impacting operations and services, reacquaint with contacts to ensure they know who to contact and how to obtain our services, answer questions, and receive feedback on NBC services.

New: LED Lighting Project for the MIB Garages and Cooling Tower Space. The contractor, PFD Mechanical, Inc., completed installing LED lighting in approximately 80% of zones 3-5; this is being pursued as a means for realizing energy efficiency. The work is expected to be completed by mid-November.

Update: Meeting with DOI University to discuss Field Office Locations: DOIU is planning to close the Anchorage training facility and relocate to Sacramento, CA. The facility will be in a building that NBC has a delegated authority lease. Space for staff and training is expected to be approximately 2,000 square feet.

Update: Secretary's Garage Door: Overhead Door Company replaced the detector loop on and the door is now working properly.

Update: SIB organic garden planting and maintenance. NBC Staff is continuing to monitor the recently planted fall garden, and will likely be able to harvest some of the vegetables (lettuces, chard and kale) in as soon as a few weeks. We are working to determine the best use, rather the harvest be donated or featured as a special dish/demonstration in the cafeteria. Our Project Search students continue to work in the garden on a regular basis during this critical growing phase.

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Update: Implementation of the Capital BikeShare program. The Capital Bikeshare membership codes were issued by Administrative Operations staff to approximately 135 DOI employees. We have scheduled the Confident City Cycling class, taught by Washington Area Bicyclist Association, for December 13th in the Yates Auditorium. A LAN message notification of the safe bicycling training will be distributed.

HUMAN CAPITAL AND DIVERSITY

Office of Human Resources

New: electronic Official Personnel Folder (eOPF) Access. The Accountability team has arranged for each of its members to have access to eOPF department-wide, now that eOPF has been rolled out across the entire department. This access will facilitate accountability reviews, but also will allow team members to review files remotely and follow-up on ongoing actions.

New: New Senior Executives, Professionals, and HR Specialists. Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget Rhea Suh welcomed forty Senior Executives, Professionals, and HR Specialists to the FY 2011 Senior Executive Service (SES) / Senior-Level (SL)/ Scientific/Professional (ST) Performance Review Board briefing on November 4, 2011. Speaking on behalf of the Executive Resources Board, she provided guidance to Performance Review Board members on the importance of their role in making recommendations for recognition (performance awards) for those individuals who made significant contributions to organizational performance. Performance Review Boards are expected to finish their work the week of November 21, 2011 which will allow for final recognition decisions to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

Update: Human Capital Management Report – The Human Capital team has started gathering information to be placed into OMB MAX HCMR system. Accountability Program Manager Lin Cord has begun transferring some data in to OMB MAX.

Update: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) Human Capital Accountability Review. The Accountability team is preparing for an upcoming review, to be led by the Office of Human Resources (OHR), of the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM). The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE), and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) are all sending volunteers to participate on the review. The review team leader conducted a telecom with the team to go over logistics and other details. In addition, the review team issued a customer perspective survey to all OSM employees and supervisors. OHR also issued a questionnaire to selecting officials and selectees as part of the delegated examining portion of the review. Advance information is due to OHR no later than close of business November 18, 2011. OHR has arranged for the entire team to have access to OSM's eOPF files. This will greatly facilitate the review process because of the elimination of paper records. The Accountability team will also conduct a survey, using Zoomerang, of all selecting officials and employees selected through the delegated examining process by OSM.

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Update: Upcoming Accountability Reviews. All of the bureaus have submitted their accountability review schedules for FY 2012**.** In addition to the OSM review mentioned above, the Accountability team will be participating in the following reviews scheduled over the next several months:

- Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Region 5, Hadley, MA, date TBD
- National Park Service (NPS), Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, MS, date TBD

Update: USAJOBS 3.0 Teleconference Meetings – The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has requested assistance in having agency OHRs review the current "override" locations to determine if it is of better use than the established geographic location codes.

Update: Pathways Programs – Pathways continues to advance in the effort to refine the draft Implementation Guidance. OPM plans to notify the CHCOs of the Subcommittees' progress sometime in January.

Completed: Presidential Rank Awards. Following an extensive nomination process in the spring and a government-wide competition that occurred over the summer months, on September 30, 2011 the President approved two Rank Awards for DOI Executives. Rowan Gould (FWS) will receive the President's rank of Distinguished Executive, with a monetary award of 35% of his pay, and William Dickinson (NPS) will receive the President's rank of Meritorious Executive, with a monetary award of 20% of his pay. Congratulations may be offered now to these deserving executives, however, no public announcements (such as a Departmental Notice or a Press Release) are permitted until the Office of Personnel Management grants permission.

Office of Civil Rights

New: White House Initiative Office on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (WHI-HBCU). On November 15, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) is participating in a strategic planning meeting with the WHI-HBCU. Attendees include Mr. Robert Stanton, Senior Policy Advisor to the Secretary, and the National Park Service Minority Serving Institutions Office. The focus of the meeting is to review existing and develop new strategies to strengthen DOI partnerships with HBCU students and faculty. The meeting is being held in the Main Interior Building, North Penthouse.

New: Diversity Training Event for HR & EEO Community. On November 16, 2011, OCR, Bureau EEO Officers, and HR Practitioners participated in transgender training in the Main Interior Building in the North Penthouse. The training was conducted by Donna Rose, a world class educator on transgender issues. This training is designed to sensitize HR/EEO Practitioners to transgender issues and to provide technical competency for practitioners to handle transitions or complaints based on gender identity.

New: Federal Interagency Diversity Partnership Inaugural Training Day. On November 17, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights participated in the Federal Interagency Diversity Partnership Inaugural Training Day. This training event, entitled *"Promoting Diversity and Inclusion Throughout the Federal Workforce,"* took place at the U.S. Department of Health and Human

Services, Hubert H. Humphrey Building located in Washington, D.C. The training brought together Diversity, EEO, and HR practitioners from Federal agencies to learn best practices and address emerging issues in the areas of Diversity and Inclusion. The keynote speakers and workshop facilitators were senior officials from Federal agencies, including the Office of Personnel Management, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and the Office of Management and Budget.

New: Harpers Ferry Compliance Review. On November 22, 2011 Public Civil Rights Division Chief Sloan Farrell and Senior Equal Opportunity Specialist David Quirino will participate in the first "Feasibility Study" for potential accessibility upgrades to the Goodloe E. Byron Bridge and Spiral Staircase at the Jackson House located at Harper's Ferry Historical National Park (HNP), West Virginia.

New: Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's (EEOC) Office of Federal Operations (OFO) meeting. This week, OCR Director Sharon D. Eller and DOI's Chief Diversity Officer (CDO) John Burden met with EEOC's OFO to begin discussions around building a curriculum for the EEO professional community that addresses diversity and affirmative employment competencies. Their objectives are to improve the affirmative employment programs' capability to instantly connect their managers and supervisors to diverse candidate pools, particularly college graduates in the fields of study in the categories of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), and the Hispanic/Latino community.

Maintaining a citizenry that is well versed in the STEM fields is a key portion of the public education agenda in the United States. The end result of building this course will be a two day training class taught by EEOC, and the CDO to further develop skills in affirmative employment and outreach to minority communities. They also want to teach their EEO professionals how to leverage the active leadership engagement and accountability that the Diversity Change Agent Program has generated. The program will be piloted with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in February 2012.

Update: National American Indian Heritage Month. The Department of the Interior joins the Nation in observing National American Indian Heritage Month, November 1- 30, 2011. The theme for the observance is *"Service, Honor, Respect: Strengthening Our Cultures and Communities."* Since 1976, Presidents of the United States have proclaimed a day, week or month of recognition for Native Americans. During National American Indian Heritage Month, Interior celebrates the rich cultural traditions and proud ancestry of American Indians and Alaskan Natives and recognizes the vital contributions these groups have made to the strength and diversity of our society. In observance of American Indian Heritage Month, Indian Affairs is sponsoring a program on Tuesday, November 29, 2011 in the Sidney Yates Auditorium, Main Interior Building.

Completed: Public Civil Rights Coordinators Meeting. On November 17, 2011, new Public Civil Rights Division Chief Sloan W. Farrell presided over the Public Civil Rights Coordinators meeting held at the Main Interior Building. Sloan, who joined OCR from the General Services Administration (GSA), was introduced to the group by OCR Director Sharon D. Eller. He

discussed his philosophy and explained the importance of compliance reviews. In addition, it gave the group an opportunity to share best practices and where there is need for improvement. The agenda also included the Age Reports which needs to be submitted to the Department of Justice by December 1, 2011. This is a report that deals with age discrimination in Federally-assisted programs, services, or activities.

Completed: Federal Interagency Diversity Partnership Inaugural Training Day. On November 17, 2011, the Office of Civil Rights attended the Federal Interagency Diversity Partnership Inaugural Training Day. This training event, entitled *"Promoting Diversity and Inclusion throughout the Federal Workforce,"* took place at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Hubert H. Humphrey Building in Southwest, Washington, D.C. The event brought Diversity, EEO, and HR practitioners together from various Federal agencies to learn best practices, and address emerging issues in the areas of Diversity and Inclusion. The keynote speakers and workshop facilitators were senior officials from Federal agencies, including the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Office of Strategic Employee and Organizational Development

New: Chief Learning Officers (CLO) Council Meeting: This week, the Office of Strategic Employee Organization Development (OSEOD) Director Sandy Wells attended a CLO meeting at OPM's Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, VA. The group is discussing learning and development initiatives that support cost and operational efficiencies across the federal landscape.

New: Organizational Initiatives: OSEOD has made temporary organizational changes due to a crisis situation at the National Indian Program Training Center (NIPTC) in Albuquerque, NM. We have convened a NIPTC Recovery Team lead by DOIU President Lynn McPheeters to conduct a partial Reduction in Force (RIF) at NIPTC, develop a business plan for future training to be provided by NIPTC, and ensure the stability of NIPTC space issues.

Office of Occupational Safety and Health

New: Industrial Hygiene Workgroup: The Industrial hygiene Workgroup met to review the Departmental Manual (DM) Chapter 21 on Radiation, the National Radon Action Plan, the HPS Welfit earplug testing device provided by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health and the fiscal year (FY) 2012 Exposure Assessment Initiative.

Completed: Safety and Health Council Meeting: The Safety and Health Council met in Herndon on November 17-18, 2011. The agenda included the bureau action plan chapter, the Safety Management Information System (SMIS) progress, radiation safety, and safety week activities for 2012. The council decided to hold two three day meetings in FY 2012 instead of four two day meetings because three of the bureaus have very tight travel budgets. The council

members also toured the National Park Service's Manassas Battlefield Park located in Manassas, VA.

LAW ENFORCEMENT, SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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No Change: Short-term Access to Government Computers for Emergency Response. Fire program representatives from Interior and Forest Service hosted a meeting at the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise on October 27-28 for DOI and USDA IT security staffs to see first-hand the set of use cases and business requirements that wildland fire has. The group toured parts of the Fire Center and the next door Boise Interagency Dispatch Center. The meeting was highly successful, with all attendees gaining a greater appreciation of the business requirements and security requirements. As a result of the meeting a formal presentation of the business issues and proposed compensating controls is being developed. This will be presented to the Chief Information Officers in Interior and Agriculture by the end of the year for their approval.

No Change: Radio Transformation. The senior steering group met on November 1 to review the project planner's draft scope and project outline documents. Feedback was given by the group and new drafts will be prepared.

No Change: Fire IT Project. The Roadmap Team met in Boise the week of October 24 to continue development of the strategic goals and objectives and to identify associated action steps. Next meeting is the week of November 28.

No Change: Gulf Coast Response Staffing. The DOI Incident Commander in New Orleans briefed the Senior Advisor in OLESEM and the NPS/FWS regional offices on Coast Guard planning for "Stage 5" organization and the associated Interior staffing that will be required. Interior presence at the incident command in New Orleans is expected to continue through early 2012.

No Change: Interagency Interoperability. The Service First Leadership Team was briefed on the Interagency Interoperability Oversight Group and the current status of addressing barriers to interconnection between agencies (for such things as computer sign-on, video teleconferencing, and connection to other agency peripheral devices). Solutions to these problems require both technical changes and changes in agency policies. The Service First Leadership Team expressed a strong desire for interconnection to enable interagency work to take place more efficiently. A detailed report on status and required resources/actions will be delivered to the Team within 30 days in order for them to assist with resolving the issues.

No Change: Use of National Technical Means (NTM) in Support of Wildland Fire. On August 10 an interagency meeting of representatives from wildland fire, geospatial programs, and the intelligence community took place to discuss opportunities to better utilize information from national technical means assets of the intelligence community in support of various aspects

of the wildland fire program. An interagency governance group to identify requirements and opportunities and to coordinate better delivery of services will be created.

No Change: Civil Applications Committee Coordination. The chair of the CAC (USGS Deputy Director Suzette Kimball) and the Interior CAC representative (Deputy Assistant Secretary – Water and Science) briefed the Deputies Operating Group in March on the mission and purpose of the CAC and solicited bureau input on improving coordination within Interior.

No Change: Interagency Dispatch Improvement. All bureaus/agencies have signed the charter. Plans for a meeting or conference call of the Steering Committee are underway

Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES)

New: OLES is Participating in an Arctic-Issues Meeting. OLES, in collaboration with the Office of International Affairs, it is participating in a State Department-sponsored meeting with Dr. Lawson W. Brigham—one of the foremost experts on Arctic issues—to discuss Arctic-related issues of interest to the U.S. Government.

New: OLES is Coordinating Interagency Threat Analysis. In response to OLES' efforts to educate interagency partners on the intelligence needs of the Department of the Interior, OLES has fielded initial inquiries from both the Department of Homeland Security's Intelligence and Analysis Directorate and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's National Maritime Intelligence Center offering to support the intelligence requirements pertaining to the DOI's land and maritime borders. OLES will schedule meetings to scope the level of support and identify the appropriate representatives to participate in this process.

Update: The OLES is Collaborating with Interagency USG Partners - OLES continues to reach out to its interagency partners to explore shared resourcing and leveraging best practices to achieve cost-effective solutions to its counterintelligence and insider threat programs.

Update: Main Interior Ramps/Bollards. Ramp D is currently closed for the installation of the new bollard system and all deliveries are currently being re-routed to Ramp G.

Update: Updated Security Equipment. OLES purchased and received seven (7) new magnetometers (walk through metal detectors) for MIB and SIB. The new magnetometers are in the process of replacing the current outdated systems located in the lobbies and mailroom. In addition, the Physical Access Control System (PACS) contract will be awarded once FBMS is out of blackout.

No Change: Interagency Security Committee (ISC) Prohibited Items Working Group. OLE, Security Division, is participating in an interagency committee addressing prohibited items in Federal facilities. The Prohibited Items Working Group is chartered to:

- Develop Interagency Department standards prohibiting specific items for entry into all Federal facilities.

- Provide a forum for the ISC to identify by a consensus a list of all prohibited items and an explanation as to why those items are prohibited.
- Develop a process for denying prohibited items into Federal facilities once a list has been agreed upon.
- Obtain a consensus from the Federal community for the standards and/or best practices for the denial process.

No change: The IMARS Cloud Computing Solicitation Issued. The IMARS contracting officer issued the solicitation for IMARS Cloud Computing on October 21. Proposals are due by November 18. The Cloud Computing Initiative is required by the 25 Point Implementation Plan to Reform Federal IT released by the Federal Chief Information Officer from the Office of Management and Budget.

Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

New: Domestic Resilience Group (DRG) Interagency Policy Committee. On November 21, department and agency representatives at the DRG will be asked to concur on a new National Preparedness System Description, a milestone in the implementation of the Presidential Policy Directive 8 on National Preparedness. The DRG will also be briefed on Presidential Policy Directive 7 on Critical Infrastructure, the National Security Professional Development Emergency Management Pilot program, and results of Senior Officials Exercise 3-11 (see item above). Larry Broun will attend.

New: American Council for Technology/Industry Advisory Council. On November 10, Larry Broun participated in a panel discussion at the human capital shared interest group of the American Council for Technology/Industry Advisory Council. ACT/IAC is a non-profit, public-private partnership dedicated to improving government through the application of information technology. The topic involved emergency management activities during the recent earthquake in the Washington, DC, area and methods used by emergency managers to rapidly provide guidance to employees and the public in such situations.

Update: Emergency Response Activities. The Interior Operations Center (IOC) monitored the following activities during the past week:

- *Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Response:* Sixty-six DOI personnel continued to work full-time on Deepwater Horizon cleanup planning and operations. Response activities continue to move forward as the operations transition to USCG Region VIII management, which is described as 90% complete.
- *Dengue Fever Outbreak:* Outbreaks of Dengue Fever have been reported in the Republic of the Marshall Islands and on Yap in the Federated States of Micronesia. Two deaths have been associated with this outbreak on Yap. The CDC, World Health Organization and local health authorities are working to contain these outbreaks.
- *Bering Sea Storm:* On November 8, western Alaska was hit with a huge coastal storm that brought hurricane-force winds, coastal storm surge and blizzard conditions. The storm caused flooding and wind damage to some coastal communities as storm conditions persisted

for more than 24 hours. No significant damage was reported to DOI facilities and no injuries of DOI personnel were reported.

- *Kilauea and Volcano:* Kilauea Volcano remains at Alert Level "Watch," Aviation Color Code "Orange."
- *Wildland Fire Issues:* Nationally, the Wildland Fire Preparedness Level is 1 with light Initial Fire Attack activity. The number of DOI personnel participating on Interagency Firefighting teams averaged around 165 persons daily last week.
- *Earthquake activity:* Aftershock activity continues in Oklahoma from the Magnitude 5.6 earthquake that occurred on November 5. The previous record for the largest Oklahoma quake was a magnitude 5.5 that occurred near El Reno on April 9, 1952.

Update: Indian Affairs Emergency Management Expert Study. The Director of OEM and Bureau of Indian Affairs Chief of Staff will meet again on November 17 to discuss progress on action items identified by the Expert Study. OEM has provided comments on the draft Indian Affairs Policy Manual chapter developed for the Indian Affairs Emergency Management Program. The manual defines the purpose, scope, responsibility and organizations structures needed for the program when responsibility shifts from ASIA to BIA.

Update: Continuity of Operations (COOP) Plan Update. Coordination of the 2011 DOI COOP Plan with bureaus and offices was completed this week. The COOP Plan is now being submitted to the Assistant Secretary – Policy, Management and Budget approval. The new plan contains revisions based on new interagency requirements, lessons learned from exercises, and suggestions from bureau and office team members who have deployed to work from Site C throughout the past year.

Update: Exercise Eagle Horizon-2011 (EH-11). OEM will host a "Concepts and Objectives" meeting for the National Level Exercise (NLE) 2012 on November 15 in the IOC. Bureaus and offices representatives will discuss DOI participation in NLE 2012 events and draft department-level objectives. NLE 2012 will consist of four distinct exercises taking place March-June. The theme tying all of the exercises together is cyber security and response to cyber attack. Eagle Horizon 2012 will be the final exercise in the series, and will focus on COOP operations following cyber and possibly other attacks.

Update: Interagency Emergency Health Policy. LCDR Elaine Bond is currently participating in daily conference calls led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) related to the dengue fever outbreak on the Marshall Islands. LCDR Bond will also be participating in the National Infrastructure Protection Plan's Health/Medical sector quarterly meeting.

Update: Occupant Emergency Planning (OEP). OEM has begun planning for Shelter-in-Place emergency drills in MIB and SIB. OEP Planner Dave Vanderweele OEM is also supporting OLES and OHR on a presentation to MIB and SIB employees on Violence in the Workplace. The NBC Modernization team cancelled a meeting this week to address required modifications to the elevators for emergency egress for people with disabilities; OEM awaits rescheduling of this meeting.

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Update: Online Training Development. OEM met November 7 with DOI University to begin development on "Emergency Management – 101" for DOI EM practitioners. OEM and DOIU are now working to collect content from existing sources and draft an outline of the roles that will be presented in the training course. Two online emergency management training courses are planned for development over the next several months.

Update: Secure Video Teleconference (SVTC). This week, POB provided funding to OCIO to upgrade outdated SVTC equipment at MIB and our alternate site. SVTC is required to coordinate interagency response during continuity events and other emergencies. OCIO will work with the Defense Information Systems Agency to install equipment which is compatible with the interagency Crisis Management System. OEM will continue coordination with POB to address operations and maintenance requirements in FY13 and beyond.

No Change: All-Hazard Incident Management Planning. OEM continues to schedule meetings with BLM, BIA and FWS emergency coordinators to determine how those bureaus will implement the requirement from the Deputies Operating Group to have a single system for dispatching resources. OEM will be working closely with all bureaus to develop business rules as the Department implements the use of IQCS and Resource Ordering Status System (ROSS) for DOI responders.

No Change: National Preparedness Directive/Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8). OEM is working with the FEMA-led PPD-8 Implementation Team to develop the "National Preparedness System Description." This narrative is due to the President in November and was circulated to the Domestic Resilience Group (DRG) for their initial review this week. OEM participated in the PPD-8 Implementation Team's meeting on November 3 to adjudicate comments from the interagency. OEM continues to work with USGS and OEPC to develop the policy to guide PPD-8 related mitigation and recovery planning activities within DOI.

No Change: Exercise Eagle Horizon-2011 (EH-11). OEM and the Site E team finalized the after action report last week, and will publish the report to all participants in November. Participants included most bureaus and several OS offices; discussions included decisions about corrective action planning as well as lessons learned during the successful exercise. Lessons learned from EH-11 will provide a framework for EH-12 planning.

No Change: Multipoint Video Teleconferencing (VTC). OEM and NBC are coordinating the installation of a multipoint VTC capability in the IOC Conference Room. OCIO is working to identify a location for installing a server at its Virginia facility. This capability will provide for internet (IP) and ISDN video teleconferencing in the IOC conference room and at other VTC locations in the Main Interior Building, with no incremental costs for departme

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Final: Corrective Action Program (CAP). The FY11 CAP Status Report has been approved by the Assistant Secretary, Policy, Management and Budget. This report includes an overview of outstanding Corrective Action Recommendations (CAR) and a summary of new issues. Bureaus

and offices identified as leads for CAP issues are tasked to prepare Improvement Plans to guide corrective actions during the next CAP cycle. The new CAR items emanated from the Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill, the National Level Exercise (NLE)-11 catastrophic earthquake exercise, interagency exercise Dark Zephyr which explored readiness for an anthrax emergency, and lessons learned which were compiled for the National Security Staff exploring DOI emergency planning shortfalls should the U.S. suffer an event similar to the tsunami and nuclear power plant emergency in Japan.

Office of Wildland Fire (OWF)

New: LANDFIRE – Monthly Users Conference Call. The LANDFIRE program will hold its monthly user's conference call on November 15 at 3 p.m. EST. This is a reoccurring call which takes place the third Tuesday of each month to discuss progress with improvements, enhancements, and updates to the data products and discuss user feedback on applications and areas of concern.

New: LANDFIRE – Alaska Calibration Workshop. LANDFIRE program representatives met with agency employees from (BIA, BLM, NPS, FWS, and Forest Service) in Fairbanks, AK, last week to review the data products. The workshop had excellent participation with both the meeting and live webinar. Feedback received focused on existing vegetation data and succession disturbance pathways and updates. Workshop also touched on November 15 data contribution opportunity where data stewards and land management leaders can contribute data on this annual cutoff date for data submissions from national/regional/local data sources. Data submitted after November 15 will be considered in future LANDFIRE update cycles

New: Integrated Reporting Wildland Fire Information (IRWIN). IRWIN project is entering its second year. This project is intended to provide data exchange capabilities between existing wildland fire applications, thereby reducing redundant data entry and improving consistency. It will also provide a dashboard capability that will provide a single location to access data operational wildland fire data. The charter has been signed by DOI and USDA FS paving the way for refinement of system requirements. Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) has been selected to develop a conceptual architecture and prototypes in early spring. Stakeholder interviews with various business and application leads will take place in Boise, ID the week of November 14. Additional interviews will occur in the near future with executive leadership in Boise, ID and Washington DC.

Update: **Wildland Fire Cost and Benefits Assessment.** OWF leadership has coordinated with Office of Policy Analysis providing assistance to the OWF for a cost and benefits assessment. During planning meetings a draft strategy has been developed to focus on work and timelines. A conference call will be held in the near future to review the developed draft strategy which outlines work and timelines to address questions that have been raised by GAO, OMB and Senate such as, "Is the Department of the Interior's Wildland Fire management Program cost effective?"

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Update: Wildland Fire Program - Veterans / Youth Opportunities. OWF is working to support veterans and youth employment in the Department's wildland fire programs. Coordination through the Interior Fire Executive Council, OWF is identifying opportunities to increase employment through a multi-bureau cooperative agreement. A draft cooperative agreement is being work through collaboration with the Youth Office, Office of the Solicitor, and Office of Acquisition and Property Management staffs. OWF attended meetings last week focused on veteran hiring options sponsored by the Departments Veterans office.

Update: Hazardous Fuels Reduction (HFR): Activities this week centered on preparations for the Hazardous Fuels Prioritization and Allocation System (HFPAS) After Action Review (AAR). An AAR is to be conducted at the end of each HFPAS cycle, according to policy, as part of the Evaluation and Process Adjustment component. Previous AARs and other reports were reviewed for issues and then consolidated into a package that is intended to serve as the starting point for revising the process for the next analysis cycle. The AAR is currently scheduled for December 2, at the OWF office in Boise, ID. Many field units around the country have been able to implement HFR treatments this fall. More than 25,000 acres of accomplishment has been reported already in FY 2012.

No Change: Wildland Fire Outlook – November 2011 through February 2012. Although significant rainfall has occurred across Oklahoma and Texas during the past month, extreme to exceptional drought conditions continue to persist in both States also in parts of Louisiana, New Mexico, Arizona, Kansas and Arkansas. Extreme drought also persists across most of Georgia and parts of South Carolina and Alabama. For the Southern Geographic Area above normal significant fire potential will continue due to fuel moistures remaining near or worse than critical thresholds. For the Okefenokee Swamp and the site of the previous Honey Prairie Fire, the threat for fire reemergence will remain in place.

No Change: International Fire Program - OWF collaborated with the Office of International Affairs in developing a portion of the draft International Program Strategy. Focus area was centered on the goal of "*Promoting International Cooperation to Manage the Impacts of Wildland Fires*".

No Change: National Wildland Fire Management Cohesive Strategy - Phase II. The Wildland Fire Executive Council (WFEC) finalized the agenda and logistics for the November 9-10 Wildland Fire Leadership Council (WFLC) meeting in Denver, CO. WFLC will meet this week to review Phase II of the National Cohesive Fire Management Strategy, and plan Phase III with the WFEC, the Regional Strategy Committee Chairs, and the National Science and Analysis Team.

Final: Processing Miscellaneous Travel Expenses For a Casual (AD) Hired Under the AD Pay Plan. OWF and the Bureau Incident Business Leads are working with the Office of Financial Management to seek approval for exemption from GovTrip. In early 2009, the FS successfully implemented business rules for paying miscellaneous travel expenses for FS casuals off of the OF-288s. If an exemption is approved specific instructions developed by the interagency business leads will be distributed in the 2012 AD Pay Plan.

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BUDGET, FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND ACQUISITION

Office of Acquisition and Property Management

New: Suspension and Debarment.

- **Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Hearing.** On November 16, 2011, David Sims, the DOI Debarment Program Manager, in his capacity as Chair of the Interagency Suspension and Debarment Committee, participated on a hearing panel before the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee. Mr. Sims' testimony offered observations regarding the role of the Federal procurement and non-procurement suspension and debarment system; and provided an overview of the role of the Interagency Suspension and Debarment Committee.
- **Recent Actions.** On November 7, 2011, DOI issued Notices of Proposed Debarment to Larry Dees, Sr., and Larry Dees, Jr. The proposed debarments are based on the Dees' criminal convictions for violation of the Lacy Act.
- On November 7, 2011, DOI debarred the following individuals:
    - Arthur Greybull, III, based on the fact of his conviction for theft of funds from a tribal organization;
    - Edith M. Kadlec, based on her state conviction for participation in a theft from a nonprofit organization which received DOI funding;
    - Linda Longee Christiansen, based on her conviction for theft of tribal organization funds;
    - Orvel Smith, based upon the fact of his theft of funds from a tribal organization;
    - Jeffrey Brown, based upon the fact of his criminal conviction for violating the Lacy Act; and
    - Mike Kee James, based upon the fact of his conviction for embezzlement of tribal funds.

New: Asset Management Team Meeting. On November 17, 2011, PAM staff and the DAS-Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition led the DOI Asset Management Team meeting. Agenda items included a discussion on the OMB/GSA Utilization Metric for Prospectus Level Leases and briefing on a new GAO engagement on Federal building preservation issues. Other agenda items included status updates on the DOI Real Property Cost Savings and Innovation Plan, Attachment G, Capital Planning and Investment Control (CPIC), and the Condition Assessment System pilot project. The team agreed on a plan going forward to finalize the DOI Real Property Cost Savings and Innovation Plan.

New: Disclosure of Agency Executive Fleet Vehicles on PAM Website. In compliance with President Obama's May 24, 2011, Memorandum on Fleet Performance, PAM posted information on two gasoline/hybrid electric SUVs in the DOI executive fleet on its website. The President's Memorandum requires that within 180 days of the date of issuance, any executive fleet vehicle larger than mid-size sedan, or which does not comply with the requirements for alternative

fueled vehicles, must be disclosed on the agency website. The Memorandum on Fleet Performance requires agency executive fleets to achieve maximum fuel efficiency, be limited in motor vehicle body and engine size, and ensure that optional equipment is limited to that which is essential to meeting agency mission requirements.

Office of Budget

No Change: 2012 Interior Appropriations. On October 14, 2011 the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies released a draft appropriations bill. The Senate mark is $372 million or 3.7 percent above the House mark. The Senate mark provides $10.3 billion for Interior programs, which is $350 million or 3 percent below the 2011 enacted level and $844 million or 7.5 percent below the 2012 President's budget. If the discretionary amounts are adjusted for an additional $93 million in BEOM/BSSE inspection fees and $32.5 million in BLM permit processing fees, the change from 2011 is $224 million or 2.1 percent below the 2011 level.

Report language supporting the draft bill has not been made public. The draft legislation is to serve as the Chairman's mark for the subcommittee and constitutes a starting point for further discussions within the Senate and future negotiations with the House.

Update: 2013 Budget Formulation. OMB Directors' Review is underway as the OMB branches provide their recommendations to OMB Director Jacob Lew in preparation for passback, scheduled for Monday, November, 28, 2011. Key issues anticipated in passback include funding for LWCF and PILT, and the OSM/BLM consolidation proposal.

Office of Financial Management

Update: FY 2011 Financial Report. DOI's FY11 Annual Financial Report was officially released and filed with appropriate entities on the November 15. Congratulations and appreciation to the financial community.

The AFR is an achievement of the entire DOI financial community and includes two noteworthy items that no other Federal agency has accomplished before.

- A Cost-Benefit schedule showing the costs of individual DOI Bureaus compared to the values the Bureaus provide. It is my hope that AFR readers reach the same conclusions we do that the benefits of Interior's programs are worth the taxpayer dollars they consume.
  A video with Rhea Suh discussing the highlights of DOI's efforts and financial achievements. This is one example of our efforts to find innovative ways of communicating DOI financial and program performance in a manner that readers will find useful.
  The FY 2011 Consolidated AFR and Rhea Suh's Video is now posted to the PFM website. http://www.doi.gov/pfm/par/afr2011/index.html

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New: Payment Recapture Audits. The Department is submitting to the Congress a plan approved by OMB on its compliance with the Improper Payment Elimination and Recovery Act of 2010. PFM submitted a procurement package to the National Business Center Acquisition Directorate (AQD) to obtain contractor services to perform payment recapture audits (formerly known as recovery audits). Office of Management and Budget guidance states reporting on payment recapture audits efforts is necessary in order to meet the new criteria outlined in the Improper Payment Elimination and Recovery Act of 2010. AQD is currently reviewing the statement of work, independent government cost estimate, suggested sources and prior recovery audit contract that PFM administered under the former improper payment legislation, the Improper Payment Information Act of 2002. PFM anticipates commencing payment recapture audits through the Departmental Offices, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, and Bureau of Reclamation in January or February 2012.

New: General Administration Service's (GSA) Independent Validation and Verification (IV&V) Testing. PFM participated in General Administration Service's IV&V testing on the new government-wide master contract of the electronic travel system (ETS2) in Arlington, Virginia. During the IV&V sessions, agency representatives executed different travel scenarios to test the functionality, usability and security of the travel systems offered by the industry vendors. Recommendations and feedback submitted by the agency testers will enable GSA to work with the ETS2 vendors in developing the next generation of travel systems that will be offered to Federal agencies when the current ETS1 master contract expires in 2013.

Update: GAO Reports and Entrance/Exit Conferences.

- PFM submitted signed letters to GAO in response to their report on *Interagency Contracting* (GAO-11-784), and added one recommendation to the tracking system for implementation.
- PFM attended the GAO exit conference regarding their review--*BLM Hardrock Financial Assurances*. The draft report is expected to be issued next week for agency comments with one recommendation for BLM. This is an update of the report issued in 2008 where GAO found that the financial assurances that were in place as of November 2007 were inadequate to cover estimated reclamation costs. GAO also found that BLM's approach for determining the adequacy of financial assurances was not useful because it did not clearly lay out the extent to which financial assurances are inadequate.
- PFM attended the GAO entrance conference regarding the *Review of Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Oversight of Risks Posed to Nuclear Reactors by Natural Disasters*. Although NRC is the focus of this review, GAO wants to understand USGS role in developing and assessing data on natural hazards.

<u>Office of Planning and Performance Management</u>

Update: Priority (Performance) Goals. The final fourth quarter (FY 2011) status reports for the FY 2010-2011 Priority Goal targets have been integrated and were used by the Deputy Secretary for the quarterly status reviews held on November 9 and 15. Results are being posted to www.performance.gov in accordance with OMB's timeline.

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Update: Annual Performance Plan and Report (APP&R). PPP issued guidance for preparation of an integrated Annual Performance Plan/Performance Report and will be seeking review and update of FY 2012 targets by the Performance Management Council membership on a draft APP&R by December 6.

Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization

New Item: Improving Small Business Procurement Data – Quality and Process. In accordance with an Office of Procurement Policy (OFPP) memo signed on November 14, 2011 the Small Business Administration will continue to provide agencies with anomaly reports for Fiscal Year 2011 data reviews. The reports will focus on high risk and high impact contracts. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2012 the process will focus on review of contracts with the highest potential for questions or errors.

Update: Small Business Goals and Accomplishments. As of November 15, the Department had awarded **54.58 percent** of its Fiscal Year 2011 contract dollars to small business. Initial results reported from the Federal Procurement Data System, Next Generation (FPDS-NG) indicate that BIA, BLM, FWS and USGS all exceeded their annual goals for small business contracting. The Department's overall small business goal agreed upon with the Small Business Administration (SBA) is 51.5 percent.

Update: Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Zone Changes. The Small Business Administration issued a memo regarding updates to the HUB Zone Program on November 8, 2011. Approximately 2,600 HUB Zone small businesses have been proposed for decertification as a result of the 2010 census data. Agencies with contracts with firms that may be decertified will continue to receive HUB Zone credit if the firm was a HUB Zone firm at the time of award. Agencies will continue to receive HUB Zone credit until the five year recertification process is completed.

FBMS Program Management Office (PMO)

Update: FWS Go-Live. On November 10, 2011, FBMS was deployed to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and deployment to the Departmental Offices took place on November 14. The deployment made available the following business management functions: acquisition, core financials, financial assistance, fleet management, and personal property management. The FWS deployment was delayed three days to ensure the highest quality conversion possible.

Update: FBMS Executive Steering Committee (ESC) Meeting. On November 8, the monthly FBMS ESC meeting was held. The primary discussion topics of the November 8 meeting were the status of D6 Go-Live, Value Capture Pilot Initiatives, three-way match versus two-way match for reimbursable agreements, and data protocols related to FBMS. The delay of FBMS Go-Live at FWS and DO, when the issues were expected to be resolved, and the process for approving Go-Live once they were resolved were discussed. During the meeting, updates were also presented by the FBMS PMO on FBMS production and deployment activities; and by

the Departmental Offices and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on their deployment statuses; and by the NBC on the status of their FBMS support activities. The next FBMS ESC meeting is scheduled for December 13, 2011.

Departmental Offices FBMS Implementation Office (OS IMO)

New: D6 FBMS Go-Live in the Office of the Secretary and Departmental Offices! On November 14, the Departmental Offices achieved the final approval to go live. DO began loading budget and catch-up activities will follow. Thanks to everyone who worked tirelessly to ensure the successful go-live for DO.

New: Daily OS Catch Up Conference Call. Beginning November 15, the OS FBMS IMO will be hosting a daily conference call with the 300+ users who were identified as "Catch Up" users after "Go Live". This daily conference call will be held at noon for one hour until end of month November.

No change: Training for Go-Live. The FBMS IMO D6 training continues. Currently over 500 users have completed training with very few instances of "no show". The IMO continues to provide tailored, course specific communications with critical class related information from the generic mailbox – OS_FBMS_IMO@ios.doi.gov.

No change: Project Status Meetings. The FBMS IMO D6 team continues to host weekly project status meetings with FBMS stakeholders every Friday beginning at 11:00 am – 12:00 pm in the Herndon Atrium Bldg, Reston Conference Room. WebEx and call in will be available.

No change: OS Implementation Office is *Tweeting*! Follow us on Twitter "*@OSFBMS*". This social media forum is an opportunity for our OS community to ask questions, send comments, and learn more about the Deployment 6 Financial and Business Management Systems and the Implementation Management Office

OFFICE OF NATURAL RESOURCES REVENUE

Office of Natural Resources Revenue

Indian Oil Negotiated Rulemaking (Update): ONRR is in the process of forming a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee (Committee) to address the valuation of crude oil produced from Indian leases. ONRR worked with the Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution and the Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to obtain a third party neutral to serve as facilitator for the Committee. The Secretary signed a second *Federal Register* Notice of Intent, published August 22, 2011, to establish the Committee and propose the membership. The comment period on this notice expired September 21, 2011. **ONRR received three additional nominees for committee membership and is vetting them through the White House liaison. We have also routed the Notice of Establishment and the Charter for the Secretary's signature.** The target date for the first meeting of the Committee is now February 2012.

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Strategic Review Implementation Work Groups (IWGs) Update (New): The ONRR Strategic Review FY 2012 IWGs continue to make progress. On November 10, 2011, five of the six IWGs – *Performance Accountability, Integrated Approach to a Large Independent Producer (Apache), Define Common Outcomes and Establish Joint Strategies, Formalize Job Rotations and Cross Training, and Develop a Collective Knowledge Strategy* – presented an overview of their project plans to the ONRR Senior Managers with a primary focus on key milestones and project deliverables. The remaining FY 2012 IWG – *Compliance Risk Tool Enhancement* - will present an overview of their project plan to the Senior Managers on a future date.

On November 21, 2011, the QSC is meeting with the Institutionalize Strategic Review/Enhance Measures Implementation Work Group (ISR IWG) to review the data provided by sponsors for proposed measurement areas and metrics. One of the strategic initiatives for the ISR IWG is to ensure ONRR is measuring the right things, especially related to the three strategic outcomes:

- *Companies timely comply with laws, regulations, and lease terms and pay every dollar due*
- *States, Tribes, Indian mineral owners, U.S. Treasury, and other entities receive timely, accurate revenues and data*

The public trusts ONRR's professionalism, integrity, efficiency, and quality.

From: Klein, Elizabeth A
To: Hayes, David; Kornze, Neil G
Subject: FW: Recommendations on a rangewide sage-grouse strategy
Date: Thursday, September 08, 2011 8:50:51 AM
Attachments: SageGrouseRangewideStrategyLetter Final.doc

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fyi

From: Farquhar, Ned
Sent: Thursday, September 08, 2011 8:11 AM
To: Burke, Marcilynn; Baca, Sylvia; Black, Steve; Klein, Elizabeth A
Subject: FW: Recommendations on a rangewide sage-grouse strategy

They call the Secretary "Director Salazar" and address their letter to the "Secretary on Interior". Maybe it gets better from there… I haven't reviewed yet. NF

Ned Farquhar
Deputy Assistant Secretary
US Dept of the Interior
1849 C Street NW - Room 6614
Washington, DC 20240
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From: Erik Molvar [mailto:erik@voiceforthewild.org]
Sent: Wednesday, September 07, 2011 6:04 PM
To: dan_ashe@fws.gov; (b) (6) ; Abbey, Robert V
Cc: Bean, Michael; Deibert, Pat; Farquhar, Ned; Fielder, Dwight; Black, Steve; Mark Salvo; Steve Holmer; ksuckling@biologicaldiversity.org; Kirk Robinson; Jon Marvel; Veronica Egan; Rosalind McClellan; Dan Randolph; 'Allison Jones'
Subject: Recommendations on a rangewide sage-grouse strategy

Dear Director Salazar,

Attached please find the recommendations of Biodiversity Conservation Alliance, WildEarth Guardians, American Bird Conservancy, Center for Biological Diversity, Western Wildlife Conservancy, Western Watersheds Project, Great Old Broads for Wilderness, Rocky Mountain Recreation Initiative, San Juan Citizens' Alliance, and Wild Utah Project on the Interior Department's new sage-grouse policy.

We look forward to working with on this effort, and please let us know if there is any additional information we can provide.

--

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Visit our website at www.voiceforthewild.org

Biodiversity Conservation Alliance * WildEarth Guardians
American Bird Conservancy * Center for Biological Diversity
Western Wildlife Conservancy * Western Watersheds Project
Great Old Broads for Wilderness * Rock Mountain Recreation Initiative
San Juan Citizens' Alliance * Wild Utah Project

September 7, 2011

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary on Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

Director Daniel Ashe
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

Director Robert Abbey
Bureau of Land Management
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

Recommendations for a Rangewide Sage Grouse Conservation Strategy

Dear Secretary Salazar, Assistant Director Ashe, and Director Abbey:

We are pleased that the Department of Interior is embarking on a new rangewide conservation strategy for the greater sage grouse. We encourage the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and other federal land management agencies to embark upon a new direction based on multiple use on the public lands, under which industrial activities are managed in a way that renders them compatible with sage-grouse conservation. Because the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the arbiter of existing regulatory mechanisms in the context of Endangered Species Act (ESA) listing decisions, and will determine whether the new sage grouse policies of the BLM and other federal agencies is sufficient to obviate the need for Threatened or Endangered Species listing, we encourage you to weigh in with specific, science-based recommendations for sage grouse conservation standards and guidelines to be implemented as part of Interior's new strategy. On behalf of the above-captioned groups, we would like to offer our perspective based on more than a decade of experience in sage-grouse and habitat conservation.

The greater sage-grouse has long been described by researchers as a 'landscape-scale' species, requiring large tracts of undisturbed, high-quality sagebrush habitat to survive and thrive. With this in mind, the most appropriate approach for sage grouse conservation on federal lands (which make up more than fifty percent of the remaining sage grouse habitat in the nation) is a rangewide approach, in the form of Instruction Memoranda and a rangewide Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) that will amend Resource Management Plans on BLM-managed lands, National Forests, National Parks, National Wildlife Refuges, and lands managed by the Department of Defense throughout the range of the sage-grouse and apply strong protection

measures that allow sage-grouse populations not only to survive, but to rebound to levels where the survival of the species is no longer in doubt in any significant portion of its range, and to provide a surplus for game hunting.

It is important to bear in mind that the present depressed population numbers for sage-grouse have led to the bird to its current predicament, teetering on the edge of Endangered Species listing. It is not sufficient merely to maintain sage grouse populations at their present low levels, or (worse yet) to allow additional population decreases resulting from agency-permitted projects or activities. Instead, the goal should be to recover sage-grouse populations to levels where populations are secure rangewide, and expanding populations and suitable habitats in regions of the nation where current populations are at risk.

All stakeholders throughout the West, whether their goal is sage-grouse recovery or merely avoidance of additional regulations, should be able to agree that sage-grouse recovery is an outcome that best provides certainty for both sage-grouse persistence and for industries that do business and communities who live within its range. At the same time, a strong sage-grouse conservation plan, founded in establishing core habitats where land uses are made compatible with maintaining healthy habitat, is the cornerstone for protecting not only the grouse itself but also a broad diversity of other sagebrush-dependent wildlife. Many of these species are also declining and may soon become candidates for ESA listing in the absence of a comprehensive conservation strategy.

Sound science should drive the new conservation strategy

When the State of Wyoming embarked upon its groundbreaking sage-grouse Core Area policy, it started with the right idea, identifying core habitats that supported the most abundant populations of sage grouse, and prioritizing these areas for protection. However, because a consensus-based collaborative group (the Sage-Grouse Implementation Team or "Team") was appointed by Governor Freudenthal to identify Core Areas and prescribe the conservation measures that applied there, representatives from the oil industry appointed to the Team were able to extract inappropriate concessions, both in terms of removing key habitats from Core Areas and in creating loopholes and lowering protection levels that apply both within and outside the Core Areas.

As a result, the Core Areas designated in the Powder River Basin likely are inadequate to prevent the extirpation of the species in this key linkage between populations in Montana and the Dakotas and the heart of the sage-grouse range. Populations elsewhere within Core Areas are likely to decline or even disappear if industrial development proceeds there under current guidelines. These crippling weaknesses in the Wyoming plan render it unlikely to survive judicial scrutiny as an adequate conservation measure. The federal government can and should do better for federal lands.

In his original 2008 Executive Order, Governor Freudenthal got it right: "New development or land uses within Core Population Areas should be authorized or conducted only when it can be demonstrated by the state agency that the activity will not cause declines in Greater Sage-Grouse populations."[1] This provision essentially required that the best available science be consulted, and if levels of proposed development exceeded science-based thresholds at which sage-grouse declines begin to occur, the development would not be allowable. This provision was removed in Governor Freudenthal's 2010 Executive Order, and was not reinstated by Governor Mead in his own 2011 Sage Grouse Executive Order. The Interior Department has the opportunity to redress

[1] State of Wyoming Executive Order 2008-2, ¶ 3.

this reversal of policy by ensuring that this commitment is included in the rangewide sage-grouse policy, and therefore protections reflecting the biological needs of the species (rather than the interests of developers) will apply in Core Areas on BLM lands.

The need for a fresh start in delineating Core Areas

For the purposes of the new federal policy on sage-grouse, we recommend starting from a clean slate and designating core habitat areas that include all of the most populous leks in each state. In Wyoming, Core Area delineation started from this point, but lands proposed for oil and gas projects or existing development were subtracted. Later, additional lands were removed from protection at the behest of industrial interests wishing to pursue projects incompatible with sage-grouse conservation inside designated Core Areas. This debacle illustrates the need for consistent, rigorous standards across all states in the sage grouse's range.

Science-based standards for oil and gas development

Oil and gas development poses perhaps the greatest single threat to sage-grouse persistence across the eastern half of its range. Walker et al. (2007) found that sage-grouse habitat within 4 miles of a lek site was important to the persistence of the lek. Conversely, Walker et al. (2007) concluded that leks heavily impacted by oil and gas development "typically became inactive within 3-4 years." Harju et al. (2008) found a time lag of 2-10 years post-development, at which point negative effects became evident. The same is true for winter habitats. Indeed, Naugle et al. (2006) found that a model using habitat variables and coalbed methane development provided a near perfect fit for grouse distribution data. In the Powder River Basin, CBM well density within a 4 km^2 area provided the best fit for modeling sage-grouse habitat use (Doherty et al. 2008). Holloran (2005) found that well densities greater than one well per 699 acres were correlated with lek declines. Doherty et al. (2010) did a statewide analysis in Wyoming and found that well densities greater than 1 well per square mile were correlated with sage-grouse declines.

Walker et al. (2007) found that coalbed methane development within 2 miles of a sage- grouse lek had a negative effect on lek attendance. Holloran (2005) found that active drilling within 3.1 miles of a lek reduced breeding populations, while wells already constructed and drilled within 1.9 miles of the lek reduced breeding populations. In Canada, Carpenter et al. (2010) found that sage-grouse strongly avoided oil and gas infrastructure to a distance of 1.9 km, and avoided two-track vehicle trails more weakly to a distance of 1.5 km; the closest that a grouse was located to a coalbed methane well in this study was 1,293m. Harju et al (2008) found that negative impacts of development on lek populations extended 4.8 km (3 miles) from the development. Both Holloran (2005) and Walker et al. (2007) documented the extirpation of breeding populations at active leks as a result of oil and gas development in the Upper Green River Valley and Powder River Basin, respectively. Rowland et al. (2006: A4-3 through A4-7) provide a useful literature review of the distance that impacts spread beyond the edge of disturbed areas into adjacent habitats. Males use shrubs <1 km (0.6 mi) from a lek for foraging, loafing, and shelter (Rothenmaier 1979, Emmons and Braun 1984, Autenrieth 1981). In Wyoming, State and BLM policies erroneously use this as a basis for an 0.6-mile No Surface Occupancy buffer around leks. However, there is <u>no science</u> to indicate that preventing wells within 0.6 mile of a lek will eliminate negative population impacts on sage grouse. In fact, the 1.9-mile buffer is the minimum amount found to be needed to avoid negative impacts to breeding grouse by Holloran (2005), and indeed, to protect the nesting hens that site their nests within 5 miles of a lek, an even larger buffer may be needed.

Road construction related to energy development is a primary impact on sage-grouse habitat from habitat fragmentation and direct disturbance perspectives. Rowland et al. (2006) modeled sage-grouse distribution, and reached the following conclusions:

> "The secondary road network is a highly significant factor influencing processes in this landscape and is being developed and expanded rapidly across much of the WBEA (Thomson et al. 2005). Secondary roads are being built as part of the infrastructure to support non-renewable energy extraction (Chapters 2, 4). For example, within the Jonah Field in the Upper Green River Valley, >95% of the area had road densities >2 mi/mi^2 (Thomson et al. 2005)."

p. 5-10. Furthermore,

> "The dominant feature affecting output of the sage-grouse disturbance model was secondary roads, which occupy nearly 8% of the study area (Table 5.2) and are presumed to negatively influence an even larger extent."

Pp. 6-15 through 16. Holloran (2005) found significant impacts of road traffic on sage-grouse habitat use, concluding that habitat effectiveness declined in areas adjacent to roads with increasing vehicle traffic, documenting the secondary effect referenced by Rowland et al.

A number of researchers have noted a time lag between initiation of mineral development and sage-grouse population declines. Holloran et al. (2010) noted that yearling males avoided lekking near oil and gas infrastructure, and that yearling females avoided nesting within 950m of oil and gas infrastructure. Thus, the time lag in populations appears to be driven by the exodus of yearlings from affected areas, while older birds persist close to development until they die off. These researchers stated, "Our results…suggest to land managers that current stipulations on development may not provide management solutions."

As a rule, breeding and nesting activity are concentrated in the habitats surrounding the lek site. In a Montana study, Wallestad and Schladweiler (1974) found that no male sage grouse traveled farther than 1.8 km from a lek during the breeding season. But following breeding, males may make long migrations to distant summer ranges (Connelly et al. 1988). Hulet et al. (1986) found that 10 of 13 hens nested within 1.9 miles of the lek site during the first year of their southern Idaho study, with an average distance of 1.7 miles from the lek site; 100% of hens nested within 2 miles of the lek site during the second year of this study, with an average distance from lek of 0.5 mile. In Montana, Wallestad and Pyrah (1974) found that 73% of nests were built within 2 miles of the lek, but only one nest occurred within 0.5 mile of the lek site. But in Bates Hole, Wyoming, Holloran (1999) found that average nesting distance from lek site was 3.25 km for adults and 5.27 km for yearlings. Wakkinen et al. (1992) cautioned that leks were poor predictors of sage-grouse nest sites; although 92% of sage-grouse nested within 3.2 km of a lek in this study, sage-grouse did not necessarily nest near the same lek where breeding took place.

Lyon (2000) pointed out that quarter-mile lek buffers were insufficient to maintain the viability of grouse populations. Several years ago, a multi-state group of fish and game biologists evaluated the standard BLM mitigation measures for grouse, and found them wholly inadequate (Christiansen and Bohne 2007). Connelly et al. (2000) recommended that sage-grouse habitat should be protected within 3.2 km of lek sites under ideal habitat conditions, within 5 km when habitat conditions are not ideal, and within 18 km where sage grouse populations are migratory. Furthermore, these researchers stated that in areas where 40% or more of the original breeding habitat has been lost, all remaining habitat should be protected. Holloran (2005) provided a critical test of BLM's lek buffers' effectiveness in the Jonah and Pinedale Anticline fields, and found that in the face of full-field gas development, finding that extirpation was expected for sage-grouse in both fields within 19 years if conditions remained the same (and, of course, conditions have become much worse for grouse under the continued intensification of drilling and road construction in these two fields).

Under current state and BLM Core Area standards in Wyoming, disturbance thresholds are set at five percent of the land area, beyond which additional surface disturbance is not permitted. However, the five percent disturbance threshold corresponds with oil and gas well densities that are far beyond the point where sage-grouse declines occur. For example, under the Continental Divide-Wamsutter Project, 3,000 wells were initially proposed with 22,400 acres of new surface disturbance, representing 2.1 percent of the planning area with an average well density of 4 wellsites per square mile (BLM 2000); today, sage-grouse are virtually extirpated in this field, although more than 50 leks existed prior to the project. In the Atlantic Rim coalbed methane field, 2,000 wells were permitted at a density of eight wells per square mile, far above the threshold known to cause sage grouse declines. The projected surface disturbance for this project is 15,800 acres, or 5.85% of the project area (BLM 2005). Clearly, a threshold of five percent is too high to sustain sage-grouse. Assuming a 10-acre multi-well wellpad and 0.75 miles of road per square mile – a generous figure (at 9.85 acres per mile of road), the estimated surface disturbance for a wellfield at one well per square mile would be 2.7 percent. Thus, a one- to three-percent disturbance threshold is more reasonable.

Sage-grouse standards for wind and transmission lines

Wind power generation represents a clean, renewable alternative to fossil fuels, but construction of wind farms in key habitats is likely to lead to unacceptable levels of impact. Although there is little published science directly addressing the impact of wind turbines or transmission lines on sage-grouse, there is a broad consensus among biologists that sage-grouse avoid tall structures (such as wind turbines and transmission towers) and abandon adjacent habitats. One unpublished study found that sage-grouse habitat use increased with distance (up to 600 meters) from transmission lines. Molvar (2008) compiled BLM data from a wind power project on Cotterel Mountain, Idaho and was able to determine that the erection of seven meteorological towers led to drastic declines in sage -rouse populations across nine sage-grouse leks, while populations in the surrounding area remained stable. There has been abundant scientific information that other types of energy development, particularly oil and gas, has a major impact on sage-grouse populations, and oil and gas development has some similar features such as habitat fragmentation and tall structures (in the form of drilling rigs).[2]

The USFWS (no date) conducted a literature review through 2010 and found that recommended buffer distances for sage grouse were generally 3.1 to 4 miles and beyond. We endorse the recommendations of USFWS (2003) and Mannville (2004) that wind power facilities be sited <u>at least five miles</u> from active sage grouse leks. Similarly, lands identified as sage grouse winter habitat should similarly be avoided by a distance of not less than three miles.

The State of Wyoming is pursuing a sound policy with regard to wind power development in sage-grouse habitat, that of excluding wind power development from designated Core Areas (although for several wind projects, Core Area boundaries have been shifted to exclude lands desired by the wind industry). Excluding wind power development from core habitats makes sense; in Wyoming, more than four million acres commercially viable for wind energy development are outside of Core Areas and have no other identified environmental conflicts (Molvar 2008), which represents approximately four times the maximum acreage needed for the high benchmark for wind development through 2030 (estimated at 10,000 turbines by the wind power industry). We recommend that wind power facilities be sited outside identified core habitat areas.

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[2] USFWS 2010, Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 12-Month Findings for Petitions to List the Greater Sage-Grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*) as Threatened or Endangered, 75 Fed. Reg 13951

Sage-grouse standards for livestock grazing

Livestock grazing is considered the single most important influence on sagebrush habitats and fire regimes throughout the Intermountain West in the past 140 years (Knick et al. 2005: 68). Grazing is the most widespread use of sagebrush steppe and almost all sagebrush habitat is managed for grazing (Connelly et al. 2004; Knick et al. 2003; Knick et al. 2011).[3] Livestock grazing disturbs the soil, removes native vegetation, and spreads invasive species in sagebrush steppe (Knick et al. 2005). Cattle or sheep grazing in sage-grouse nesting and brood-rearing habitat can negatively affect habitat quality; nutrition for gravid hens; clutch size; nesting success; and/or chick survival (Connelly and Braun 1997; Beck and Mitchell 2000; Barnett and Crawford 1994; Coggins 1998; Aldridge and Brigham 2003). Livestock may directly compete with sage-grouse for grasses, forbs and shrub species; trample vegetation and sage-grouse nests; disturb individual birds and cause nest abandonment (Vallentine 1990; Pederson et al. 2003; Call and Maser 1985; Holloran and Anderson 2003; Coates 2007).

The potential conflict between livestock grazing and sage-grouse intensifies near water sources due to the importance of these areas to sage-grouse, particularly during early brood rearing. Heavy cattle grazing near springs, seeps, and riparian areas can remove grasses used for cover by grouse (Klebenow 1982). According to Call and Maser (1985:17), "rapid removal of forbs by livestock on spring or summer ranges may have a substantial adverse impact on young grouse, especially where forbs are already scarce."

Grazing infrastructure, such as water developments and fences, fragment and degrade sage-grouse habitat (Connelly et al. 2004; Braun 1998; Call and Maser 1985; Knick et al. 2003). Fatal collisions with fences were "relatively common and widespread" in sage-grouse breeding habitat in southern Idaho (Stevens 2011), corroborating other evidence that fences may pose a significant risk to low flying sage-grouse (*e.g.*, Danvir 2002, unpublished report). Fence densities exceed 2 km/km^2 in many areas occupied by sage grouse (Knick et al. 2011).

Native vegetation communities in sagebrush steppe did not evolve with grazing pressure (Mack and Thompson 1982). Excessive livestock grazing by domestic livestock during the late 1800s and early 1900s had significant impacts on sagebrush steppe and those effects persist today (Knick et al. 2003). Grazing (in addition to other factors) is implicated in the encroachment of conifers in sagebrush steppe, including western juniper (*Juniperus occidentalis*) (Kerr and Salvo 2007). Decades of livestock grazing have altered plant communities and soil and reduced productivity in sagebrush steppe (Knick et al 2003). Cattle grazed at "conservative" levels in sagebrush steppe in the northern Great Basin initially selected bunchgrasses in interspaces between sagebrush plants (France et al. 2008). The removal of native species from interspaces by cattle, in conjunction with other factors, appears to facilitate invasion by cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) into these areas (Reisner 2010). The spread of cheatgrass and other invasive plants into degraded rangelands has accelerated the natural fire cycle and threatens to convert enormous areas of sagebrush habitat into annual grasslands (Wisdom et al. 2005; Miller et al. 2011).

Grazing management was identified as a threat to sage-grouse by three expert panels and in recent reviews (Connelly et al. 2011, Table 1). Federal scientists have suggested that "livestock grazing across the public lands of western landscapes has impacted and will continue to impact

[3] One expert contended that the "livestock industry has had [a] more negative impact on sage-grouse than any other single factor" and "[i]t's rare to find any place that hasn't been grazed." Hudak, M. 2007. WESTERN TURF WARS: THE POLITICS OF PUBLIC LANDS RANCHING. Biome Books. Binghamton, NY: 28-29.

the quality of those habitats and their ability to support source populations of sagebrush bird species" (Rich et al. 2005: 592). The Fish and Wildlife Service concluded that grazing "can seriously degrade sage-grouse habitat" locally and that, "given the widespread nature of grazing, the potential for population-level impacts cannot be ignored" (75 Fed. Reg. 13942-13943). In their study on sage-grouse in eastern Oregon, Call and Maser (1985: 3) made the following basic assumption: "Where there are conflicts between sage grouse and livestock on public lands, it may be essential to give priority to sage-grouse if they are to continue to exist on these areas."

Sage grouse standards for invasive plants

Baker (2006) reviewed the fire history of sagebrush ecosystems and found natural fire to be a rare and infrequent event, suggesting a fire rotation 325-450 years in length. However, overgrazing across many of the Great Basin states has led to the invasion of cheatgrass, a highly flammable noxious weed that accelerates the fire cycle to less than five years destroying the sagebrush upon which sage-grouse rely for food and cover. Approximately 36 percent of the Greater Sage-Grouse range is invaded by cheatgrass (Lebbin et al. 2010). Because sagebrush requires at least 15 years (and up to 50) to reoccupy burned sites, restoring invades areas is a difficult and slow process. Preventing further spread into intact sagebrush should be prioritized.

Biological invasions, especially invasion by exotic annual grasses such as cheatgrass, are consistently cited as among the most important challenges to maintenance of healthy sagebrush communities (Miller et al. 2011; Wisdom et al. 2005; Suring et al. 2005). At least 46 exotic plants occur in sagebrush steppe (Pyke 2000). Estimates of the rapid spread of weeds in the West include 2,300 acres per day on BLM lands and 4,600 acres per day on all western public lands (*See* 65 Fed. Reg. 54544).

Cheatgrass, an invasive annual grass, is now the dominant species on 100 million acres (158,000 square miles) in the Intermountain West (Rosentreter 1994: 170, *citing* Mack 1981). It was estimated in 1999 that 25 percent of the original sagebrush ecosystem has been converted to cheatgrass/medusa-head rye (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*) annual grassland, and an additional 25 percent of sagebrush steppe has only cheatgrass as understory vegetation (West 2000). Cheatgrass is estimated to spread at a rate of 14 percent annually in the United States (Duncan et al. 2004: 1412, table 1). The conversion of sagebrush steppe to exotic annual grassland has been described as "massive" (Allen 2003) and is expected to continue (Miller et al. 2011; Hemstrom et al. 2002).[4]

Cheatgrass thrives in disturbed, and especially burned, areas. It can increase fire frequency, favoring itself and potentially inhibiting perennial seedling establishment (Miller et al. 2011). Cheatgrass incursion into sagebrush habitat can lead to an eventual conversion of sagebrush/grass (perennial) community to sagebrush/grass (annual) or annual grass rangeland. In some cases, cheatgrass invasion encourages other exotic species such as medusa-head rye, knapweed and thistle. It was observed in 1979 that annual-dominated communities in sagebrush steppe appears to have crossed a threshold and created its own new equilibrium (Hanley 1979) from which restoration to functional sagebrush steppe would be very costly and difficult (if not impossible) to achieve (Billings 1990).

Sage-grouse do not use cheatgrass. Invasive species was identified as a threat to sage-grouse by three expert panels and in recent reviews (Connelly et al. 2011, Table 1). One panel listed cheatgrass as the most important threat to sage-grouse in the western portion of its range (70 Fed.

[4] A BLM ecologist and program coordinator has warned that "[c]heatgrass is changing the West." Miller, J. (AP). "Alien invader clings to socks, stokes West's wildfires." *Daily Herald* (Provo, UT) (Aug. 8, 2007).

Reg. 2267), where it has invaded much of the lower elevation, xeric sagebrush habitat (Miller et al. 2011). Land uses such as livestock grazing (Reisner 2010), off-road vehicle use, and coalbed methane development (Bergquist et al. 2007), can facilitate cheatgrass incursion in sagebrush steppe.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on these scientific findings, we offer the following recommendations for science-based conservation measures for sage-grouse, suitable for application in a rangewide conservation strategy:

Include the Entire Range in the Conservation Plan

We do not believe the government will be able to demonstrate that adequate regulatory mechanisms are in place unless the entire range of the species is considered, not just the lands managed by BLM, and included in the management regime outlined in the plan.

Standards for Sage-Grouse Conservation

Core Areas

- Core habitats should be identified to encompass a 5-mile buffer around the most populous leks in each state.
- Boundaries of core areas should not be altered to accommodate nonconforming uses.

Sage-Grouse Reserves

In addition to designating Core Areas, a system of sage-grouse reserves should be designated where no harm to the species would be allowed. This could include restrictions on road construction, grazing, and off-road vehicle use, and which are withdrawn from future oil and gas leasing and other mineral entry. We recommend the establishment of several sage-grouse Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) in each Field Office where sage-grouse occur to serve this purpose. In addition, a sage-grouse Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) area should be established to serve as a research and reference area for scientific study.

Oil and Gas

Inside Core Areas

- Maximum density of 1 well per square mile in core habitats
- For future leasing, either no future leasing in core habitats or No Surface Occupancy leases with no opportunity for exceptions or waivers.
- For existing leases, no surface occupancy within 2 miles of the lek or winter habitat and no drilling within 3 miles of the lek or winter habitats during the season of use.
- Recommend withdrawal from mineral entry; no surface mining or in situ uranium recovery allowed.
- Total surface disturbance not to exceed 1 to 3 percent of surface area.

Outside Core Areas

- Year-round No Surface Occupancy within 2 miles of the lek or winter habitat, and no drilling within 3 miles of the lek or winter habitat during the season of use.

Wind and Transmission

Inside Core Areas

- No wind energy development
- Transmission lines limited to existing electrical transmission corridors of ¼ mile maximum width

Outside Core Areas

- Wind farms and transmission lines sited at least 5 miles from active sage-grouse leks and at least 3 miles from identified winter habitats.
- Transmission lines allowed along existing electrical transmission corridors of ¼ mile maximum width.

Livestock Grazing

- During spring and summer, do not permit grazing in key sage-grouse habitats until after June 20 and remove livestock by August 1 with a goal of leaving at least 70 percent of the herbaceous production each year to form residual cover to benefit sage-grouse nesting the following spring.
- Prohibit twice-over grazing systems, where livestock pass through an area twice in a grazing season.
- Encourage winter grazing, which is generally less negative for herbaceous vegetation and sage-grouse than grazing during the growing season.
- Water and salt should be placed near fences or fence corners, as livestock tend to congregate in these areas. The goal should be to reduce livestock impacts in the centers of pastures or allotments.
- Avoid constructing new fences; remove unnecessary fences; and visually mark remaining fences to reduce sage-grouse collisions with fences.
- Facilitate permanent, voluntary grazing permit/lease retirement.

(*see* Braun 2006).

Invasive Plants

- Restrict activities on public land that facilitate the spread of invasive plants.
- Rapidly restore burned or disturbed sagebrush steppe to prevent incursion of invasive plants.
- Develop and implement methods for prioritizing and recovering sagebrush steppe invaded by nonnative plants.

CONCLUSIONS

We applaud the Interior Department's leadership to initiate a rangewide conservation strategy for sage-grouse, and to base the provisions of that strategy in sound science. Conserving large core habitats for sage-grouse can lead to many benefits, not just in terms or sage-grouse recovery itself, but also in terms of conservation of a variety of sagebrush-dependent wildlife, from the pygmy rabbit to the pronghorn antelope.

For many years, heavy industrial use as well as unsustainable levels of grazing have had heavy impacts on sagebrush habitats in many parts of the West, resulting in the decline of the sage-

grouse and many other species. Protecting the sage-grouse will help to lead the BLM and other agencies toward a better balance between resource extraction and land and wildlife conservation.

As you craft this strategy and the policies to implement it, we urge you to stand firm behind strong conservation measures that reflect the biological requirements of the bird as elucidated in the science. This strategy should establish core habitats where science-based protection measures are applied, ensure that protection measures are sufficiently rigorous to prevent grouse declines and encourage grouse recovery, and close the loopholes in the Wyoming core area strategy in all cases where the federal government has habitat management authority.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and please let us know how we can be of further assistance.

Respectfully yours,

Erik Molvar
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From: Klein, Elizabeth A
To: Lin, Janet H
Subject: RE: Uranium Withdrawal
Date: Thursday, September 30, 2010 10:34:41 AM

Hard copy is good. Where are you, I can swing by and pick it up.

-----Original Message-----
From: Janet_Lin@blm.gov [mailto:Janet_Lin@blm.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2010 9:14 AM
To: Klein, Elizabeth A
Subject: Re: Uranium Withdrawal

Can it be hard copy? The e version is very large and not e-mailable - I am told.

- Janet

Janet H. Lin
Chief of Staff, Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
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"Klein, Elizabeth A" <Elizabeth_Klein@ios.doi.gov>
09/30/2010 08:54 AM

To "Lin, Janet H" <Janet_Lin@blm.gov>
cc
Subject Uranium Withdrawal

Good morning,
I'd like to get a copy of the presentation from yesterday – I can email the project manager, if that's easiest, but I didn't catch his full name.
Thanks,
Liz

Elizabeth Klein
Counselor to the Deputy Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
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From: Klein, Elizabeth A
To: Lin, Janet H
Subject: Uranium Withdrawal
Date: Thursday, September 30, 2010 8:54:28 AM

Good morning,
I'd like to get a copy of the presentation from yesterday – I can email the project manager, if that's easiest, but I didn't catch his full name.
Thanks,
Liz

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ph: 202-513-0561
cell: 202-263-9040

From:	Lane, Kenneth
To:	Jarvis, Jon; Abbey, Robert V; Pizarchik, Joseph G; McNutt, Marcia K.; Connor, Michael L; Gould, R W; Ashe, D M; Bromwich, Michael R; Lewis, Wilma; Castle, Anne; Strickland, Thomas; Babauta, Tony; Echohawk, Larry; Henderson, Chris; Mansour, Christopher; Tompkins, Hilary C; Padilla, Joan; Perriello, Mark L; Davis, Laura; Hayes, David; Conklin, Meghan M
Date:	Monday, January 31, 2011 11:02:40 AM
Attachments:	Action Items 01.28.11.doc

I forgot to send on Friday

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

January 28, 2011

TO: Secretary Salazar
FROM: Ken Lane
SUBJECT: January 31-February 4 Week Ahead Summary & Action Items

Media Announcements/Events

Monday, January 31

- Announcement of implementation of Interior's scientific integrity policy
- FWS announcement on Pacific walrus ESA listing

Tuesday, February 1

- NPS announcement of Save America's Treasures grants

Thursday, February 3

- (T) Rollout/release of proposed FWS wind energy rules/guidance and BLM renewable energy field guidances

Schedule Items of Note

Monday, January 31

- Swearing-in of U.S. Park Police Chief Chambers
- Call with Sen. Landrieu re legislation to allocate BP liability penalties moneys

Tuesday, February 1

- Cabinet meeting
- Internal: FWS wind energy meeting re 3 proposed rules/guidance
- Internal: FWS briefing on wolves
- President's Interagency Task Force on Trafficking in Persons meeting—State Dept.

Wednesday, February 2

- Internal: Onshore Arctic action items meeting
- Internal: BOEMRE action items meeting
- Internal: BLM meeting re proposed renewable energy-related guidance
- Internal: AGO update meeting

Thursday, February 3

- Meeting with Sens Reid, Schumer & Menendez re Latino museum
- Dinner meeting with Daniel Yohannes

- **Action Items**

Protecting America's Treasured Landscapes & Wildlife	**Action Date**
1. ***AGO Report***	
• Rollout	(T) Wednesday, February 16
• Follow-up site action plan post-rollout	TBD
2. ***Grand Canyon Area Lands Withdrawal (Uranium Mining)***	
• Draft EIS being finalized	Unknown
3. ***U.S.-Mexico Binational Park Action Plan***	
4. ***U.S.-Russia Binational Park***	
5. ***Western States Conservation/Energy Tour***	TBD
6. ***Western Oregon Forest Plan***	
7. ***Wild Horse & Burro Management Plan***	
8. ***ESA Litigation Settlements***	(T) Mid-February

Developing Renewable Energy & Oversight of Energy Production	**Action Date**
1. ***Arctic Onshore Development***	
• Follow-up onshore meeting	Wednesday, February 2
2. ***Alaska CD-5 Pipeline Resolution***	
3. ***OCS Development***	
• Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) re additional drilling safety requirements	Unknown
• Draft additional workplace/rig operations safety rule	Unknown
• BOEM-NOAA environmental review MOU	Unknown
• Shell Exploration Permit action	Unknown
4. ***Flow Rate Technical Group (FRTG) Final Report***	(T) Mid-February
5. ***Onshore/Offshore Energy Transmission Lines Development***	
• Meeting with Secretary Chu & FERC Chair Wellinghoff	Thursday, February 10
6. ***Onshore Royalty Rate Reform***	
• Cost-benefit and economic impact analysis completion—on track	End of January
7. ***Hydraulic Fracturing***	
• BLM finalizing proposed guidance for review	Unknown
8. ***UT 77 Lease Sales***	
• Next steps finalized, ready for implementation	Unknown

9. ***Oil Shale Litigation Settlement*** Mid-February

10. ***Onshore Renewable Energy Development Rules/Guidance***
- FWS Eagle Wind Energy Rule (T) Week of January 31
- FWS Wind Turbine Guidelines (T) Week of January 31
- FWS ESA Guidance for Permitting on Private Lands (T) Week of January 31
- BLM Field Office Guidances on (T) Week of January 31
  (1) NEPA reviews
  (2) Due diligence procedures to address speculative permits
  (3) Renewable energy project siting
- BLM wind & solar energy zone mining segregation interim & final rules
  - Ready for internal review (T) Wednesday, February 2
  - Ready for OMB review (T) Friday, February 4
  - Send to *Federal Register* (T) Thursday, May 5

11. ***Atlantic Wind Energy Development***
- DOI-DOE strategic plan announcement w/Secretary Chu (T) Monday, February 7
- Wind Energy Areas designations (T) Monday, February 7

12. ***Secretary's Onshore Renewable Energy Conference*** Wed-Thu, February 9-10

From:	Lane, Kenneth
To:	Shafroth, William; Babauta, Tony; Lewis, Wilma; Castle, Anne; Echohawk, Larry; Henderson, Chris; Bromwich, Michael R; Abbey, Robert V; Pizarchik, Joseph G; McNutt, Marcia K.; Connor, Michael L; Ashe, D M; Jarvis, Jon; Tompkins, Hilary C; Mansour, Christopher; Padilla, Joan; Hayes, David; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Davis, Laura
Date:	Friday, February 11, 2011 11:28:39 AM
Attachments:	Action Items 02.11.11.doc

FYI, per Secretary's request

Ken Lane
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1849 C Street, N.W.
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Washington, D.C. 20240
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202-273-3501 fax

February 11, 2011

TO: Secretary Salazar
FROM: Ken Lane
SUBJECT: February 14-20 Week Ahead Summary & Action Items

Media Announcements/Events

Monday, February 14
- Press conference call regarding Interior's FY 012 budget

Tuesday, February 15
- Press conference call to announce oil shale litigation settlements, revisiting of commercial oil shale regulations adopted by previous Administration

Wednesday, February 16
- White House rollout of America's Great Outdoors Report
- *Federal Register* posting of BOEMRE proposed wind energy permitting rule

Thursday, February 17
- Urban park announcement with New York City Mayor Bloomberg; NY Times editorial board meeting

Friday, February 18
- Everglades NP, FL Picayune Strand Restoration Project canal pump station groundbreaking; (T) Miami Herald editorial board metting
- Issuance of Grand Canyon area lands withdrawal DEIS

Sunday, February 20
- Site visit to Imperial Valley Sand Dunes, CA OHV recreational area

Schedule Items of Note

Monday, February 14
- Press conference call regarding Interior's FY 012 budget
- Keynote address to 2011 (Youth) Corps Network Workshop
- Internal: BOEMRE meeting
- Internal: ESA meeting

Tuesday, February 15
- Press conference call to announce oil shale litigation settlements, revisiting of commercial oil shale regulations adopted by previous Administration
- Meeting Attorney General Holder, Secretary Vilsack, Senator Menendez regarding Hispanic farmers lawsuit
- Meeting with White House COS Bill Daley
- Meeting with NPF President Neil Mulholland and NFWF ED Jeff Trandahl
- Congressional call time re AGO Report rollout
- Internal: PAS/Senior Team meeting
- Call with POTUS

Wednesday, February 16
- AGO reception at South Interior
- White House rollout of America's Great Outdoors Report
- Tom Strickland farewell reception

Thursday, February 17
- **New York:** Urban park announcement with New York City Mayor Bloomberg, NY Times editorial board meeting; meeting with area NPS superintendents

Friday, February 18
- **Florida:** Everglades NP, FL Picayune Strand Restoration Project canal pump station groundbreaking

Sunday, February 20
- **California:** Site visit to Imperial Valley Sand Dunes, CA OHV recreational area

Action Items

Protecting America's Treasured Landscapes & Wildlife		Action Date
➢ ***Grand Canyon Area Lands Withdrawal (Uranium Mining)***		
• Draft EIS rollout for public comment	►	(T) February 18
• Final EIS	►	October?
➢ ***Wild Horse & Burro Management Plan***		
• Rollout of revised plan	►	TBD
➢ ***ESA Litigation Settlements Announcement***	►	TBD
➢ ***OSM Stream Protection Rule***	►	Ongoing
➢ ***Ban on Import of Invasive Snakes Rule***	►	TBD
➢ ***Teshekpuk Lake, AK Wildlife Plan***	►	Ongoing
➢ ***U.S.-Mexico Binational Park Action Plan***	►	Ongoing
➢ ***U.S.-Russia Binational Park***	►	Ongoing

Developing Renewable Energy & Oversight of Energy Production		Action Date
➢ ***Cape Wind COP Approval***	►	(T) early April
➢ ***OCS Development***		
• Letter to congressionals updating containment capacity/ deepwater drilling permit situation	►	February 10
• Follow-up letter to Helix & MWCC	►	(T) February 14
• Draft SEIS for Sale 218 (Western GOM) for SOL review	►	By early March
• ANPR for additional drilling safety requirements	►	March?
• Draft additional workplace safety rule	►	March?
• BOEM-NOAA environmental review MOU	►	(T) End February
• International containment forum	►	April 14
• Ocean Safety Advisory Committee nominations close	►	February 23
• U.S.-Mexico OCS transboundary agreement	►	Ongoing
➢ ***Alaska CD-5 Pipeline Resolution***		
• Follow up principals meeting	►	TBD
➢ ***Flow Rate Technical Group (FRTG) Final Report***	►	TBD
➢ ***Onshore Royalty Rate Reform***		
• Draft rule publication	►	(T) Late May
• Final rule publication (FR)	►	(T) October

- ***Fair Return Report (international royalty rates/fees)***
  - Contractor to provide draft report ► April
  - Internal review and final report issuance ► Mid-late June

- ***ONRR Royalty Simplification*** ► Ongoing

- ***Hydraulic Fracturing***
  - New plan of action ► TBD

- ***Re-offering of UT 77 Lease Sales***
  - New plan of action ► TBD

- ***BLM Wind & Solar Energy Zone Mining Segregation Rules***
  - To *Federal Register* ► (T) May 5

- ***Western Renewable Energy Action Teams***
  - Letter to western state governors re State-DOI renewable energy action teams ► TBD

From:	Lane, Kenneth
To:	Abbey, Robert V; Bromwich, Michael R; Haze, Pam K; Farquhar, Ned; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Belin, Letty; Davis, Laura
Cc:	Falsey, William D; Schwartz, Melissa
Subject:	Pending action items
Date:	Friday, November 05, 2010 9:53:30 AM

Hello all, just trying to get an update on the status of these pending action items

-
-
-

Protecting America's Treasured Landscapes & Wildlife	**Action Date**
1. ***Grand Canyon Area Lands Withdrawal (Uranium Mining)***	
• Draft EIS being finalized for release	November

-

Developing Renewable Energy & Oversight of Energy Production	**Action Date**
1. ***OCS Development***	
• NTL re CEO certification requirement & containment enforceability mechanism being developed for issuance--	(T) Week of November 2
to be followed by interim final rule incorporating such--	(T) By end of November
2. ***Interior Appropriations Report***	
• OMB promises to clear report	Fri, October 29
3. ***Onshore Royalty Rate Reform***	
• Cost-benefit and economic impact analysis completion	
4. ***OSM Reissued and Revised Oversight Directive***	
• OSM to release for public review and comment a revised oversight directive that clarifies procedures for addressing permit defects, among other things. (b) (5)	November

-

Empowering Native Americans, Alaska Natives & Island Communities	**Action Date**

-

1. ***Indian Water Rights***

- DOI Indian water rights team preparing draft letter of support for White Mtn Apache Tribe water settlement legislation. (b) (5)

Ken Lane
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U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

From: Lane, Kenneth
To: Abbey, Robert V
Subject: RE: Pending action items
Date: Friday, November 05, 2010 12:32:13 PM

Thanks

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
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U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
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-----Original Message-----
From: Robert_Abbey@blm.gov [mailto:Robert_Abbey@blm.gov]
Sent: Friday, November 05, 2010 12:30 PM
To: Lane, Kenneth
Subject: Re: Pending action items

Ken;

The release of the Grand Canyon Withdrawal draft EIS is on hold pending a decision by David Hayes. (b) (5)

Bob

"Lane, Kenneth" <Kenneth_Lane@ios.doi.gov>
11/05/2010 09:53 AM

To
"Abbey, Robert V" <Robert_Abbey@blm.gov>, "Bromwich, Michael R" <Michael.Bromwich@boemre.gov>, "Haze, Pam K" <Pam_Haze@ios.doi.gov>, "Farquhar, Ned" <Ned_Farquhar@ios.doi.gov>, "Pizarchik, Joseph G" <JPizarchik@osmre.gov>, "Belin, Letty" <Letty_Belin@ios.doi.gov>, "Davis, Laura" <Laura_Davis@ios.doi.gov>

cc
"Falsey, William D" <William_Falsey@blm.gov>,

"Schwartz, Melissa"
<Melissa.Schwartz@boemre.gov>
Subject
Pending action items

Hello all, just trying to get an update on the status of these pending action items

Protecting America's Treasured Landscapes & Wildlife
Action Date

1. Grand Canyon Area Lands Withdrawal (Uranium Mining)
   · Draft EIS being finalized for release
   November

Action Date

Developing Renewable Energy & Oversight of
Action Date
Energy Production

1. OCS Development
   · NTL re CEO certification requirement & containment
   enforceability mechanism being developed for issuance--
   (T) Week of November 2
   to be followed by interim final rule incorporating such--
   (T) By end of November

2. Interior Appropriations Report
   · OMB promises to clear report
   Fri, October 29

3. Onshore Royalty Rate Reform
   · Cost-benefit and economic impact analysis completion

4. OSM Reissued and Revised Oversight Directive
   · OSM to release for public review and comment a revised
   oversight November
   directive that clarifies procedures for addressing permit defects, among
   other things. (b) (5)

Empowering Native Americans, Alaska Natives & Island Communities

Action Date

1. Indian Water Rights
   - DOI Indian water rights team preparing draft letter of support for White Mtn Apache Tribe water settlement legislation. (b) (5)

Ken Lane
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Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
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Ha, Richard W

From: Rees, Gareth C. on behalf of Lewis, Wilma
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 12:43 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Accepted: 2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk, Bob Abbey, Mike Pool, Janet Lin, Wilma Lewis, Matt Lee-Ashley... staff continued

Ha, Richard W

From: Rees, Gareth C. on behalf of Lewis, Wilma
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 12:43 PM
To: Straitt, Iris; Petrillo, Thomas E; Padilla, Joan; Fink, Jason M
Subject: Accepted: 2:30-3:00pm EST: Internal Briefing on Grand Canyon Proposed Withdrawal DEIS (Staff: David Hayes, Meghan Conklin, Laura Davis, Tom Strickland, Jane Lyder, Dan Wenk, Bob Abbey, Mike Pool, Janet Lin, Wilma Lewis, Matt Lee-Ashley... staff continued

Ha, Richard W

From: Lassiter, Tracie L on behalf of Lewis, Wilma
Sent: Friday, September 17, 2010 11:11 AM
To: Luckey, Lauren
Subject: Accepted: Information Update - There are multiple changes: [CR#1352] - Grand Canyon Withdrawal Mtg [Bridge Line: (b) (5) pc(b) (5)]

Ha, Richard W

From: Rees, Gareth C. on behalf of Lewis, Wilma
Sent: Monday, March 08, 2010 1:29 PM
To: Walker, Claudia B
Subject: Accepted: Invitation: [CR#5071]Grand Canyon Withdrawal Pre-Brief w/Wilma Lewis, Sylvia Baca, Bob Abbey, Mike Pool, Marcilynn Burke, Paul Mussenden, Carmiece Graves, Bill Falsey, Jim Kenna, Ray Suazo, Johanna Munson, Mike Nedd, Mitch Leverette, Ed Roberson

Ha, Richard W

From: Rees, Gareth C. on behalf of Lewis, Wilma
Sent: Tuesday, March 09, 2010 2:17 PM
To: Walker, Claudia B
Subject: Accepted: Rescheduled: [CR#5071]Grand Canyon Withdrawal Pre-Brief w/Wilma Lewis, Sylvia Baca, Bob Abbey, Mike Pool, Marcilynn Burke, Paul Mussenden, Carmiece Graves, Bill Falsey, Jim Kenna, Ray Suazo, Johanna Munson, Mike Nedd, Mitch Leverette, Ed Roberso

From: Lewis, Wilma
To: Baca, Sylvia; Farquhar, Ned; Mussenden, Paul; Boling, Ted A; Cardinale, Richard; Graves, Carmiece
Subject: FW:
Date: Friday, February 11, 2011 3:27:26 PM
Attachments: Action Items 02.11.11.doc

Fyi.

Wilma A. Lewis
Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Mangement
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C. Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240
MIB- Room 6613
ph: 202-208-6734
fax: 202-208-3619
cell: 202-297-8733

From: Lane, Kenneth
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2011 11:29 AM
To: Shafroth, William; Babauta, Tony; Lewis, Wilma; Castle, Anne; Echohawk, Larry; Henderson, Chris; Bromwich, Michael; Abbey, Robert V; Pizarchik, Joseph G; McNutt, Marcia K; Connor, Michael L; Ashe, Dan; Jarvis, Jon; Tompkins, Hilary C; Mansour, Christopher; Padilla, Joan; Hayes, David; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Davis, Laura
Subject:

FYI, per Secretary's request

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
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Washington, D.C. 20240
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202-273-3501 fax

February 11, 2011

TO: Secretary Salazar
FROM: Ken Lane
SUBJECT: February 14-20 Week Ahead Summary & Action Items

Media Announcements/Events

Monday, February 14
- Press conference call regarding Interior's FY 012 budget

Tuesday, February 15
- Press conference call to announce oil shale litigation settlements, revisiting of commercial oil shale regulations adopted by previous Administration

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- White House rollout of America's Great Outdoors Report
- *Federal Register* posting of BOEMRE proposed wind energy permitting rule

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- Urban park announcement with New York City Mayor Bloomberg; NY Times editorial board meeting

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- Everglades NP, FL Picayune Strand Restoration Project canal pump station groundbreaking; (T) Miami Herald editorial board metting
- Issuance of Grand Canyon area lands withdrawal DEIS

Sunday, February 20
- Site visit to Imperial Valley Sand Dunes, CA OHV recreational area

Schedule Items of Note

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- Keynote address to 2011 (Youth) Corps Network Workshop
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- Meeting Attorney General Holder, Secretary Vilsack, Senator Menendez regarding Hispanic farmers lawsuit
- Meeting with White House COS Bill Daley
- Meeting with NPF President Neil Mulholland and NFWF ED Jeff Trandahl
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Sunday, February 20
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Action Items

Protecting America's Treasured Landscapes & Wildlife		Action Date
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• Draft EIS rollout for public comment	►	(T) February 18
• Final EIS	►	October?
➢ ***Wild Horse & Burro Management Plan***		
• Rollout of revised plan	►	TBD
➢ ***ESA Litigation Settlements Announcement***	►	TBD
➢ ***OSM Stream Protection Rule***	►	Ongoing
➢ ***Ban on Import of Invasive Snakes Rule***	►	TBD
➢ ***Teshekpuk Lake, AK Wildlife Plan***	►	Ongoing
➢ ***U.S.-Mexico Binational Park Action Plan***	►	Ongoing
➢ ***U.S.-Russia Binational Park***	►	Ongoing

Developing Renewable Energy & Oversight of Energy Production		Action Date
➢ ***Cape Wind COP Approval***	►	(T) early April
➢ ***OCS Development***		
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• Follow-up letter to Helix & MWCC	►	(T) February 14
• Draft SEIS for Sale 218 (Western GOM) for SOL review	►	By early March
• ANPR for additional drilling safety requirements	►	March?
• Draft additional workplace safety rule	►	March?
• BOEM-NOAA environmental review MOU	►	(T) End February
• International containment forum	►	April 14
• Ocean Safety Advisory Committee nominations close	►	February 23
• U.S.-Mexico OCS transboundary agreement	►	Ongoing
➢ ***Alaska CD-5 Pipeline Resolution***		
• Follow up principals meeting	►	TBD
➢ ***Flow Rate Technical Group (FRTG) Final Report***	►	TBD
➢ ***Onshore Royalty Rate Reform***		
• Draft rule publication	►	(T) Late May
• Final rule publication (FR)	►	(T) October

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  - Contractor to provide draft report ► April
  - Internal review and final report issuance ► Mid-late June

- ***ONRR Royalty Simplification*** ► Ongoing

- ***Hydraulic Fracturing***
  - New plan of action ► TBD

- ***Re-offering of UT 77 Lease Sales***
  - New plan of action ► TBD

- ***BLM Wind & Solar Energy Zone Mining Segregation Rules***
  - To *Federal Register* ► (T) May 5

- ***Western Renewable Energy Action Teams***
  - Letter to western state governors re State-DOI renewable energy action teams ► TBD

From:	Lassiter, Tracie L on behalf of Lewis, Wilma
To:	Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject:	FW: ASLM Major Projects Spreadsheet
Date:	Monday, December 20, 2010 12:50:54 PM
Attachments:	ASLM Major Projects 12-20-10-DRAFT.doc

From: Rees, Gareth C.
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2010 4:10 PM
To: Lewis, Courtenay; Lewis, Wilma; Farquhar, Ned; Baca, Sylvia; Cardinale, Richard; Mussenden, Paul; Boling, Ted A; Graves, Carmiece
Cc: Abbey, Robert V; Bromwich, Michael; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Lin, Janet H; Lillie, Thomas; Shawley, Dianne M
Subject: ASLM Major Projects Spreadsheet

All,
Please find attached the final version of the ASLM Spreadsheet for the tri-weekly meeting with David Hayes on Monday December 20th at 4pm.
Thanks and Happy Holidays

Gareth C. Rees
Office of the Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
MS 6628
Washington, DC 20240
Tel: 202-208-3905
Fax: 202-208-3619
Cell: 202-262-5681

ASLM Major Projects (12/20/10)		
Bureau	**Description**	**Status/Comments**
Tier 1		
ASLM/BLM	Western Oregon Taskforce Report	On 12/08/10, the Secretary hosted a meeting on Western Oregon forest issues attended by nearly 80 stakeholders, tribal leaders, state and local government officials and nearly all of the Oregon delegation. DAS Baca, Michael Bean and BLM Director Abbey are beginning work on an action plan to implement two pilots in southwest Oregon. The Udall Foundation is drafting a summary of the meeting to share with attendees.
ASLM/BOEM	Atlantic Wind:	The Atlantic Wind Team is assisting in developing materials for an Interagency task force group meeting to be led by Deputy Secretary Hayes scheduled for 12/21/10. BOEMRE staff and Deputy Assistant Secretary Farquhar conducted a task force meeting with MA and RI on 12/10/10. The DE Request for Competitive Interest (RFCI) is expected to be published in the Federal Register in December. The MA RFI is currently under review by BOEMRE staff. Scoping for the wind EAs will begin 1/2011. On 12/15/10 BOEMRE and ASLM staff meet with BlueWater Wind to discuss the review process for the DE development proposal. On 12/16/10, Ned Farquhar spoke at the Atlantic offshore Wind Workshop on Permitting and Environmental Review.
BOEM	Atlantic G & G/seismic	BOEMRE is moving forward with an environmental analysis for potential seismic studies for renewable and conventional energy uses.
BOEM	Reorganization	BOEMRE and McKinsey & Company briefed Deputy Secretary Hayes and Secretary on 12/6/10.
ASLM/BLM	Wilderness Policy (e.g. Secretarial Order, Handbook, Rollout Plan)	ASLM and BLM are working with the OS Communication's staff on the roll-out of the Secretarial Order for the protection of public lands with wilderness characteristics.

BLM	Oil and Gas Leasing Reform Implementation Plans	Various nongovernmental organizations have submitted recommendations to the BLM to consider 30 areas in 5 states for inclusion in the Master Leasing Plan (MLP) process. BLM WO emailed supplemental guidance to the field, met directly with BLM's 5 Rocky Mountain states 10/25/10 and requested detailed MLP implementation plans by11/05/10. The State plans were reviewed by a WO team & BLM Director briefed 11/22/10 and 12/15/10. ASLM will be briefing during the week of 12/20/10. States will move forward with MLPs and notification to external submitters. BLM is working on the letters and guidance on MLP integration into planning.
BLM	Utah 77 Leases	On 8/30/10, the Utah District Court held that the Secretary lacks authority to withdraw leases after holding a competitive lease sale. In this case, the plaintiff's claims were time barred because the Plaintiff failed to file its suit within 90 days of the Secretary's final decision. BLM and SOL are discussing legal and administrative follow-up measures. An information memo for the Secretary was delivered 9/27/10.
ASLM/BLM	Wild Horse and Burro Strategy	On 12/13/10, the DOI OIG issued its report on the Wild Horse and Burro program. The report, which was requested by Congress, was very positive. It concluded that the WH&B gathers are necessary and justified for population control and to maintain a thriving natural ecological balance. The report also indicated that there was no evidence of inhumane treatment by BLM or its contractors. The report recommended continuing with the Secretary's initiative and urged aggressive focus on research and testing on population control methods and the use of best science.
BLM	RS 2477	The BLM and the State of Utah are piloting a project to try to resolve specific R.S. 2477 claims in certain counties in Utah. The next meeting of the pilot group will occur on 01/04/10, in Cedar City. BLM-UT State Director Juan Palma is on a subcommittee that is actively looking to secure the services of a facilitator for the pilot project.

BLM	Lucerne Valley OHV Accident	BLM's Incident Report was released on 11/19/10 along with a Washington Office and California Instruction Memoranda reinforcing the importance of following permitting procedures.
ASLM/BLM	Oil Shale R, D and D Leasing	BLM issued a press release 10/13/10 and notified the three successful companies and various government representatives. Successful applicants are working with BLM field offices on NEPA documents.
BLM	Red Devil Mine	OMB hosted an interagency meeting on 10/8/10. EPA sent a letter to Director Abbey on 10/27/10 reiterating the EPA's position that it expects BLM to enter into an enforceable Federal Facility Agreement. BLM Director responded on 11/22/10 reiterating that BLM will work collaboratively to clean up the site, consistent with BLM's CERCLA authorities. The BLM Director and others are meeting with EPA on 12/21/10.
BLM	East Lynn Lake	NOA for FEIS on hold. Meeting between Eastern States and Army Corps to discuss possible mitigation held 9/27/10. Both agencies agreed to review the FEIS again. BLM to meet with Corps on 12/17/10.
ASLM/BLM	OIG Report	On 12/07/10, BLM briefed ASLM staff on the OIG report entitled, Follow-Up to Office of Policy Analysis Report, "Review of Selective Aspects of the Federal Helium Program," June 2010. The response is due 12/17/10. BLM requested and extension 12/15/10.
BLM	GAO	On 12/13/10, the GAO released a report entitled "Additional Actions Needed to Better Ensure a Coordinated Federal Response to Illegal Activity on Federal Lands." The Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES) has the lead for preparing the agency response. Comments are due to the OLES by 01/07/11.
BLM	GAO	On 11/29/10, the GAO issued a report entitled "Federal Oil and Gas Leases: Opportunities Exist to Capture Vented and Flared Natural Gas, Which Would Increase Royalty Payments and Reduce Greenhouse Gases." A copy of the response to the draft report was submitted to the Deputy Secretary on 12/09/10. The response to the final report is due to the GAO on 01/28/11.

ASLM/OSM	Oversight Improvement Actions	On 11/18/10, OSM posted three draft Directives for review. The Directives posted are: REG-Oversight of Regulatory Programs; REG-23 Corrective Actions for Regulatory Program problems and Action Plans; and INE-35 Ten Day Notices. The Secretary participated and Assistant Secretary, Lands and Minerals Management participated in OSM's announcement of the draft plans.
ASLM/OSM	Permit Defects	On 11/15/10, OSM Director signed a Memorandum clarifying the Department's interpretation of the Secretary's authority to issue ten-day notices to primacy states for all types of violations of the approved regulatory program. (This item is now closed).
ASLM/OSM	Stream Protection Rulemaking	The draft stream protection proposed rule will be circulated within DOI for review and comment on 12/22/10. The EIS team is working with the contractor to finalize a draft of Chapter IV.
BOEM	Gulf of Mexico Trans-boundary Hydrocarbon Reservoirs between U.S. and Mexico	ASLM staff, BOEMRE, State Dept. and Mexico met on 12/9/10 to discuss trans-boundary issues. BOEMRE staff briefed the Secretary on trans-boundary issues on 12/14/10 prior to his trip to Mexico. BOEMRE Director Bromwich will accompany the Secretary on his trip.
BOEM	Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for Chukchi Sea Sale 193, Alaska	The comment period on the Draft SEIS closed on November 30, 2010. BOEMRE has received over 150,000 comments. Approximately 100 comments are unique and substantive. The vast majority are form letter comments and over 10,000 concern mountaintop mining.
BOEM	Federal Register on the Notice of Availability of recent Environmental Assessments and Findings of No Significant Impact on the Alaska OCS	Published in the Federal Register on 11/16/10.
BOEM	Gulf of Mexico Supplemental EIS (SEIS)	BOEMRE prepared a Federal Register notice for Scoping Meetings on the Environmental Impact for the Proposed 2012-2017 OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program. ASLM is currently reviewing the notice.
BOEM	Gulf of Mexico Quarterly Notices of Availability of NEPA Documents	Two separate notices were published in the Federal Register on 11/04/10.

BOEM	Notice of Availability of the Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis (IRFA)	BOEMRE prepared a Notice of Availability of the Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis (IRFA). ASLM surnamed the document on 12/15/10. The document now going to the Department for their review.
BOEM	Notice of Intent (NOI) to Conduct a Review of Categorical Exclusions for OCS Decision	BOEMRE, ASLM, SOL, and DOI Environmental Office met with representatives from CEQ on 12/9/10 to discuss proposed changes to categorical exclusions used by BOEMRE.
BOEM/BLM/ OSM	Diversity and Implementation Plan	On 12/08/10, John Burden provided ASLM staff with a positive progress report on the LMM bureaus' efforts to finalize their Diversity and Implementation Plans. Per discussion with John Burden, the ASLM will have an opportunity to review each Plan by the end of Dec. in preparation for a meeting with the Secretary in Jan.
OSM	TN Lands Unsuitable Petition	OSM has determined the Petition to Designated Lands Unsuitable in Tennessee is complete. OSM is now in the process of identifying property landowners within the Petition Area for notification of the proposed action. To date, 900 property owners have been identified.
BLM	Segregation for Wind and Solar Energy Development Applications - Interim Final Rule	The regulation will give BLM clear authority to segregate lands included in wind or solar energy right-of-way applications from appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws. BLM manages the surface estate of post-1955 mining claims, but may only authorize uses that do not endanger or materially interfere with prospecting, mining, or processing operations. Energy developers and institutions that finance such development can invest substantial amounts of money into studies and engineering work for a wind or solar energy project, only to have a subsequently located mining claim jeopardize that investment and planned development. OMB has not identified the proposed rule as being significant; BLM plans to begin its surname process on 11/5/10.

BLM	Withdrawal Application for Proposed Solar Energy Zones	The 24 Solar Energy Study Areas added to the Solar PEIS were temporarily segregated by Notice of Proposed Withdrawal on 6/30/09. BLM has subsequently refined the boundaries of these areas (to be called proposed Solar Energy Zones in the Draft Solar PEIS) to conform to the public land survey system and, in some cases, to add or delete lands. A revised description will be published in a Notice of Withdrawal Application to be issued ahead of or concurrently with the Draft Solar PEIS (scheduled for 12/17/10). A short-term protective withdrawal will be necessary to extend the segregation of these lands until the ROD for the Solar PEIS can be issued. The ROD will define those lands that should be permanently withdrawn for solar energy development.
Tier 2 - Tracking Progress on Issues		
BLM	Grand Canyon Withdrawal	The Department is currently reviewing the DEIS. The interagency Executive Oversight Team discussed Departmental comment at a meeting on12/09/10.
BOEM	Chukchi/Beaufort Sea exploration	Deferred until 2011. Shell has requested that BOEM issue a directed suspension and relieve Shell of the obligation to pay rentals during the period of suspension. SOL's office asked BOEM to hold off on issuing the suspensions as a result of the AK lawsuit. BOEM is awaiting further direction from SOL's office.
ASLM/PMB/OIG	Deep Water Horizon/Safety Oversight Board	Submitted report to Secretary 9/01/10. Oversight of the DWH investigation is ongoing. The deadline for a final report from the DWH JIT has been extended to March 2011. Hearings were conducted the week of 10/3/10 and the week of 12/05/10. Hearings on the BOP testing are anticipated in late January 2011.

ASLM/BLM/BOEM	Production Coordination Committee	The PCC continues to address ongoing coordination and collaboration improvements between BOEMRE, BLM, ONRR and the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Office regarding mineral production and royalty issues. Since October 1st, the bureaus have closed nine Royalty Policy Committee recommendations bringing the total completed to 92 out of 110 recommendations. Several of these recommendations addressed BTU sampling and reporting requirements for operators.
ASLM/BLM/	International Long-Term Oil and Gas Fair Return Report	Contract was awarded 9/13/10. Status meeting with contractor held on 10/11/10. Final report is expected 6/2011. Status update memo for the Secretary on this and other energy revenue issues delivered 10/14/10. BOEM will have their status meeting with the contractor on 1/2011.
ASLM/BLM	Onshore Royalty Rate Revision - Rule Making	Final Rule anticipated in 12/2011. Status update memo for the Secretary on this and other energy revenue issues delivered 10/14/10. Contractor analysis pending Steering Committee review and concurrence prior to incorporation into the rulemaking.
BOEM	OCS 5-Year Plan	On 12/1/10, the Secretary announced an updated oil and gas leasing plan for the OCS.
Tier 3 - Ongoing/Long Term Projects		
BLM	Air quality MOU	The Team has completed a final draft of the MOU which includes major changes, and the facilitators are finalizing technical changes to the appendix. Anticipate revised draft of the MOU to be available for agency executives next week (10/25/10).
BLM	Wyoming, Bridger-Teton Leases	FS in consultation with BLM, SOL and OGC finalizing EIS, ROD and letter to BLM regarding EIS preferred alternative and impact on leasing consent.

BLM	Arizona 1 - Uranium Mine	The Center for Biological Diversity filed a motion for preliminary injunction in District Court. The District Court denied the motion, and CBD appealed to the Ninth Circuit. Our brief in opposition to plaintiff's appeal of the District Court's denial of the Preliminary Injunction was submitted on 9/21/10. Litigation of the merits of the case continues in District Court; plaintiffs recently filed a motion to amend their complaint to add two additional NEPA claims. The court has not yet ruled on that motion.
BLM	BLM Coal Leasing Program	WildEarth Guardians filed two lawsuits in DC District Court. One challenges DOI's non-response to their request to de-certify the Powder River Basin. A second complaint challenges the ROD for the West Antelope II LBA. The government has filed answers in each of these cases. In addition, BLM has prepared a draft response to the WildEarth petition which is currently in surnaming. DOJ has negotiated with plaintiffs and intervenors a joint motion for a 30-day stay of proceedings, filed on 11/04/10. The court has not yet proposed a scheduling conference to set forth the briefing schedule in the West Antelope II ROD case. IBLA issued a decision on 11/02/10 affirming the West Antelope II LBA ROD. Plaintiffs have evaluated the IBLA Decision and amended their complaint in the West Antelope II ROD litigation on 11/09/10. The government filed its answer to the second amended complaint on 11/23/10.
BLM	Oil Shale Litigation I and II	Department actively working to settle lawsuits; plaintiffs and intervenors have reviewed the proposed settlement offer. SOL and DOJ met with intervenors 12/15 to discuss their comments on the settlement offer. BLM is developing an administrative record (AR). Deadline for completion of an AR for the regulations litigation has been extended by the court to 1/28/2011. Deadline for completion of the AR for the PEIS lawsuit is 2/2011.

From:	Lassiter, Tracie L on behalf of Lewis, Wilma
To:	Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject:	FW: ASLM Week Ahead Report 3.14.10
Date:	Friday, March 12, 2010 1:50:37 PM
Attachments:	ASLM Week Ahead Report 03-14-10 (Final).doc

From: Graves, Carmiece
Sent: Friday, March 12, 2010 11:52 AM
To: Deen, Donna; Baca, Sylvia; Lewis, Wilma; Farquhar, Ned; Pustay, Katherine; Ihenetu, Camilla; Lin, Janet H; Smith, Nancy L.; Owens, Glenda H.; Pool, Mike; Cruickshank, Walter; Good, Keith
Cc: Cardinale, Richard; Lassiter, Tracie L; Gonzales-Evans, Anita; Julie.s.fleming@mms.gov; Johnston, Doris; Vicki_R_Zatarain%MMS@ios.doi.gov; Iudicello, Fay; Stone, Renee; Padilla, Joan; Leff, Craig; Davis, Vermell; Goldblatt, Jennifer L; 2006 CFCNCA; Aird, Brenda; Leff, Craig; Shaffer, Allison; Gailliard, Laverne; Mali, Peter L.; Rieben, Elizabeth; Donnelly, Sarah; Jeter, Joyce A.; Herdt, Lyn; Boddington, Celia; Royal, Pam; Krauss, Jeff; Barre, Michael E
Subject: ASLM Week Ahead Report 3.14.10

Kind regards,

Carmiece T. Graves

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LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT
March 14 – March 20, 2010

SENIOR OFFICIALS' ACTIVITIES

Wilma A. Lewis, Assistant Secretary – In Washington, DC.
Ned Farquhar, Deputy Asst. Secretary – In Washington, DC.
Sylvia V. Baca, Deputy Asst. Secretary – In Washington, DC.
Bob Abbey, Director, BLM – In Washington, DC.
Liz Birnbaum, Director, MMS – In Washington, DC.
Joseph Pizarchik, Director, OSM – In Washington, DC.

HOT TOPICS

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Update: **Grand Canyon Withdrawal Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)***: During the week of Mar. 8, the BLM is scheduled to post on the Web the proposed mineral withdrawal scoping report for the Grand Canyon Withdrawal EIS, which analyzes the proposed temporary segregation of almost one million acres of Federal lands near the Grand Canyon. The BLM received 83,525 public comment submittals (containing 8,600 distinct comments) during the scoping period. Draft alternatives for the EIS have been developed by an interagency team from the BLM, Forest Service, NPS, FWS, and U.S. Geological Survey. These alternatives were presented to the non-Federal cooperating agencies on Feb. 23. Additional meetings are underway to share the draft alternatives with area tribes and the Arizona Resource Advisory Council the week of March 15. The draft EIS is scheduled to be released for public comment in Aug.*

New: **Wild Horses:** *BLM-NV has received a FOIA request from Donald Barr for all documents and emails regarding Madeleine Pickens' visit to the Calico complex, including emails to Jerry Reynoldson Pickens, the designated point of contact to coordinate the helicopter flight; statements of those on the ground who observed Ms. Pickens' unauthorized flight over the gather site and disruption of gather activities; and video footage that the BLM shot of the gather. BLM-NV is taking the lead in responding to these requests, which are due on Apr. 1.*

New: Wild Horses: *On Feb. 26, Greenwire reporter Mike Soraghan filed a FOIA request with the BLM-WA Office requesting copies of all videos the BLM has taken of wild horse roundups since Jan. 1, 2009.*

New: **Youth:** *On March 17-20, BLM-Arizona will host Wild about the Grasslands! Spring Adventure Camp 2010 at the Empire Ranch Headquarters in the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area (LCNCA). This is an ecology and ranching heritage program of the Empire Ranch Foundation and the BLM. The program connects kids to the outdoors through hands-on, minds-on activities on the LCNCA. About 30 children aged 8-12 were signed up for the event as of March 8.*

Minerals Management Service (MMS)

Atlantic Wind Consortium Meeting*:* *After receiving the Secretary's edits on the draft consortium memorandum of understanding and approval of a draft letter to consortium members, MMS is setting the date for the first consortium meeting (expected week of Mar. 22). This meeting will focus on the MOU and the beginnings of a consortium work plan to be completed within 30 days.*

Update: **Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico (GOM) Geological and Geophysical (G&G) Activities:** *A timeline for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) was submitted to Congress on Feb. 3. The Federal Register notice announcing the scoping meeting locations and reopening of the comment period is scheduled to be published on Mar. 23.*

Update: **U.S.-Mexico Transboundary Issues:** *DOI completed its review of the Draft Transboundary Treaty Proposal on Mar. 1. MMS staff submitted preliminary comments to the Department of State (DOS) for review. Secretary of State Clinton is expected to make a formal announcement that the U.S. and Mexico plan to initiate negotiations during her trip to Mexico on Mar. 16.*

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

Update**: Stream Protection Rulemaking**: *OSM is taking the steps needed to award a contract by Apr. 2 for preparation of an EIS for the stream protection rule. On Mar. 4, OSM met with staff representatives of CEQ, EPA, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to obtain feedback on tentative decisions concerning the rule. On Mar. 9, OSM held similar discussions with the U.S. FWS. The next step is to identify appropriate alternatives for the proposed rulemaking.*

WEEK AHEAD – Mar. 14 to Mar. 20

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Monday, March 15:

- ***No Change:*** **Mitigation Meetings in WY:** The BLM-WY Jonah Interagency Office and the Pinedale Anticline Project Office will hold their Agency Managers Committee and Mitigation Management Board meetings on Mar. 15 and Apr. 21 in WY to review new and ongoing mitigation projects, which are designed to offset impacts caused by intensive oil and gas development on Federal public lands in the Green River Valley of western WY.

- ***No Change:*** **Clever Beaver Timber Project:** The BLM-OR is expected to release for public comment the EA on the Clever Beaver Density Management project. The project proposes the thinning of six to seven million board feet on approximately 301 acres of mid-seral forest stands in the Swiftwater Resource Area that are 48-66 years old. The

action, which is not expected to be controversial, is being taken under the Northwest Forest Plan.

Thursday, March 18:

- ***Update:*** **Oil and Gas Lease Sale**: *BLM-Eastern States will offer 81 parcels totaling 25,524 acres in AL, AR, LA, OH, MS and WV. All 81 parcels are located on National Forest lands. The protest period for the sale ended Mar. 3 and three protests were filed from: (1) The Mountain Institute--alleging that the Monongahela National Forest Resource Management Plan does not address the impacts of horizontal drilling and hydro-fracturing; (2) Trout Unlimited--citing the lack of analysis specific to groundwater impacts and the associated relationship with surface water resources, and perceived risks to air quality and viewsheds; and (3) Friends of Blackwater Canyon--raising concerns about risks to species' habitat and the parcels' location in inventoried roadless areas and proposed wilderness areas. The BLM and U.S. Forest Service are reviewing the merit of the protests.*

Minerals Management Service (MMS)

- **No Change: Training for the Iraq Ministry of Oil (MoO):** In June 2009, MMS participated in a technical assistance workshop with its counterpart regulatory authorities in the MoO, held in Erbil, Iraq. As a continuation of the workshop, two delegations from the MoO will attend "on-the-job" training with MMS in the U.S. The first delegation, tentatively scheduled from Mar. 8-26, will focus on Leasing/Tendering Management and Revenue Management. The second delegation (consisting of 12), tentatively scheduled for Apr. 5-23, will be split between Resource Evaluation/IT and Regulating Field Operations. All delegates will spend one week in MMS headquarters in Herndon, VA. Their remaining time will be split between the Gulf and Pacific Regions, and MMS's revenue management operations, depending on their specialties.

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

Mar. 16 –Mar. 17:

- ***New*****: Meeting with OSM's Leadership Team:** *OSM Dir. Pizarchik will participate in OSM's Core Leadership Team (CLT) quarterly meeting. The CLT will discuss matters of bureau interest including the MOU/IAP, stream protection rule making, and other programmatic challenges.*

WEEKS AHEAD

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Tuesday, Mar. 23:

- ***New:*** **Commercial Thinning Sales:** *The BLM-OR will advertise two thinning sales and issue the Decision Records on both sales. The Sherlock Home Commercial Thinning will occur in a mid-seral (shade intolerant) forest stand 45-51 years old, and will provide approximately 3.5 million board-feet of timber available for auction. The Corvid commercial thinning timber sale will occur in a mid-seral forest stand 38-42 years old,*

and will provide approximately 3.7 million board-feet of timber available for auction. Public comments were addressed within the Decision Records of both sales, and no protests are anticipated.

Tuesday, Mar. 30:

- ***New:*** **NM Mimbres RMP:** *Comments are due to the BLM-NM on an EA amending the Mimbres RMP so as to change the designation of certain lands in Grant County from "retention lands" to "disposal lands." The six parcels analyzed in the EA cover approx. 1,348 acres near the Gila National Forest. The purpose of the proposed amendment is to allow the BLM the flexibility to exchange or sell certain parcels at a future time. The EA is not expected to be controversial.*

Thursday, Apr. 1:

- ***New:*** **Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Grant Applications:** *Comments are due to BLM-CA on OHV grant applications the BLM has submitted to the CA Dept. of Parks and Recreation. Under the process, the BLM applies for grants from the state each year to help fund and coordinate its OHV program. The BLM then issues the grants to a variety of entities to improve or mitigate OHV recreation. This year, over $27 million is available for allocation to Federal, state, and county agencies.*

Thursday, Apr. 6-8:

- ***New:*** **Montana Management Conference:** *BLM Dir. Bob Abbey will participate in a BLM-MT sponsored conference entitled "Managing the Public Land of the Next Decade" from Apr. 6-8 in Billings, MT. The Montana Stockgrowers Association, the Montana Wildlife Federation, and other groups will offer their perspectives on public land management in Montana and the Dakotas over the next decade. Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT) and Rep. Denny Rehberg (R-MT) have also been invited to speak.*

Wednesday, Apr. 7:

- ***New:*** **Sage-grouse Litigation:** *The judge presiding over Western Watersheds Project v. Salazar, et al, case has rescheduled from Mar. 2 to Apr. 7 the litigation conference to allow the parties to discuss possible settlement options. The plaintiffs are challenging about 600 separate decisions of the BLM concerning some 40 million acres spread out over Idaho and Nevada. The plaintiffs' basic claim is that each decision fails to protect sage-grouse. The complaint, filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of ID, alleges violation of NEPA, FLPMA, the Clean Water Act, and other laws.*

Wednesday, Apr. 21:

- ***No Change:*** **Oil and Gas Sale in NM:** BLM-NM will offer 80 parcels totaling 56,831 acres in NM, KS, OK and TX. The parcels occur primarily in two traditional oil and gas producing basins: the San Juan Basin in northwestern NM and the Permian Basin in southeast NM. Several parcels have been identified as having paleontological resources; these parcels may need to be deferred until further studies to locate and identify these resources have been completed. None of the parcels are within citizen-proposed wilderness areas or municipal watersheds. The protest period for the sale ends Apr. 6.

Minerals Management Service (MMS)

Week of Mar. 15:

- ***New:*** **MMS Congressional Courtesy Meetings:** *Dir. Birnbaum has courtesy visits scheduled with Sen. Barrasso (R-WY) and Rep. Kratovil (D-MD).*

Wednesday, Apr. 14:

- ***Update:*** **MMS/Maryland (MD) Renewable Energy Task Force:** *The first task force meeting is tentatively scheduled for Apr. 14 at the MD Energy Administration in Annapolis.*

Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

- ***New:*** **Mining Plan Modification for Oklahoma (OK) Federal Lands Permit Revision:** *OSM's Mid-Continental Region (MCR) has received the OK Depart. of Mines'approval of revision 1786F to Farrell-Cooper Mining Company's Shady Point/Cavanal West Mine. This mining plan modification adds 150 acres to the existing 680-acre permit. MCR anticipates submitting the mining plan modification to OSM headquarters in late Mar.*

From:	Lassiter, Tracie L on behalf of Lewis, Wilma
To:	Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject:	FW: ASLM_Report_to_Sec"y_2_17_10_Final.doc
Date:	Friday, February 18, 2011 11:28:09 AM
Attachments:	ASLM_Report_to_Sec"y_2_17_10_Final.doc

From: Graves, Carmiece
Sent: Friday, February 18, 2011 10:04 AM
To: Lewis, Courtenay
Cc: Lewis, Wilma; Farquhar, Ned; Baca, Sylvia; Mussenden, Paul; Boling, Ted A
Subject: ASLM_Report_to_Sec'y_2_17_10_Final.doc

Courtenay,

Attached please find the ASLM's Weekly Report to the Secretary.

Kind regards,

Carmiece Graves Ahmad

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Weekly Report to the Secretary
Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management
February 17, 2011

I. Personal Message to the Secretary: Albeit bittersweet, Tom Strickland's farewell reception on Wednesday evening was a very nice event. The large turnout was a testament to the tremendous contribution that Tom has made during the past 2 years and the great leadership that he has demonstrated both within and outside the Department. Although, I have known Tom since our U.S. Attorney days, it was a great privilege to have the opportunity to work more closely with him here at DOI. Thank you for that privilege.

II. Highlights of Travel, Meetings, Speeches, and other Public Events:
ASLM Lewis will be in the Washington office all week.
DAS Baca will be in the Washington office all week.
DAS Farquhar plans to accept an invitation to travel to ME on Monday to deliver remarks at the "DeepCwind Consortium" on Tuesday. He will be in the Washington office Wednesday through Friday.

III. Potential or Expected Legislative, Legal, and Policy Issues:

Special Projects:

- **Atlantic Wind Initiative:** On Feb. 14, the Atlantic Wind Team met with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) on the "Smart from the Start" initiative. As a result of the ACHP meeting, BOEMRE will hold an informational webinar on the Section 106 process for state historical preservation officers on Mar. 3. The webinar will provide an overview of the "Smart from the Start" initiative and leasing process.
- **Wild Horses & Burros:** The proposed strategy is scheduled to be released on Feb. 22 for a 30-day public comment period. The final strategy will be incorporated into the final report due to Congress Mar. 31.
- **Western Oregon Pilots:** On Feb. 16, DAS Baca held a teleconference with several members of the OR delegation to provide a status update on the Western Oregon pilot projects. The status update was well received by the delegation. BLM will continue to provide the delegation with periodic updates. On Feb. 16 and 17, BLM held public meetings and workshops on the Roseburg pilot in Roseburg, OR. Similar public meetings and workshops on the Medford pilot will be held in Medford Mar. 17 through 26.
- **Wild Lands Policy:** An Info Memo was submitted to the Deputy Secretary on Feb. 16. On Feb. 17, ASLM Lewis, DAS Baca, BLM Deputy Dir. Burke, and other ASLM and BLM staff met with the Deputy Secretary to discuss changes to the manuals. The final Wild Lands manuals are scheduled to be released on Feb. 22. On Mar. 1, Dir. Abbey is scheduled to testify at the House Natural Resource Committee hearing on the Wild Lands policy.
- **Stream Protection Rule:** On Feb. 16, Dir. Pizarchik provided a response to an inquiry sent by Sen. Barrasso. OSM is working with the Department to respond to inquiries from Chairman Hastings of the House Natural Resources Committee. The contractor has until Feb. 23 to provide a revised preliminary draft EIS. OSM expects to receive the contractor's preliminary response to the Cure Notice by Feb. 18.
- **Grand Canyon Withdrawal:** A Notice of Availability for Northern AZ Draft EIS is scheduled to be published in the Federal Register on Feb. 18. On Feb. 17, the BLM issued a press release soliciting public comments on the draft EIS and provided additional information regarding the public meetings to be held in AZ and UT from Mar. 7 through Mar 10.
- **BLM Master Leasing Plan**: An Info Memo will be submitted to the Secretary next week.
- **Hydraulic Fracturing:** A Decision Memo will be submitted to the Secretary next week. A meeting with the Secretary will also be scheduled.

- **GAO High Risk Report:** On Feb. 16, the GAO released its biennal high risk report. The Department's management of oil and gas on Federal lands and waters was added to its current list of 28 high-risk areas across government. Prior to the releasing the report (Jan. 28), GAO briefed representatives from DOI, ONRR, BOEMRE and BLM. GAO indicated three main areas of focus: 1) royalty and revenue collection; 2) human capital needs; and 3) reorganization. The report does not include any recommendations and the Department has not been afforded an opportunity to provide a response.

Ongoing Projects:

- Diversity & Implementation Plan
- Onshore Royalty Rate Reform
- Fair Return Study

Submitted by: Wilma A. Lewis, Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management
Direct Dial: 202-208-2422; Cell (b) (6)

From:	Lassiter, Tracie L on behalf of Lewis, Wilma
To:	Lassiter, Tracie L
Subject:	FW: ASLM_Report_to_Sec"y_2_3_10_Final.doc
Date:	Friday, February 04, 2011 9:57:07 AM
Attachments:	ASLM_Report_to_Sec"y_2_3_10_Final.doc

From: Graves, Carmiece
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 7:26 PM
To: Lewis, Courtenay
Cc: Lewis, Wilma; Baca, Sylvia; Farquhar, Ned; Boling, Ted A; Mussenden, Paul
Subject: ASLM_Report_to_Sec'y_2_3_10_Final.doc

Courtenay,

Attached please find the ASLM's report to the Secretary.

Kind regards,

Carmiece Graves Ahmad

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Weekly Report to the Secretary
Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management
February 3, 2011

I. Personal Message to the Secretary: There has been a lot of activity on the ASLM corridor as we work with our bureaus and others within the Department on a number of exciting projects. We continue to be energized by the privilege to work on initiatives with such far-reaching, positive implications for the public that we serve.

II. Highlights of Travel, Meetings, Speeches, and other Public Events:
ASLM Lewis will be in the Washington office all week.
DAS Baca will be in the Washington office all week.
DAS Farquhar will be in the Washington office all week.

III. Potential or Expected Legislative, Legal, and Policy Issues:

Special Projects:

- **Atlantic Wind Initiative:** The Federal Register Notice of Intent to proceed with an environmental assessment on the Mid-Atlantic Wind Energy Areas is expected to be published in time for Secretary Salazar's joint announcement with Secretary Chu on Feb. 7. The Atlantic Wind Team is assisting in the outreach effort for this announcement.
- **Renewable Energy Stakeholders Workshop:** ASLM staff are working with BLM on finalizing instruction memoranda regarding NEPA, pre-application activities and due diligence for renewable energy right-of-way applications. These instruction memoranda will be finalized for release prior to the Feb. 9-10 Renewable Energy Stakeholders Workshop.
- **Stream Protection Rule:** On Feb. 2, ASLM Lewis, DAS Baca and Dir. Pizarchik briefed the Deputy Secretary on the Stream Protection Rule. OSM is reviewing options to address issues regarding the contractor. Dir. Pizarchik is responding to congressional inquiries from Senators Manchin (D-WV) and Rockefeller (D-WV). OSM has been notified that the Charleston Gazette newspaper has posted the contractor's preliminary draft of the Draft EIS on its website.
- **Hydraulic Fracturing:** Internal meetings are ongoing between ASLM staff, BLM and SOL to iron out details regarding the path forward.
- **Grand Canyon Withdrawal**: A meeting with the Secretary is scheduled for Feb. 4 to provide an update on the status of the EIS on the Grand Canyon Withdrawal. An Info Memo was submitted on Feb. 3.
- **Wild Horses & Burros:** A Decision Memo on BLM's WH&B draft strategy was submitted on Feb 2. If approved, the strategy will be released for a 30-day public comment period. Once finalized, the strategy will be incorporated into a final report to Congress due Mar. 31. A meeting with the Deputy Secretary is tentatively schedule for Feb. 4.
- **Wild Lands**: ASLM staff are reviewing a proposed BLM settlement of the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance challenge to the Rock House natural gas development project. In that settlement, the parties agree that BLM's approval of nine well pads is based on a sufficient review and complies with Secretarial Order No 3310 "Protecting Wilderness Characteristics on Lands Managed by the Bureau of Land Management".
- **Fair Return Study:** Contractor (IHS CERA) will provide the draft report in Apr. BLM and BOEMRE will have 45 days to provide comments to the contractor. During these 45 days, we anticipate briefing the Deputy Secretary and the Secretary's office. In May, IHS CERA will arrange for independent reviews by recognized experts or leaders in academia, industry, and government to obtain expert comment. The final report will be ready for issuance in June 2011.
- **Onshore Royalty Rate Reform:** BLM received the contractor's cost-benefit analysis on Jan. 31. The draft proposed rule will be ready for review and surnaming at the end of Mar., with a May 22

anticipated publication date. The Final rule is scheduled to be published by Oct. 23 and to be finalized by Dec. 23. This timeline is dependent upon an expeditious OMB review.

Ongoing Projects:

- Diversity & Implementation Plan

Submitted by: Wilma A. Lewis, Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management
Direct Dial: 202-208-6734; Cell (b) (6)

From: Lewis, Wilma
To: Rees, Gareth C.
Subject: Fw: Grand Canyon Withdrawal and David Hayes
Date: Sunday, March 14, 2010 10:32:47 PM

Please print. Thx.

Wilma A. Lewis
Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
MIB- 6613
202-208-6734

----- Original Message -----
From: Lewis, Wilma
To: Abbey, Robert V
Cc: Baca, Sylvia; Pool, Mike; Burke, Marcilynn A
Sent: Thu Mar 11 20:00:37 2010
Subject: Re: Grand Canyon Withdrawal and David Hayes

Thanks.

Wilma A. Lewis
Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
MIB- 6613
202-208-6734

----- Original Message -----
From: Robert_Abbey@blm.gov <Robert_Abbey@blm.gov>
To: Lewis, Wilma
Cc: Baca, Sylvia; Pool, Mike; Burke, Marcilynn A
Sent: Thu Mar 11 14:20:49 2010
Subject: Grand Canyon Withdrawal and David Hayes

Wilma;

I met with David and I gave him a quick summary of our briefing. I also handed him the handout materials that were shared with us. He said he would look over the materials and make a determination as to whether he believes a personal briefing is necessary. His interests was focused on the range of alternatives we are analyzing in the EIS and whether we were considering a smaller withdrawal.

Bob

From:	Lewis, Wilma
To:	Abbey, Robert V
Cc:	Baca, Sylvia; Pool, Michael J; Burke, Marcilynn A
Subject:	Re: Grand Canyon Withdrawal and David Hayes
Date:	Thursday, March 11, 2010 8:00:37 PM

Thanks.

Wilma A. Lewis
Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
MIB- 6613
202-208-6734

----- Original Message -----
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To: Lewis, Wilma
Cc: Baca, Sylvia; Pool, Mike; Burke, Marcilynn A
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Subject: Grand Canyon Withdrawal and David Hayes

Wilma;

I met with David and I gave him a quick summary of our briefing. I also handed him the handout materials that were shared with us. He said he would look over the materials and make a determination as to whether he believes a personal briefing is necessary. His interests was focused on the range of alternatives we are analyzing in the EIS and whether we were considering a smaller withdrawal.

Bob

From:	Lyder, Jane
To:	Lee-Ashley, Matt; Lin, Janet H
Subject:	FW: Draft AZ Mineral Withdrawal Comm
Date:	Saturday, February 12, 2011 7:00:47 PM
Attachments:	nps.NOA-N-AZ-Mineral-Withdrawal-DEIS-briefing-paper-09-11-10.docx nps.02-07-11 NOA AZ Mineral Withdrawal Comm Plan SOL.docx

---

Janet & Matt,

I worked on this with the NPS folks. I believe Bert Frost provided it yesterday but I wanted to make sure the two of you had it. There were some basic changes -- THOMAS shows that the Grijalva bill had 50 cosponsors, not 26. (b) (5)

So I hope our comments are not seen as heavy-handed but rather as an attempt to make the NOA more balanced.

Jane

From: Martha_Hahn@nps.gov [Martha_Hahn@nps.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2011 3:09 PM
To: Frost, Herbert
Cc: Balsom, Janet R.; Lyder, Jane; Wilson, Palma E.
Subject: Re: Draft AZ Mineral Withdrawal Comm

Bert,

Attached are NPS comments on the subject documents.

Martha

(See attached file: nps.NOA-N-AZ-Mineral-Withdrawal-DEIS-briefing-paper-09-11-10.docx)(See attached file: nps.02-07-11 NOA AZ Mineral Withdrawal Comm Plan SOL.docx)

****

Martha Hahn
Chief, Science and Resource Management
PO Box 129
Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023
Phone: 928-638-7759
Fax: 928-638-7797

COMMUNICATION PLAN

Notice of Availability (NOA) of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a Proposed Withdrawal in Northern Arizona in the Vicinity of the Grand Canyon

1. PURPOSE: (b) (5)

Goals
(b) (5)

2. ISSUE: (b) (5)

(b) (5)

3. KEY AUDIENCES:

Tribal Governments (b) (5)

Local Governments
(b) (5)

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Elected Officials
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Advisory Councils
(b) (5)

Interest Groups
(b) (5)

Industry Groups (mining)
(b) (5)

Industry Groups (water)
(b) (5)

State Agencies

(b) (5)

Cooperating Agencies
(b) (5)

Employees
(b)
(5)

4. OUTREACH:

TIMING

(b) (5)

MEDIA / PUBLIC

(b) (5)

CONTACTS

BLM Process
(b) (5)

News Media Inquiries
(b) (5)

(b) (5)

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Status of project, copies of notices, other relevant documents

(b) (5)

Questions and Answers

1. **What happens next?**
   (b) (5)

2. **Who are the cooperating agencies on this planning effort? How will they contribute to the EIS?**
   (b) (5)

(b) (5)

3. How can I get a copy of the Environmental Impact Statement?
(b) (5)

4. Could new mining claims still be filed? Could mining activities still be conducted?
(b) (5)

BLM NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Department of the Interior • Bureau of Land Management • Arizona Strip District Office • 345 East Riverside Drive • St. George, UT 84790

For Immediate Release: (Insert date later), 2011
Contact: Rachel Tueller, Public Affairs Specialist (435) 688-3303

BLM Issues Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Public Review for a Proposed Withdrawal in Northern Arizona near the Grand Canyon

St. George, Utah – (b) (5)

(b) (5)

Federal Register Notice Briefing Paper
Notice of Availability (NOA) to Publish a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for a Proposed Withdrawal in the Vicinity of the Grand Canyon, Arizona

1. State Office

   Arizona State Office (ASO)

2. What is the title of this notice?

   Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal

3. What are the key issues raised by the underlying decision documents for this notice?

   (b) (5)

(b) (5)

Revised 09_11_10

(b) (5)

4. Who are the primary users affected by or parties interested in the underlying decisions or actions? What are their concerns?

(b) (5)

5. Is tribal consultation appropriate under E.O. 13175?

(b) (5)

6. Will this notice be controversial?

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

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Revised 09_11_10

(b) (5)

7. What will the underlying decision or action change?

(b) (5)

8. Will this notice need Communications Materials, e.g., press release, Communication Plan? If so, enclose these materials with the notice package submitted.

(b) (5)

9. What are the reasons for the timing of the notice and the consequences, if any, of delaying or canceling the release?

(b) (5)

10. How has this been analyzed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

11. Is there any additional pertinent, descriptive information that reviewers need to know or would increase understanding?

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

12. List the names and positions of the people who have prepared, reviewed, and approved the notice and the underlying decisions and documents.

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

From:	Martin, Steve P
To:	Lyder, Jane; Frost, Herbert; Wessels, John; Joss, Laura
Subject:	brief
Date:	Wednesday, September 08, 2010 8:30:37 AM
Attachments:	uranium 8-8brief.docx

(See attached file: uranium 8-8brief.docx)

per brief with Jon yesterday

_____

Steve Martin
Superintendent
Grand Canyon National Park
Phone: 928-638-7945
FAX: 928-738-7815

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

Briefing Statement

Bureau:	**National Park Service**
Issue:	**Northern Arizona Uranium Withdrawal Draft EIS Review**
Park Site:	**Grand Canyon National Park (GRCA)**
Date:	**September 2010**

Key Points:

- (b) (5)

Summary of Concerns Addressed in Emergency Session:

- (b) (5)

(b) (5)

Background:

- BLM is the lead agency for development of the EIS. USFS has lands within the proposed withdrawal and maintain an unofficial co-lead status. NPS and USFWS are federal cooperators, along with USGS. The analysis is being prepared for the DOI, with the Secretary signing the final record of decision.

- Up until recently, federal agency participation in the process had been similar to non-federal cooperators; receiving and reviewing documents at the same time and interacting with BLM on a comparable level (except for occasional executive review). Within the past two months, BLM began interacting with federal agencies to discuss specific comments and concerns stemming from review of the DEIS, leading to an emergency session and limited time to correct significant problems.

- NPS concern is that while closer interaction with BLM is useful, the ability of their EIS contractor to grasp the issues and make substantial changes to the draft document within the limited time remaining is questionable.

- The National Congress of American Indians adopted a resolution in opposition to uranium exploration and mining on lands surrounding the Grand Canyon. The Grand Canyon Tribes continue to express their support for full withdrawal of the lands and have expressed significant

concerns over continued exploration and mining (such as impacts to irretrievable resources within their aboriginal homelands and public health concerns). The current version of the DEIS does an inadequate job representing these interests and concerns.

Recommendations:

(b) (5)

Prepared by:

Steve Martin, Superintendent, Steve_P_Martin@nps.gov, 928-638-7945

From: Martin, Steve P
To: Jarvis, Jon; Wessels, John
Subject: thoughts on new Superintendent
Date: Monday, December 20, 2010 4:11:16 PM
Attachments: Major Issues and Initiatives GRCA next 2.docx

I have jotted down a few thoughts on key things that the next superintendent will have to contend with in the next 2-4 years. This will give you something to think about in making the selection. I could write more on each element but I think you all are pretty up on the needs but I would be happy to provide as much insight as you need.

Jon you had asked that I try to think of a couple of names and I have, though I think your plan to announce it is excellent because there may be someone I have not thought of. (b) (5) all come to mind depending on their interest.

I will also send you the last 2 year accomplishment report to give you an idea of what has gone on.

(

I am in and out the next 2 weeks and will check e-mail, I will have the govt BB surgically removed 1/1. Then I will be (b) (6) and of course the park will know how to reach me.

(See attached file: Major Issues and Initiatives GRCA next 2.docx)

_____

Steve Martin
Superintendent
Grand Canyon National Park
Phone: 928-638-7945
FAX: 928-738-7815

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

Major Issues and Initiatives GRCA next 2-4 years

Complete overflights EIS, draft in DC for approval.

Complete negotiation with the Hualipai on boundary issue-

Grand Canyon protection Act implementation/AMP

Uranium withdrawal issue

Reconcile budget issues of base to soft money/ term to permanent conversions

Resolve LSI and concession contract for Xanterra

Manage maintenance to overcome deferred maintenance problems

Maintain good morale in park/employee programs

Keep Grand Canyon Association partnership going at high level

Continue positive relationships with tribal partners

Maintain park operations at high level

Continue support for surrounding small parks, (safety, fire, IT and general support)

Maintain relationships with Lake Mead and Glen Canyon

Maintain positive relations with local communities

Maintain good congressional relations (the only one that will take some work is Bishop)

From:	McNutt, Marcia K
To:	Tubbs, John
Cc:	Castle, Anne; Caramanian, Lori; Connor, Michael L; Rae, Kerry L; Aaron, Patricia (Patti) M; Weedman, Suzanne D
Subject:	Re: check-in list
Date:	Monday, June 13, 2011 3:32:57 PM

Is Grand Canyon withdrawal one of these? Not sure if one of these titles is code for that. May be decided by then, not sure.

Sent from my iPad
Dr. Marcia K McNutt
Director
US Geological Survey MS 100
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20192
(831) 915-4699 (cell)
(703) 648-7411 (office)
(571) 296-6730 (blackberry)

On Jun 13, 2011, at 3:03 PM, "Tubbs, John" <John_Tubbs@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

> A week has gone by and no updates on the spreadsheet.
>
> We left it with Lori and Anne identifying the following topics (are these still current):
>
> - Colorado River Basin Study
> - Grand Canyon Trust Litigation
> - Grand Coulee Issues
> - Flooding in general
> - USGS Office Consolidation study
> - USGS hydraulic fracking studies
>
> I would add:
>
> - Principles and Guidelines
> - Cooperative Watershed Management Program and FOA

Desert and Lower Rockies LCC FOA

AGO update

Any other additions?

John

From: Lewis, Courtenay
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2011 2:50 PM
To: Tubbs, John
Subject: check-in list

Would you please send me your teams WS Check-In list today in prep. for Wed's meeting?

Thanks!

Courtenay Lewis

Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary

U.S. Department of the Interior

<Water and Science Priority Issues 6 15 11.xlsx>

From:	McNutt, Marcia K
To:	Kelly, Kate P; Wade, Anne-Berry; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Moody, Joan F
Cc:	Wainman, Barbara W.; Nowakowski, Judy J.
Subject:	RE: Wash Post talked to USGS scientist on the Grand Canyon withdrawal
Date:	Wednesday, June 22, 2011 5:19:00 PM
Attachments:	MKM Grand Canyon remarks.doc

Kate et al.:

File attached. I had to edit from my iPad to make the remarks correspond to as delivered, as I had no way to print out anything on the road.

Sounds like Jim did a good job. The issues with the science here are EXACTLY the same as with the Arctic decision on energy development. Depending on the pre-existing biases with which one goes into this matter, one can find evidence in the science to support either position. It is indeed true that the USGS study did NOT find contaminant concentrations resolvably different between mined and unmined areas. Pro-mining interests could use that to say that mining should be allowed. But the USGS study also stated that there was insufficient data on the effect on active transport of contaminants during active mining, on biological pathways of arsenic and radionucleides in the species of interest, or on the impact of mining (especially at greatly expanded intensity) on the hydrology of perched aquifers. Opponents of mining could use the latter to say that the cautious approach would be to hold off on mining until those questions can be answered. The USGS itself did not take a position on a preferred alternative, because we do not want to have any perception that our science may have been biased towards an outcome. Now that the Secretary has made his decision, we of course support him in every way possible.

Just as an aside, it is unfortunate that the mining industry has left such a bad environmental legacy, especially when it comes to water quality. The USGS deals with the aftermath throughout the nation. This is probably why the majority of those who wrote in to the Secretary with a position on the matter feared that with an absence of good evidence for the safety of the water supply, the decision should be for withdrawl.

Marcia

USGSUSGSUSGSUSGSUSGSUSGSUSGSUSGSUSGS
Dr. Marcia K. McNutt
Director, U.S. Geological Survey
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive MS 100
Reston, VA 20192
(703) 648-7411 (office)
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(571) 296-6730 (bb)
(831) 915-4699 (cell)
www.usgs.gov
USGSUSGSUSGSUSGSUSGSUSGSUSGSUSGSUSGS

From: Kelly, Kate P <Kate_Kelly@ios.doi.gov> [mailto:Kelly, Kate P <Kate_Kelly@ios.doi.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2011 4:12 PM
To: "Wade, Anne-Berry" <abwade@usgs.gov>; "Lee-Ashley, Matt" <Matt_Lee-Ashley@ios.doi.gov>;

"Moody, Joan F" <Joan_Moody@ios.doi.gov>; "McNutt, Marcia K" <mcnutt@usgs.gov>
Cc: "Wainman, Barbara W" <bwainman@usgs.gov>; "Nowakowski, Judy J" <jnowakowski@usgs.gov>
Subject: RE: Wash Post talked to USGS scientist on the Grand Canyon withdrawal

Thanks for the heads up on this, A.B. Looping in Marcia as we spoke about this question yesterday (ie does the USGS science match up with the Secretary's decision?). To (badly) paraphrase Marcia, the USGS report underscores the need for more and better science to better understand the potential effects of uranium mining on soil and water.

Marcia – are you able to forward around a final copy of the remarks you delivered?

From: Anne-Berry Wade [mailto:abwade@usgs.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2011 3:52 PM
To: Kelly, Kate P; Lee-Ashley, Matt; Moody, Joan F
Cc: Wainman, Barbara W; Nowakowski, Judy J
Subject: Wash Post talked to USGS scientist on the Grand Canyon withdrawal

Just an fyi, to let you know that a USGS scientist emeritus, Jim Otton, from Denver, who is a uranium expert took a call from a Wash Post reporter.

A general overview of their conversation is below in Jim's message.

Not sure when an editorial or article may appear.

A.B. Wade
USGS Public Affairs Officer
703-648-4483 office
703-477-2851 cell

----- Forwarded by Anne-Berry Wade/DO/USGS/DOI on 06/22/2011 03:41 PM -----

From: "Jim Otton" <jkotton@usgs.gov>
To: "'Heidi K Koontz'" <hkoontz@usgs.gov>, "'Anne-Berry Wade'" <abwade@usgs.gov>
Cc: "'John P Hoffmann'" <jphoffma@usgs.gov>, "'Bradley S Van Gosen'" <bvangose@usgs.gov>, "'Jo E Hinck'" <jhinck@usgs.gov>, "'Donald J Bills'" <djbills@usgs.gov>
Date: 06/22/2011 12:45 PM
Subject: Call from Steve Stromberg on the Grand Canyon withdrawal

---

Heidi and all,

I talked at home yesterday with Steve Stromberg, Washington Post editorial writer, on topics related to the Grand Canyon withdrawal announcement. He said that he had read through the USGS Scientific Investigation

Report publication with some difficulty. He indicated that he was having “trouble understanding the dangers” associated with the mining and that he thought that quotes of USGS scientists did not match up with the expressed concerns of the Department of the Interior. I did not respond to that comment. I reviewed some of the environmental findings in our SIR publication (wind and water dispersion at the studied sites), briefly discussed the unknowns related to possible deep ground water contamination especially north of the Grand Canyon, and commented on documented contamination at the Orphan mine in the small stream draining the mine area.
He asked if he could call me back if needful.

Jim Otton

The USGS is proud of its tradition for providing unbiased scientific information that can inform sound policy. Our scientific investigations have helped inform the Secretary's decisions today.

The USGS advised the Secretary on several scientific aspects associated with this decision. The first was the likely magnitude of the uranium ore deposit in the lands being considered for development or withdrawal. Since the early 1950's, Ur mining has extracted a total of about a half-year's worth of uranium, given our average annual rate of consumption, and our best estimate of the in-ground resource is that it would meet domestic needs for about 6 years. This uranium resource is 12% of the total uranium resource in all of northern Arizona.

We also considered the impact of past mining on water quality and on remobilization of contaminants. It was on this topic that the least is known because there has been little monitoring of active mines in the past to understand their impact on soil and water in order to anticipate what would be the expected effects if mining were expanded. With valid existing claims likely to be pursued in the future, we will have a chance to fill this knowledge gap.

It is fitting that Secretary Salazar mentioned in his remarks John Wesley Powell, the great explorer of the American West, who went on to become the second director of the US Geological Survey. Powell predicted more than 100 years ago that the most valuable resource in the west would not be any mineral in the ground, but water. The next steps the Secretary has identified today are in keeping with Powell's concern for this life-giving resource. After all, the uranium has been here for millions of years, and will still be here, to meet our needs, once we can assure the safety for the water supply.

From:	Munson, Johanna
To:	Cardinale, Richard; Rees, Gareth C; Lassiter, Tracie L
Cc:	Lin, Janet H
Subject:	BLM/ASLM Meeting Agenda Attached
Date:	Monday, March 07, 2011 6:01:24 PM
Attachments:	6.0 BLM-ASLM Agenda for 3-8-2011.DRAFT.docx

Johanna M. Munson
Bureau of Land Management
Office of the Director
1849 C Street, NW, Rm. 5648
Washington, DC 20240
Phone: (202) 208-6016
Cell: (202) 431-6425
Fax: (202) 208-5242

"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success." Henry Ford

BLM-ASLM Agenda
March 8, 2011

I. Executive Travel:

Bob Abbey, Director—BLM Director Bob Abbey will be in the office and attending regularly scheduled meetings Mar. 7 - 11. On Mar. 8, he will testify before the Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on Parks, Forests and Public Lands on the BLM's FY 2012 Budget request, and on March 10 he will testify before the House Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies, on the BLM's FY 2012 Budget request.

Mike Pool, Deputy Director—BLM Deputy Director Mike Pool will be in the office and attending regularly scheduled meetings Mar. 8-11. He will be on annual leave on Mar. 18.

Marcilynn Burke, Deputy Director—BLM Deputy Director Marcilynn Burke is on travel to AK for an all employees meeting in Fairbanks and a series of field tours that includes visits to the BLM Campbell Creek Science Center, NPR-A, the Alyeska Pipeline, the AK Fire Service, and the ceremonial start of the Iditarod. She will be in Alaska through Mar. 12.

II. Hot topics/major issues:

WO100—Director's Office

Document Requests

- ***Update*: Document Request – Sen. Mike Lee:** *The certifications were delivered to Exec Sec.*

AGO

- ***New:* Potential Mammoth Bone Discovered in BLM-CO:** *On Mar. 1, gravel pit operators in southwestern Colorado uncovered what appeared to be a dinosaur bone. Given the depth at which the bone was discovered and little evidence of dinosaur remains in the area, BLM paleontologists believe the bone may belong to a Late Pleistocene mammal dating to 126,000-10,000 years before present. The BLM is working with the Denver Museum of Nature and Science to discuss next steps, continued gravel pit operations, and development of a protection plan, if necessary.*

- ***New:* BLM-WY National Historic Trails Youth Event:** *On Mar. 19, the BLM-WY National Historic Trails Interpretive Center youth club will meet to learn about historic clothing on the trails. The unique, educational program will be led by BLM-WY resource interpreters.*

- ***New:*** **Community Hike on Lopez Island:** *On Mar. 19, the BLM-WA Wenatchee Field Office will co-host a community hike on BLM-managed lands on Lopez Island, WA. The BLM is partnering with the Lopez Community Trail Network to provide an opportunity for local residents to "get outside" and discover the great outdoors.*

- ***New:*** **BLM-AZ Phoenix District to Participate in Urban Youth Leadership Event:** *On Mar. 24, BLM-AZ employees will participate in a youth event sponsored by the Phoenix YMCA. The event, which focuses on urban youth, brings businesses, universities, and agencies together to present Phoenix high school students with interactive displays on life lessons, service learning, leadership, and wellness.*

WO200—Renewable Resources & Planning

Sage Grouse

- ***New:*** BLM and FWS leadership met Mar. 3 with USFS and NRCS represenatives to discuss ongoing and future efforts on sage grouse habitat issues. Each BLM state office made a presentation regarding ongoing efforts in their states.

Wild Horse & Burros

- ***Update:*** **Wild Horse and Burro Strategy:** *The BLM's new wild horse and burro strategy document was released for public review on Feb. 28. The BLM will take public comment on the strategy through March 30. The WHB advisory board will meet March 10-11. BLM hopes to finalize the criteria by which it will review proposals for WH preserves shortly after mid-March. The BLM's WH&B report to Congress is due March 31.*

Travel Management

- ***Update:*** **Public Scoping for BLM-NV Travel and Recreation Plan:** *The BLM-NV Las Vegas Field Office will hold public scoping open-house meetings in five locations to encourage public participation in the development of travel and recreation implementation plans and an associated environmental impact statement for the Las Vegas Field Office. The Recreation Area Management Plan and Comprehensive Transportation and Travel Management Plan will be developed to identify the actions that are necessary to manage a variety of recreational activities and implement recreation programs throughout the nearly 3.375 million acres of public lands managed by the Las Vegas Field Office in Clark County. The plans will address transportation and travel issues, including motorized recreation and actions related to route evaluation, permits and use restrictions, fees, and facilities and services in the planning area. Scoping open-house meetings were held on March 1in Searchlight; March 2 in Mesquite; and March 3 in Las Vegas; and are scheduled for March 9 in Goodsprings and March 10 in Overton. A Notice of Intent published in the* Federal Register *on Jan. 28 opened a 30-day scoping period, which will close on March 29.*

Forestry

- ***New:*** **BLM-OR/WA Middle Applegate Watershed Pilot Project:** *BLM-OR/WA Medford District is continuing field analysis and inventory of northern spotted owl habitat. Project coordination continues with partners and other stakeholders, and public project roll-out meetings designed to inform the public of project details and solicit feedback were held Mar. 1-2, and preliminary reports described the sessions as good. The Middle Applegate Watershed Pilot is a forestry restoration project involving the BLM, the Applegate Partnership, the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, and others. Using results of collaborative landscape assessments and mapping efforts, the project was identified and nominated by local, collaborative groups to the Secretary of the Interior for consideration as a landscape-level restoration pilot project. The Secretary designated the Middle Applegate pilot project to demonstrate landscape restoration of dry Douglas-fir forests, using the approach developed by Drs. Jerry Franklin and Norm Johnson.*

WO300—Minerals & Realty

Oil and Gas

- ***New:*** **BLM-CA Oil and Gas Lease Sale:** *The BLM-CA will hold an oil and gas lease sale on Mar. 9, 2011. A total of six parcels covering 2,878 acres in Kern County, CA, will be offered. Approximately 2,339 acres are split estate, but no protests have been received to date. The protest period ends Feb. 23.*

- ***New:*** **BLM-CO to Hold Oil and Gas Lease Sale:** *On Mar. 24, BLM-CO will hold a competitive oil and gas lease sale for one parcel totaling 1,964 acres in Routt County northeast of Craig, CO. The protest period closed Jan. 24, and two protests were received—one from the Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) and one from the Center for Native Ecosystems (CNE). The CDOW protest requested a no surface occupancy buffer to protect Columbian sharp-tailed grouse on one of the two parcels originally proposed for auction. This parcel was subsequently deferred from the final sale. The CNE protest alleged that its members' interests in rare and imperiled species and ecosystems on BLM lands would be adversely affected by oil and gas leasing and that additional environmental analysis regarding imperiled species and native ecosystems is necessary. The CNE protest is expected to be dismissed prior to the sale.*

- ***Update:*** **Royalty Rate Increase Proposed Rule:** The BLM has initiated the rulemaking process to authorize increased royalties for new, competitive oil and gas leases on Federal land. The rule will amend regulation 43 CFR 3103.3-1, Royalty on Production. Enegis, the cost-benefit and economic analysis contractor, provided a final report to the BLM on Jan. 31. The Fiscal Year 2012 President's Budget

assumes an increase in Federal oil and gas revenues by $1.0 billion over the next 10 years. The BLM current plan is to publish the draft rule for public comment in May 2011 and promulgate the final rule by Dec. 2011, as directed by OMB. The BLM will request an expedited review from OMB to help meet these target dates. *However, recent late contractor submittals have caused BLM to review options and a potential change in the schedule which could result in a 90-120 day delay. This could delay draft rule publication until Nov.-Dec.2011 and final publication until Apr. 2012.*

Miscellaneous

- ***New:*** **BLM-WY Lander Field Office to Attend Tribal Royalty Outreach Session:** *Officials from the BLM-WY Lander Field Office (LFO), the Office of Natural Resources Revenue, and the Office of Special Trustee for American Indians will attend a royalty outreach session at the Wind River Indian Reservation in Fort Washakie, WY. The Bureau of Indian Affairs is hosting the session to provide American Indian mineral owners with mineral royalty information. BLM-WY personnel will provide information on the well-drilling and permitting process.*

Renewable Energy

- ***Update:*** **Proposed Renewable Energy Segregation Rule:** *The rule package continues to move through the official surname process. The package received Solicitor's Office clearance on Feb. 22.* OMB has changed the designation of the BLM's proposed renewable energy segregation rule from "significant" to "not significant". This change means that OMB will informally review the rule for a shorter period and a less robust economic analysis will be required. With OMB approval, the BLM would simultaneously publish two rules in the *Federal Register* in 2011—the proposed rule and the temporary interim final rule—amending regulations to grant the BLM authority to segregate lands included in a wind or solar energy right-of-way (ROW) application and lands offered for wind or solar energy lease. The proposed rule would be scheduled for completion within two years.

- ***New:*** **Geothermal Testing on BLM-UT Lands:** *On Feb. 23, the geothermal energy development company Enel requested approval to conduct down-hole surveys and collect gas samples on two of their geothermal wells at the BLM-UT Cove Fort/Sulphurdale development site in central Utah. The down-hole surveys will provide information needed to design a proposed power plant and associated pipelines. Enel hopes to conduct the tests before April 1. The proposed action would use existing roads and SnoCats to minimize impacts during wet or snowy spring conditions.*

- ***Update:*** **Solar Company Unable to Satisfy Right-of-Way (ROW) Grant Requirements in CA:** *On Feb. 25, 2011, BLM-CA issued an official Notice of Intent letter to Tessera Solar regarding potential termination of right-of-way (ROW) grants for the 663-MW Calico and 709-MW Imperial Solar Energy Projects.* Tessera Solar Inc. is unable to satisfy BLM ROW requirements for the recently approved projects.

BLM regulations require proof of technical and financial capability to hold issued authorizations; however, the plans of development and the grants for both of these projects specify the use of Stirling Suncatcher technology, which is no longer viable from a production standpoint. In Dec. 2010, Tessera sold the Calico Project to K Road Power. Press reports have quoted K Road as saying it would use photovoltaic technology in place of Suncatcher technology for at least the first phase of the project. To date, K Road has not filed an assignment or a new plan. On Feb. 16, Tessera publicly announced that AES Solar in Virginia had acquired the Imperial project. No new plan or assignment has been received for the Imperial project.

- ***New:*** **Solar PEIS Comment Period Extension:** *Public meetings for the Draft Solar Programmatic EIS concluded Mar. 10 in Salt Lake City, UT, and the initial 90-day public comment period is scheduled to end on Mar. 17. During public meetings on the Programmatic Solar EIS, the BLM heard several requests to extend the comment period. Additionally, The Wilderness Society sent a formal letter requesting a 30-day extension. The BLM request for a 30-day extension to the comment period was approved on Mar. 7 and the comment period will be extended.* The Notice of Availability for the draft plan was published in the *Federal Register* Dec. 17, 2010, opening a 90-day public comment period. To provide the public with an overview of the document and the NEPA process and to take public comments, the BLM and Department of Energy held 13 public meetings in Washington D.C. and six western states Feb. 2-Mar. 10.

- ***New:*** **Wind Testing on BLM-OR Lands:** *Oregon Community Wind is assessing the feasibility of developing a commercial wind energy facility on 1,160 acres in BLM-OR's Lakeview District near Adel, Oregon. The proposed project would consist of five wind turbines and generate 9-MW. BLM-OR is currently reviewing the proponent's Plan of Development, which will determine if the site has sufficient wind to make the project feasible.*

- ***New:*** **Solar Company Unable to Satisfy Right-of-Way (ROW) Grant Requirements in CA:** *Tessera Solar Inc. is unable to satisfy BLM ROW requirements for the recently approved 663-MW Calico and 709-MW Imperial Solar Energy Projects. BLM regulations require proof of technical and financial capability to hold issued authorizations, and, in this case, the plans of development and the grants for both projects specify use of Stirling Suncatcher technology, which is no longer viable from a production standpoint. BLM-CA has drafted an official "notice of intent to terminate a ROW grant and opportunity to correct noncompliance." The notification has been coordinated with the Regional Solicitor's Office and the BLM expects to sign and issue the letter next week. In late December 2010, Tessera verbally notified BLM-CA that the Calico project was sold to K Road Power. Press reports have quoted K Road as saying it would use photovoltaic technology in place of Suncatcher technology for at least the first phase of the project. The* New York Times*, among others, has asked if K Road filed an assignment or a new plan of development, and if a new EIS is required. To date, K Road has not filed an assignment or new plan. On Feb. 16, 2011, Tessera publicly announced that AES*

Solar in Virginia had acquired the Imperial project.

Mining

- ***New:*** **BLM-WY Coal Sale Notice:** *On Mar. 1, the BLM will publish in the* Federal Register *a Notice of Competitive Coal Lease Sale for the West Antelope II North Coal Tract located in Campbell County, WY. The sale is scheduled for May 11 in Cheyenne, WY, at the BLM-WY State Office. The West Antelope II tract covers 4,109 acres and is estimated to contain 430 million tons of coal. Several environmental groups filed suit in federal court against BLM-WY's March 2010 decision to offer the lease-by-application (LBA) tracts for sale, and the Powder River Basin Resource Council (PRBRC) filed an appeal with the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA) on the same decision. On Nov. 2, 2010, the IBLA affirmed BLM's decision to offer the tracts (180 IBLA 119). A decision has not been rendered in the District Court litigation, and final resolution is not expected to occur for some time. BLM-WY is moving forward with the sale as planned. Moderate controversy is expected.*

- ***Update:*** **Availability of Record of Decision to Be Published:** *On April 21, the WY BLM-will publish a Notice of Availability (NOA) for the Record of Decision for the Wright Area South Hilight Field Coal Lease-by-Application (LBA) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Wright area LBA tracts cover 18,022 acres in the BLM-WY High Plains District and are estimated to contain 2.6 billion tons of coal. Moderate controversy is expected.*

Oil Shale

- ***Update****:* **ESA Consultation:** *On Feb 15, KLS announced that the Department will begin new public planning and rulemaking processes related to oil shale (and, as to planning, tar sands). BLM will use best efforts to complete planning process by 12/31/12. BLM is working on a notice of intent to initiate planning, and the completion of the scope of work statement for its EIS contractor by March 15. BLM and USFWS will need to engage in discussion on ESA section 7 consultation in the near future.*

Uranium

- ***Update:*** **Grand Canyon Withdrawal DEIS:** *Public meetings on the DEIS will occur on March 7-10, 2011 in Phoenix, Flagstaff, Fredonia, and Salt Lake City. A 45 day comment period on the DEIS began on February 18, 2010.*

WO400—NLCS

Wild Lands Policy

- ***Update:*** **Key Milestones:** *2/25 - finalized manuals based on input from field 3/1 - House Natural Resources Committee hearing on "The Impact of the Administration's*

Wild Land order on Jobs and Economic Growth" 6/22 - submit plan to KLS for considering wilderness characteristics in land use plans.

III. Major Federal Register Notices:

Renewable Energy

- Palo Verde Solar Power Project, Maricopa County, Arizona— NOI to Prepare an EIS (on hold)
- Notice of Realty Action: Opening of Public Lands; Elko County, Nevada. This Notice opens 320 acres of public land located in Elko County, Nevada, to leasing under applicable geothermal leasing laws subject to valid existing rights and reserved interest in the land (Published on 3/4/11).
- Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Resource Management Plan Amendment to the 1987 Jarbidge Resource Management Plan for the Proposed China Mountain Wind Project, Idaho (NLCS review 2/24/11)

Transmission

- Energy Gateway South 500 kV A/C Transmission Line Project in Wyoming, Colorado, and Utah— NOI to Prepare an EIS and Notice of Potential for Land Use Plan Amendments (Director review)
- North Steens Transmission Line Project in Harney County, Oregon (Returned to ORSO for edits)—NOA of the FEIS

Oil and Gas

- Lance Natural Gas Development Project, Sublette County, Wyoming (NLCS review 3/4/11)— NOI to Prepare an EIS

Coal

- East Lynn Lake Coal Lease by Applications WVES-50556 and WVES 50560, Wayne County, West Virginia (Exec Sec Office review)—NOA of the Final Land Use Analysis and FEIS
- Colorado Coal Lease—Notice of Federal Competitive Coal Lease Sale Offer Lease by Application COC-70615, Colorado (Returned to COSO for re-signing)
- Notice of Competitive Coal Lease Sale, Wyoming WYW163340, (Published 3/4/11)
- Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the Wright Area South Hilight Field Coal Lease-by-Application and Environmental Impact Statement, Wyoming (Will be published 4/21/11)

Mining

- Celatom Mine Expansion Project in Harney and Malheur Counties, Oregon (Waiting on publication date from Oregon State Office)— NOA of the Draft EIS
- Proposed Blackfoot Bridge Mine, Caribou County, Idaho (Will publish 3/11/11)—NOA of FEIS

Withdrawals/Planning

- Notice of Availability of Draft Resource Management Plans and Associated Environmental Impact Statement for the Bighorn Basin Resource Management Plan Revision Project, Cody and Worland Field Offices, Wyoming (Director Review)
- Public Land Order, Wolf Creek Research Natural Area, Washington (Published 3/4/11)
- Petition/Application for Withdrawal, West Chocolate Mountain Renewable Energy Evaluation Area, California (Director review)
- Notice of Availability of Proposed Ironwood Forest National Monument Resource Management Plan/Final EIS, Arizona (cleared the Department, preparing the Proposed Plan/FEIS for publication)

IV. Congressional Contact:

Mar 8 & 10 Dir. Abbey will testify on Mar. 8 before the Natural Reources Committee, Subcommittee on Parks, Forests and Public Lands on the BLM's FY 2012 Budget request, and on March 10 he will testify before the House Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies, on the BLM's FY 2012 Budget request.

V. Pending Information Memo or Decision Memo for Secretary or Deputy Secretary:

	Format	Topic	ASLM Delivery	Final Delivery
300				
•	Info	Onshore Royalty Rate	after BLM reviews report	
•	Info	Gateway West EIS	upon request	

VI. Major upcoming meetings/announcements:

Mar 7 **Announcement of BLM 2011 Renewable Energy Priority Project List**: BLM announced a list of 19 projects for developing renewable energy on BLM-administered lands to which the agency is giving priority in 2011. The priority list includes nine solar projects, five wind projects, and five geothermal projects. The solar projects' potential output is 2,673 megawatts, the wind projects' potential output is 1,024 megawatts, and the geothermal projects potential output is 489 megawatts. To be a priority project, a company must demonstrate to the BLM that the project has progressed far enough to formally start the environmental review and public participation process, as well as be cleared for approval by the end of 2011. In addition, the projects must be sited in an area that minimizes impacts to the environment. The priority list was developed in collaboration with the FWS and the NPS. The screening criteria, developed through BLM policy memoranda issued in February 2011, assisted in evaluating and screening the solar and wind projects.

VII. Packages pending with ASLM:

Self-governance 2011 Annual Fund Agreement – Alaska Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments – Awaiting concurrent surname from Solicitor's – DGL and DLW, followed by ASLM approval. ASLM is concurrently reviewing electronic copies of package and BLM expects to deliver hard copy package on Mar. 8 with requested Solicitor and AS/Indian Affairs surnames. Expedited surname is requested in order to speed transmittal to House and Senate Congressional Committees and ensure that firefighter training can be completed by May 30, 2011 in anticipation of fire season.

From:	Nada Culver
To:	Black, Steve; Scott, Janea
Cc:	Pam Eaton; Chase Huntley
Subject:	"settlement" concept
Date:	Tuesday, January 12, 2010 10:15:48 PM
Attachments:	2091208 Settlement.pdf BBC - SUWA Agreement December 7 2009__00138883_.pdf SUWA SettleTable092309.pdf Suwa settlemap092309.ppt

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Hi Steve and Janea – As we discussed at our meeting last week, I'm forwarding documents related to an agreement that was developed to try to address oil and gas development under an EIS in Utah. The concept here was to have the parties with a potential dispute work out an agreement so that the project could proceed without the need to file a legal challenge. The "settlement" is between the conservationists and the oil and gas company without DOI or BLM signature.

I've attached the relevant documents so you can see how this process might work and as they were submitted to BLM and DOI, which are:

- A letter summarizing the settlement and requesting a meeting,
- A copy of the agreement proper
- A table referenced by the agreement
- A map referenced by the agreement

While these documents have been provided to the Department, they are not finalized and have not been distributed beyond this small group, so I would request that you not distribute them broadly until they are executed.

I hope this is helpful.

Nada Culver, Senior Counsel
The Wilderness Society
BLM Action Center
1660 Wynkoop Street, Suite 850
Denver, CO 80202
303-650-5818 Ext. 117

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FOR SETTLEMENT PURPOSES ONLY

southern utah wilderness alliance

Bill Barrett Corporation

December 8, 2009

Ned Farquhar
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Lands and Minerals Management
1849 C St. NW, MS-6628 MIB
Washington, D.C. 20240

Robert Abbey
Director – Bureau of Land Management
1849 C St. NW, Room 5665
Washington, D.C. 20240

Re: Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and Bill Barrett Corporation's Confidential Settlement in Principle – West Tavaputs Plateau Full Field Natural Gas Development Project

Dear Deputy Assistant Secretary Farquhar and Director Abbey,

As you know, the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA) and Bill Barrett Corporation (BBC) have been engaged in extensive meetings and discussions for the past seven months in an effort to reach a negotiated agreement over BBC's proposed West Tavaputs Plateau Full Field Natural Gas Development Project in Carbon County, Utah. SUWA and BBC have reached an agreement in principle.

The West Tavaputs Project presents a case study of the Bureau of Land Management's difficult charge to implement multiple use management on the public lands. While BBC's West Tavaputs Project proposes to produce substantial publicly owned natural gas resources, SUWA and others are concerned that, as originally envisioned, the Project would noticeably intrude on the Desolation Canyon and Jack Canyon wilderness study areas and larger proposed wilderness areas.

For years, BBC and SUWA have been in conflict, standing on opposite sides of this project. At the end of the public comment period on the West Tavaputs Plateau draft environmental impact statement, the BLM had received over 53,000 comments largely opposed to the Project because of concerns about impacts to cultural resources, air quality, and wilderness. Since then, BBC has worked extensively to address these concerns, with SUWA and other stakeholders. Regarding air quality, BBC has completed subsequent ground-level ozone modeling to comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's concerns over the Project. To address concerns about cultural resources, BBC, SUWA, BLM, the Advisory Council on

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Historic Preservation, and many other stakeholders recently completed a nearly year-long process to develop a Programmatic Agreement under the National Historic Preservation Act to address potential effects on cultural resources. Next month, the BLM is hosting a signing ceremony at the Utah state capitol for this Programmatic Agreement. SUWA and BBC are both signatories to this document.

The agreement in principle between SUWA and BBC addresses the outstanding issue of wilderness. As set forth in the attached document, the parties have agreed upon a comprehensive approach to protection of lands proposed for wilderness designation (wilderness study areas and certain lands containing wilderness characteristics), including:

- Lease relinquishment and unit contraction;
- Abandoning pre-existing, producing natural gas wells and roads within the Wilderness Study Areas;
- Expanding no surface occupancy on existing and proposed leases; and
- Pre-determined general locations for the siting of directional drilling pads.

To offset BBC's agreement to restrict access to gas resources to fulfill the agreed upon protection measures, the parties have agreed upon lands that should be offered for lease and for an administrative land exchange with the state of Utah.

BBC and SUWA request the opportunity to present the terms of our agreement to the Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Land Management.

Please feel free to contact Stephen Bloch (801.428.3981) or Duane Zavadil (303.293.9100) with any questions. We look forward to speaking with you soon.

Stephen Bloch

Conservation Director and Attorney
Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance

Duane Zavadil

Senior Vice President
Bill Barrett Corporation

AGREEMENT BETWEEN SOUTHERN UTAH WILDERNESS ALLIANCE AND BILL BARRETT CORPORATION REGARDING THE WEST TAVAPUTS PLATEAU FULL FIELD NATURAL GAS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

I. Eliminate BBC's Presence on Wilderness Study Area Lands (BBC)

A. Eliminate from BBC's proposal any surface disturbance within the WSAs, on cherry stems, or any roads that constitute WSA boundaries;

B. Relinquish existing leases 00683, 0684, 0685, 0719, 0725, 0741, and 0744 in T13S-R17E and T13S-R16E (These lands are offered in trade for lands as described in Section V and attached Table 1);

C. Contract the Peters Point Federal Unit to lands remaining under lease after the relinquishment in I.B;

D. Limit access for development of existing leases beneath Desolation Canyon WSA to the designated well pads outside of the WSA;

E. Plug and abandon (P&A) all producing and shut in wells (distinguishing wells that were P&Ad by other operators in the past) within Jack Canyon and Desolation Canyon WSAs. These wells include: 5-14 (in Jack Canyon Road); Peter's Point 3A (Cedar Ridge Road); 14-9 (off Cedar Ridge Road) and Peter's Point 4 (off Cedar Ridge Road). Reclaim the well pads and access roads with consideration of minimizing additional disturbance;

F. Remove the pipeline across and within Jack Canyon and on Cedar Ridge;

G. Attempt to convince Carbon County to abandon claims to Jack Canyon Road and Cedar Ridge Road; and

H. Request installation of gates that limit access to administrative traffic only at the following locations: (1) Cedar Ridge Road at/around T13S, R16E, Section 33; (2) Jack Canyon Road at/around T13S, R16E, Sections 2/3; (3) Indian Canyon Road at/around T13S, R16E, Section 8; (4) Horse Bench Road at/around T12S, R16E, Section 27 and at northern fork of road on border of Sections 18/19. Support closing roads in any administrative process that attempts to do so (with the exception of necessary facility access).

II. Minimize Development on Horse Bench and Other Areas (BBC)

A. Relinquish existing leases 65782, 65783, and 62645 in T12S R17E in the Horse Bench area. (These lands are offered in trade for other lands as described in Section V and attached Table 1);

B. Relinquish existing State (SITLA) lease 49149 in Section 16 in T12S R17E in the Horse Bench area. (These lands are subject to a proposed SITLA/BLM trade/exchange);

C. Relinquish all claims, interests, and rights to re-offer or reinstatement of successful high bids for, and support no future leasing of, lands comprising leases 885, 862, 896 and, certain portions of leases 881 and 898 in T12S R16E and T12S R17E in the Horse Bench area, from the December 2008 sale (*see* Table 1 and attached map for description of properties).

D. In the event all of the lease parcels identified in Section V.A are offered for sale in a 2010 lease sale then BBC would eliminate the proposed well site in section 32, T12S, R17E.

E. The attached map shows the approximate location of agreed upon well pads along Horse Bench. No additional well pads will be proposed or drilled on either side of the Horse Bench Road.

III. Minimize Visibility Impacts to Desolation Canyon recreation area and WSAs (BBC)

A. Any locations that are visible from the Green River or are within ¼ mile of a WSA boundary will be drilled during recreational off season (October through April);

B. Install low profile/low visibility equipment on any new facility within ¼ mile of the WSA boundary. Utilize subsurface wellhead vaults and preclude the use of surface production equipment on new locations within 1/8th of a mile of the WSA border (locations in Sections 21, 30, and 32 in T12S-R17E). No surface production equipment would be located on pads proposed in Sections 14, 15, 21, and the north half of Sections 22, and 23, T12S-R16E. BBC agrees to install low profile facilities for the proposed well sites located in T12S, R16-17E. BBC would install low profile facilities for the well sites without an "N" designated on the attached map; the well sites identified with an "N" would have cellared well sites and off-site production facilities.

C. Well sites that will not have surface production equipment, and the roads to them, will be designed and reclaimed in away that minimizes impacts to the visual character of the host lands; and

D. BBC and SUWA will conduct on-site visits within 60 days of signing an agreement, weather permitting, to coordinate specific wellsite location and road design (e.g. road widths, road locations, pad design, vegetative screening) for all wells on Horse Bench.

IV. Other (BBC)

A. Support a BLM plan amendment and/or include conditions in WTP-EIS ROD to reflect agreed upon conditions;

B. BBC will request that BLM undertake a plan amendment of the Price RMP to permanently close to future mineral leasing all areas relinquished in Section II;

C. Support wilderness designation for the Jack Canyon and Desolation Canyon WSAs and portions of the Desolation Canyon proposed wilderness area as identified in America's Red Rock Wilderness Act and relevant to the West Tavaputs Project Area (e.g., WSA lands bordered by Cedar Ridge Road and the Green River, and BLM identified wilderness

character lands along the Horse Bench Road, excluding any lands that BBC retains an interest in, including those subject to Section V below).

D. BBC will convince other oil and gas operators not to appeal the West Tavaputs ROD.

E. BBC commits to a standstill of operations on any lands involving the contingencies of the proposed well pad location in section 32 (T12S, R17E), per Section V.A below, until after the lease sale when all of the parcels are offered or no earlier than January 1, 2011.

F. In the event BLM affects a standstill or moratorium on leasing and development activity in the portion of the WTP-EIS project area at issue in the Agreement (T12-13S R16E; T12-13S R17E), and does not otherwise exempt the activities SUWA and BBC have committed to, pending the RMP update process, or pending a wilderness characteristics re-inventory, then the provisions of this agreement regarding leasing and operations will not become effective.

V. SUWA Commitments (SUWA)

A. Support BLM's reinstatement, or reoffering in a 2010 lease sale (without RMP amendment or additional NEPA analysis), leases 880, 882, 883, 884, and a portion of leases 881 and 898 in T12S-R16E and T12S R17E in the Horse Bench area (*see* Table 1 and attached map for description of properties); support all BLM actions needed to reoffer these leases and do not oppose any reinstatement. All of leases 880 and 884, and a portion of lease 898 in Section 21, T12S R17E, will carry a no surface occupancy (NSO) stipulation (other than a short access road in the SW corner of Section 13). Withdraw lease protests as to these parcels, and in the event of re-offering in a future sale, do not file subsequent lease protests or legal challenge to lease sale where parcels are re-offered. Convince other NGOs (The Wilderness Society, NRDC, Sierra Club, Earthjustice, National Parks Conservation Association, Grand Canyon Trust, and Red Rock Forests) to support withdrawal of previously filed lease protests for these specific parcels and support reinstatement or reoffering these lands for lease. Attempt to convince other NGOs to not file lease protests or legal challenges to such reoffering.

B. Support a BLM-SITLA trade of the west half of the southwest quarter and the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 15, east half of Section 21, west half of the west half of Section 22, and the north half of the south half of Section 14, T12S-R16E for existing SITLA lease 49149.

C. Support a trade for relinquished existing BBC leases 65782, 65783, and 62645 in T12S R17E and 00683, 0684, 0685, 0719, 0725, 0741, and 0744 in T13S-R17E and T13S-R16E in trade, or land swap between BLM and SITLA, for irregular properties bordering Desolation Canyon WSA. (*see* Table 1 and attached map for description of properties). The irregularly shaped leases will carry an NSO stipulation with the exception of two well pads (in Sections 30 and 32 in T12S, R17E) and required access roads to these sites.

D. Support timely completion of the West Tavaputs ROD (with no supplements to the EIS);

E. SUWA will refrain from appeal of West Tavaputs ROD in any way or funding/supporting challenges from other individuals or organizations in any way, including any protest or appeal based upon adequacy of the Price RMP.

F. SUWA will convince other NGOs not to appeal the West Tavaputs ROD (*e.g.*, The Wilderness Society, NRDC, Sierra Club, Earthjustice, National Parks Conservation Association, Red Rock Forests, and Grand Canyon Trust), and attempt to convince Nine Mile Canyon Coalition and the NTHP to not appeal the West Tavaputs ROD; and

G. Remove lands involved in above terms that are outside of Desolation Canyon and Jack Canyon WSAs from America's Red Rock Wilderness Act before the Bill is re-introduced in the 112th Congress.

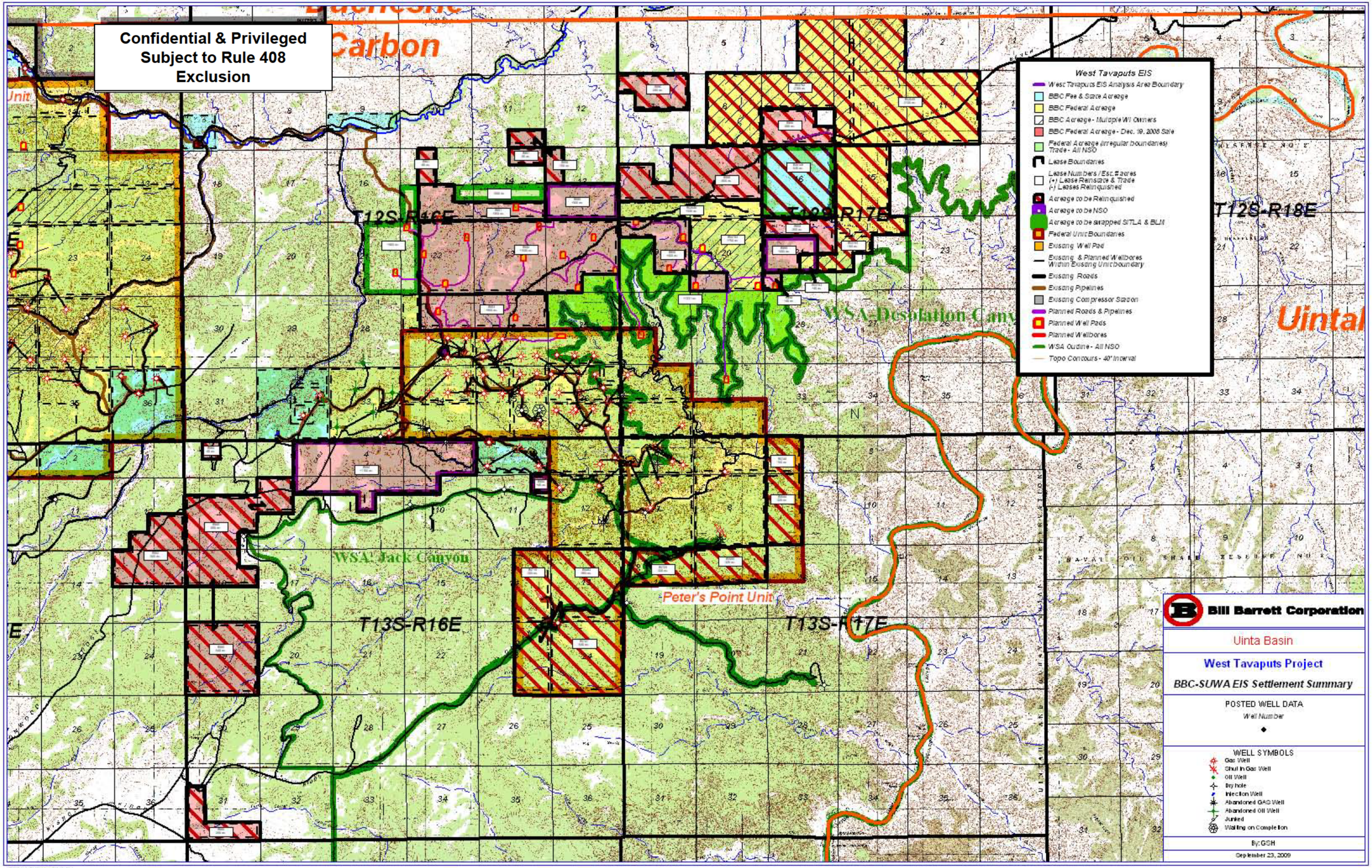
Confidential & Privileged
Subject to Rule 408
Exclusion
Carbon
T12S-R16E
T12S-R17E
T12S-R18E
T13S-R16E
T13S-R17E
WSA Desolation Canyon
WSA Jack Canyon
Peter's Point Unit
Uintah
West Tavaputs EIS
West Tavaputs EIS Analysis Area Boundary
BBC Fee & State Acreage
BBC Federal Acreage
BBC Acreage - Multiple Wi Owners
BBC Federal Acreage - Dec. 19, 2008 Sale
Federal Acreage (irregular boundaries) Trade - All NSO
Lease Boundaries
Lease Numbers / Esc. # acres
(+) Lease Reinstate & Trade
(-) Leases Relinquished
Acreage to be Relinquished
Acreage to be NSO
Acreage to be swapped SITLA & BLM
Federal Unit Boundaries
Existing Well Pad
Existing & Planned Wellbores Within Existing Unit boundary
Existing Roads
Existing Pipelines
Existing Compressor Station
Planned Roads & Pipelines
Planned Well Pads
Planned Wellbores
WSA Outline - All NSO
Topo Contours - 40' Interval
Bill Barrett Corporation
Uinta Basin
West Tavaputs Project
BBC-SUWA EIS Settlement Summary
POSTED WELL DATA
Well Number
WELL SYMBOLS
Gas Well
Shut In Gas Well
Oil Well
Dry hole
Injection Well
Abandoned GAS Well
Abandoned Oil Well
Junked
Waiting on Completion
By: GSH
September 23, 2009

Table -1: Summary of Lease/Property Relinquish / Reinstatement / Trade / Conditions

Action / Lease	Relinquish	Reinstate	Trade	Conditions
65782 **65783** **62645** Existing Leases	Sections 3, 4, 8, 9, 10,11,15, northeast quarter of southeast quarter of 21, 22, T12S-R17E			These valid existing leases are relinquished in trade for leases/properties listed in Trades section below.
0683, 0684, 0685, 0719, 0725, 0741, 0744 Existing Leases	Sections 13, 14, 23, 24, T13S-R16E Sections 4, 9, 17, 18, T13S-R17E			These valid existing leases are relinquished in trade for leases/properties listed in Trades section below
49149 Existing Lease	Section 16, T12S-R17E			Existing State (SITLA) Lease. This valid existing lease is relinquished in trade for leases/properties listed in Trades section below.
862 Dec 08 Lease Sale	All In Sections 12 and 13, T13S-R15E			
880 Dec 08 Lease Sale		South half of Section 13, T12S-R16E		Section 13, T12S-R16E will carry a No Surface Occupancy (NSO) stipulation (other than a short access road in the SW corner of Section 13).
881 Dec 08 Lease Sale	South half of the southeast quarter of Section 11, west half of northwest quarter of Section 13, north half of northeast quarter of Section 14 and the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 15 in T12S-R16E			
881 Dec 08 Lease Sale		South half of south half of Section 14, and south half of Section 15 (includes; SESE, SWSE, NWSE, SESW, NESW quarters), T12S-R16E NWSE, SESW, NESW quarters), T12S-R16E		No onsite production tanks or separators would be located on pads proposed in Sections 14 and 15, T12S-R16E.
882 Dec 08 Lease Sale		Sections 22, 23, 24, T12S, R16E		No onsite production tanks or separators would be located on pads proposed in the north half of Sections 22 and 23, T12S-R16E.

Table -1: Summary of Lease/Property Relinquish / Reinstatement / Trade / Conditions (Con't)

Lease \ Action	Relinquish	Reinstate	Trade	Conditions
883 Dec 08 Lease Sale		Sections 26, 27, T12S, R16E		
884 Dec 08 Lease Sale		Sections 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10,and 11, T13S-R16E		Entire lease will carry a No Surface Occupancy (NSO) stipulation.
885 Dec 08 Lease Sale	All Sections 6, 7, 8, 18, 19, and 31, T13S, R16E, and Sections 12, 13 in T13S, R15E			
896 Dec 08 Lease Sale	All in Sections 7 and 9, T12S, R17E			
898 Dec 08 Lease Sale	All in Sections 17, 18, the north half of the north half and the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of 21, T12S-R17E,			
898 Dec 08 Lease Sale		All in Sections 19, 20, and the following quarter sections; southwest of the northwest, southeast of the northwest, southwest of the northeast, northwest of the southwest, northeast of the southwest, and the southwest of the southwest quarters of Section 21 in T12S, R17E		No onsite production tanks or separators would be located on the pad proposed in the southwest of the southwest quarter of Section 21 and the remainder of Sections 21 will carry an NSO stipulation, in T12S-R17E.

Table -1: Summary of Lease/Property Relinquish / Reinstatement / Trade / Conditions (Con't)

Action / Lease	Relinquish	Reinstate	Trade	Conditions
Trade Properties			The north half of the south half of Section 14, and The west half of the southwest quarter and the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 15, T12S-R16E. The east half of Section 21, and the west half of the west half of Section 22, T12S-R16E	No onsite production tanks or separators would be located on pads proposed in Sections 14 and 15, and the east half of Section 21, T12S-R16E.
Irregular WSA Border Trade Properties			The irregularly shaped leases in Sections 24, 25, T12S, R16E, and 19, 21, 28, 29, 30, 32, T12S, R17E – see map for exact delineation of property.	The irregularly shaped leases will carry an NSO stipulation with the exception of the two well pads (one each in Sections 30 and 32 in T12S, R17E). Install low profile/low visibility equipment on any facility within ¼ mile of the WSA boundary. Utilize subsurface wellhead vaults (ultra low-profile) and no onsite production tanks or separators for locations within 1/8th of a mile of the WSA border (locations in Sections 30 [NESW 1/4], 32 [NENW ¼], T12S, R17E). Any locations that are visible from the Green River or are within ¼ mile of a WSA boundary will be drilled during recreational off season (October through April).

From:	Nedd, Mike
To:	Lane, Kenneth
Cc:	Farquhar, Ned; Abbey, Robert V
Subject:	RE: Re:
Date:	Wednesday, December 01, 2010 5:46:44 PM
Attachments:	SegregationSignificantRule.120110.docx

Ken,

Today we provided a final draft of the rule to SOL today. That draft incorporates the third set of the SOL edits. We're hoping to send an advance draft of the rule to Faye by Friday. Attached is an issue paper and the Director or the ASLM did not have an opportunity to review this information prior to its submission. Below is a brief summary of the issue as outlined in the paper:

The OMB has made a determination that the BLM's segregation rule is a significant rule under Executive Order 12866 (EO), which means that the rule will get greater scrutiny at the Department, will require a more robust economic analysis, and that the OMB has 90 days to review it. The BLM had recommended to the OMB in our semi-annual agenda submission and in the most recent 90 day list of rules, that the rule is not significant. (b) (5)

(b) (5)

However, an informal review of 14 days would move the December 17 publishing to January. (See attached file: SegregationSignificantRule.120110.docx)

Take care and have a wonderful day! :)

Michael Nedd
Assistant Director,
Minerals and Realty Management
202-208-4201 Office
202-208-4800 Fax
mike_nedd@blm.gov

A thought to consider "Opportunities to be kind are never hard to find"

"Lane, Kenneth"
<Kenneth_Lane@ios
.doi.gov>
12/01/2010 02:44
PM

To
"Abbey, Robert V"
<Robert_Abbey@blm.gov>, "Farquhar,
Ned" <Ned_Farquhar@ios.doi.gov>
cc
"Nedd, Mike" <Mike_Nedd@blm.gov>
Subject
RE: Re:

Thanks

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

From: Robert_Abbey@blm.gov [mailto:Robert_Abbey@blm.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, December 01, 2010 2:44 PM
To: Lane, Kenneth; Farquhar, Ned
Cc: Nedd, Mike
Subject: Re:

Ken:

OMB came back to us last Friday with a determination that our proposed action is deemed significant which means a lot more work and delay. Faye in EX Sec told me that David Hayes would talk with OMB in an attempt to get a more favorable response. Mike Nedd, is our point of contact. I will have him forward you any new information regarding the status of the proposed rule.

Bob

From: "Lane, Kenneth" [Kenneth_Lane@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: 12/01/2010 01:33 PM EST
To: Robert Abbey; "Farquhar, Ned" <Ned_Farquhar@ios.doi.gov>

And the wind & solar energy zone mining claim rule (tentatively scheduled for rollout Dec 17?)

Any update on draft EIS for Grand Canyon Area Lands Withdrawal? (I wasn't at ASLM meeting this week)

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
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Washington, D.C. 20240
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Solar and Wind Segregation Interim Final Rule

Issue: Office of Management and Budget (OMB) designation of the rule as being a significant rule.

Introduction: A number of Federal mandates and policies direct the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to facilitate environmentally responsible wind and solar energy projects on public lands. Renewable energy projects typically entail detailed site analysis, planning and engineering, environmental review, and substantial financial investments, yet the filing of a right-of-way application for a wind or solar energy project does not segregate the land from other uses. Most public lands available for such renewable energy projects are also open to appropriation under the public land laws, which includes the location of mining claims**.**

The interim final rule would allow the BLM to segregate lands included in a wind or solar energy development application from appropriation under the public lands laws, including the mining laws. The segregation would be accomplished by publishing a notice in the Federal Register. The rule is needed to achieve the orderly administration of the public lands. Under this rule, the BLM would not segregate lands for every wind or solar application filed. We would only segregate those lands where we are actively processing an application and where we have initiated the National Environmental Policy Act process for an individual wind or solar project.

Background: The OMB has made a determination that the BLM's segregation rule is a significant rule under Executive Order 12866 (EO), which means that the rule will get greater scrutiny at the Department, will require a more robust economic analysis, and that the OMB has 90 days to review it. The BLM had recommended to the OMB in our semi-annual agenda submission and in the most recent 90 day list of rules, that the rule is not significant. We don't believe that under the EO that the rule is significant because we don't believe that it will:

> Have an annual effect on the economy of $100 million or more or adversely affect in a material way the economy, a sector of the economy, productivity, competition, jobs, the environment, public health or safety, or State, local, or tribal governments or communities. The BLM believes that the rule's economic impact will be less than the threshold amount;
>
> Create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with an action taken or planned by another agency. The rule impacts applicants and BLM processes only;
>
> Materially alter the budgetary impact of entitlements, grants, user fees, or loan programs or the rights and obligations of recipients thereof. The rule has no effect on any of these; or
>
> Raise novel legal or policy issues arising out of legal mandates, the President's priorities, or the principles set forth in this Executive order. The rule does not raise

novel legal or policy issues. The BLM currently has segregation rules in effect and this rule would merely expand on those rules. Also, the maximum time period for the segregation would be for only four years.

Section 6(a)(3)(A) of the EO says the following:

"Each agency shall provide OIRA [OMB's Office or Information and Regulatory Affairs], at such times and in the manner specified by the Administrator of OIRA, with a list of its planned regulatory actions, indicating those which the agency believes are significant regulatory actions within the meaning of this Executive order. Absent a material change in the development of the planned regulatory action, those not designated as significant will not be subject to review under this section unless, within 10 working days of receipt of the list, the Administrator of OIRA notifies the agency that OIRA has determined that a planned regulation is a significant regulatory action within the meaning of this Executive order."

The Department's Office of Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs submits the 90 day list to the OMB and the BLM is not directly involved in the submission. However, from what we understand from discussions with the Executive Secretariat, the Department submitted to the OMB the most recent 90 day list containing our recommendation that the segregation rule is not significant some time during the second week of October. That means that the 10 day period for making a determination under the EO expired on about October 22. On November 23, the Department submitted to the BLM the OMB "edits" to the 90 day list that shows that OMB changed the designation for the segregation rule from "not significant" to "significant."

Recommendation: Because the BLM believes that the rule is not significant under the standards set out under the EO and because the BLM believes that the OMB determination that the rule is significant under the EO comes too late, the OMB should accept the BLM's request that the rule be determined to be not significant or at a minimum "lower" the review level to an informal review, which would allow the OMB 14 days to review it and would allow a standard economic analysis, which we have already completed.

From: Nedd, Mike
To: Farquhar, Ned
Subject: Re: Timeline request from Secretary
Date: Friday, January 14, 2011 7:49:13 AM

Ned,

I believe the staff is updating the one from last fall to reflect progress to date, I'll check first thing when I get into the office. I was out on travel all week.
------Original Message------
From: Ned Farquhar
To: Mike Nedd
Subject: FW: Timeline request from Secretary
Sent: Jan 13, 2011 4:36 PM

Can you send the current onshore royalty rate timeline? Thanks. NF

From:Hayes, David
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2011 3:18 PM
To: Lane, Kenneth; Abbey, Robert V; Farquhar, Ned; Screnar, Brian
Cc: Davis, Laura
Subject: RE: Timeline request from Secretary

We discussed these in our recent meetings with the A/S and bureau directors.

·Meghan and Bob can give you the timeline on the Grand Canyon EIS.

·I just asked Ned for an intermediate timeline on the onshore royalty rate economic analysis.

·And Bob can give you the timeline for the mineral withdrawal rule.

From:Lane, Kenneth
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2011 11:42 AM
To: Abbey, Robert V; Farquhar, Ned; Hayes, David; Screnar, Brian
Subject: Timeline request from Secretary

Secretary asked me for a timeline regarding

(1)the wind and solar energy zone mineral withdrawal rule

(2) Grand Canyon area lands withdrawal EIS

(3) Whether the onshore royalty rate reform cost-benefit and economic analysis is still on track for January completion

Thanks for whatever info you can provide (and, rather than doing memos, I'd just note the timelines in the weekly action report I prepare for him)

Ken Lane

Senior Advisor

Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of the Secretary

U.S. Department of the Interior

1849 C Street, N.W.

Room 6142

Washington, D.C. 20240

202-208-7351 phone

202-273-3501 fax

---------- Take care and have a wonderful day!

MDN :)
202-208-4201 Office

A thought to consider "Opportunities to be kind are never hard to find"

Sent via Blackberry **** This e-mail (including attachments) is intended for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise protected by applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient or the employee or agent responsible for delivery of this e-mail to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying, or use of this e-mail or its contents is strictly prohibited. If you received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately and destroy all copies.

From: Nedd, Mike
To: Farquhar, Ned
Cc: Lin, Janet H; Pool, Michael J; Cardinale, Richard; Falsey, William D
Subject: RE: Timeline request from Secretary
Date: Friday, January 28, 2011 10:37:36 AM

Ned,

Here is the BLM's schedule for development of the rule:

Receive benefit-cost and economic impact analysis	January 31, 2011
Draft rule for review and surname	March 31, 2011
OMB - draft review	April 30, 2011
Publish draft rule in Federal Register	May 22, 2011
OMB - final review	September 30, 2011
Publish final rule in Federal Register	October 23, 2011
Rule goes into effect	December 23, 2011

These target dates depend upon the timeliness of the OMB review, which could add up to 6 months to the review process if OMB determines that it is a "significant rule" (i.e., rule having an annual effect on the economy of $100 million or more) under Executive Order No. 12866. An expedited review from OMB is critical to meet this timetable.

I'm checking to see where we are at with the memo...

Take care and have a wonderful day! :)

A thought to consider "Opportunities to be kind are never hard to find"

"Farquhar, Ned" <Ned_Farquhar@ios.doi.gov>
01/28/2011 10:26 AM

To "Nedd, Mike" <mnedd@blm.gov>
cc "Janet_Lin@blm.gov" <Janet_Lin@blm.gov>, "Cardinale, Richard" <Richard_Cardinale@ios.doi.gov>, "Pool, Mike" <mpool@blm.gov>, "Falsey, William D" <WDFalsey@blm.gov>
Subject RE: Timeline request from Secretary

Haven't seen the update - can I get it right away if it exists? Thanks.
NF

-----Original Message-----
From: mnedd@blm.gov [mailto:mnedd@blm.gov]
Sent: Friday, January 14, 2011 7:49 AM
To: Farquhar, Ned
Subject: Re: Timeline request from Secretary

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Ha, Richard W

From: Luckey, Lauren on behalf of Pool, Mike
Sent: Thursday, September 09, 2010 12:52 PM
To: Shafroth, William
Subject: Accepted: Meeting to discuss EIS on Uranium Withdrawal

c110723.ics

Ha, Richard W

From: Mike Pool/WO/BLM/DOI [Mike_Pool@blm.gov]
Subject: Meeting to discuss EIS on Uranium Withdrawal

Ha, Richard W

From: Luckey, Lauren on behalf of Pool, Mike
Sent: Thursday, September 09, 2010 12:52 PM
To: Wheeler, Richard W; Morgan, Rasheedah
Subject: Accepted: Meeting to discuss EIS on Uranium Withdrawal

c110723.ics

Ha, Richard W

From: Mike Pool/WO/BLM/DOI [Mike_Pool@blm.gov]
Subject: Meeting to discuss EIS on Uranium Withdrawal

From:	Rae, Kerry L
To:	Castle, Anne; Caramanian, Lori
Subject:	FW: Arizona AGO Meeting Info
Date:	Wednesday, May 18, 2011 9:58:56 AM
Importance:	High

FYI below, from BLM-Arizona

From: Rae, Kerry L
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2011 9:25 AM
To: 'desteven@blm.gov'
Cc: Kenna, Jim; Suazo, Raymond; Losacco, Joan B
Subject: RE: Arizona AGO Meeting Info

Good morning Deborah and all – this is very helpful. I'll get it to Anne this morning.
Thanks for your help, Kerry

From: desteven@blm.gov [mailto:desteven@blm.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2011 8:04 PM
To: Rae, Kerry L
Cc: Kenna, Jim; Suazo, Raymond; Losacco, Joan B
Subject: Arizona AGO Meeting Info

Karen,

Following is some information to concerns and questions the Arizona Governor's Office expressed during the AGO pre-meeting conference call. Also attached is an updated briefing paper on the Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS.

Responses to Governor's questions to be asked at the upcoming America Great Outdoors Meeting on Thursday, May 19.

Comments and Questions: (b) (5)

(b) (5)

Comments and Questions: (b) (5)

Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS Briefing Paper

BACKGROUND:

Proposed Withdrawal:

(b) (5)

Status of Interagency Coordination during the Segregation Period:

(b) (5)

Status of Northern Arizona Withdrawal EIS:

(b) (5)

Status of Existing Claims and Mining Activity:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

History of Mining:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

POSITIONS of INTERESTED PARTIES

Members of Congress: (b) (5)

Arizona Governor's Office: (b) (5)

(b) (5)

Tribes: (b) (5)

- **Navajo Nation -** (b) (5)

- **Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians –** (b) (5)

- **Havasupai Tribe –** (b) (5)

NACo: (b) (5)

Coconino County, AZ: (b) (5)

Mojave County, AZ: (b) (5)

Kane County, UT: (b) (5)

Fredonia, AZ: (b) (5)

Kanab, UT: (b) (5)

(b) (5)

Industry: (b) (5)

.

Media: (b) (5)

LEGAL STATUS:

(b) (5)

Grand Canyon Withdrawal Case (CBD et al. v. Salazar et al., D. Ariz):

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Contact: BLM Arizona State Director Jim Kenna, (602) 417-9500

Deborah E. Stevens
Public Affairs Specialist
One North Central Ave., Suite 800
Phoenix, AZ 85004-4427
Phone: 602-417-9215
Fax: 602-417-9424
Email: deborah_stevens@blm.gov

From: Rae, Kerry L
To: Castle, Anne; Caramanian, Lori
Subject: FW: Arizona AGO Meeting Info
Date: Wednesday, May 18, 2011 12:07:10 PM
Attachments: Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS Briefing Paper.docx

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USE THIS VERSION

From: desteven@blm.gov [mailto:desteven@blm.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2011 12:00 PM
To: Rae, Kerry L
Cc: Kenna, Jim; Losacco, Joan B; Suazo, Raymond
Subject: RE: Arizona AGO Meeting Info

Kerry,

I had some last minute changes to the briefing paper on the Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS. Please provide this version to Anne for her review. The rest of the information is the same. Thanks for your help.

Deborah E. Stevens
Public Affairs Specialist
One North Central Ave., Suite 800
Phoenix, AZ 85004-4427
Phone: 602-417-9215
Fax: 602-417-9424
Email: deborah_stevens@blm.gov

"Rae, Kerry L" <Karen_Rae@ios.doi.gov>

05/18/2011 06:24 AM

To "Stevens, Deborah" <desteven@blm.gov>
cc "Kenna, Jim" <jkenna@blm.gov>, "Suazo, Raymond" <rmsuazo@blm.gov>, "Losacco, Joan B" <jlosacco@blm.gov>
Subject RE: Arizona AGO Meeting Info

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Also, any additional management responsibility that goes with the acquisition of lands, (b) (5)

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Contact: BLM Arizona State Director Jim Kenna, (602) 417-9500

From: Rae, Kerry L
To: Stevens, Deborah E
Cc: Kenna, James G; Losacco, Joan; Suazo, Raymond M
Subject: RE: Arizona AGO Meeting Info
Date: Wednesday, May 18, 2011 12:06:51 PM

Great – will do. Thanks, Kerry

From: desteven@blm.gov [mailto:desteven@blm.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2011 12:00 PM
To: Rae, Kerry L
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"Rae, Kerry L" <Karen_Rae@ios.doi.gov>

05/18/2011 06:24 AM

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Cc:	Kenna, James G; Suazo, Raymond M; Losacco, Joan
Subject:	RE: Arizona AGO Meeting Info
Date:	Wednesday, May 18, 2011 9:24:37 AM

Good morning Deborah and all – this is very helpful. I'll get it to Anne this morning.
Thanks for your help, Kerry

From: desteven@blm.gov [mailto:desteven@blm.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2011 8:04 PM
To: Rae, Kerry L
Cc: Kenna, Jim; Suazo, Raymond; Losacco, Joan B
Subject: Arizona AGO Meeting Info

Karen,

Following is some information to concerns and questions the Arizona Governor's Office expressed during the AGO pre-meeting conference call. Also attached is an updated briefing paper on the Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS.

Responses to Governor's questions to be asked at the upcoming America Great Outdoors Meeting on Thursday, May 19.

Comments and Questions: (b) (5)

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Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS Briefing Paper

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Grand Canyon Withdrawal Case (CBD et al. v. Salazar et al., D. Ariz):

(b) (5)

Contact: BLM Arizona State Director Jim Kenna, (602) 417-9500

Deborah E. Stevens
Public Affairs Specialist
One North Central Ave., Suite 800
Phoenix, AZ 85004-4427
Phone: 602-417-9215
Fax: 602-417-9424
Email: deborah_stevens@blm.gov

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Email: deborah_stevens@blm.gov

From: Rae, Kerry L
To: Stevens, Deborah E
Cc: Kenna, James G; Losacco, Joan; Suazo, Raymond M
Subject: RE: Arizona AGO Meeting Info
Date: Wednesday, May 18, 2011 12:06:51 PM

Great – will do. Thanks, Kerry

From: desteven@blm.gov [mailto:desteven@blm.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2011 12:00 PM
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Cc: Kenna, Jim; Losacco, Joan B; Suazo, Raymond
Subject: RE: Arizona AGO Meeting Info

Kerry,

I had some last minute changes to the briefing paper on the Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS. Please provide this version to Anne for her review. The rest of the information is the same. Thanks for your help.

Deborah E. Stevens
Public Affairs Specialist
One North Central Ave., Suite 800
Phoenix, AZ 85004-4427
Phone: 602-417-9215
Fax: 602-417-9424
Email: deborah_stevens@blm.gov

"Rae, Kerry L" <Karen_Rae@ios.doi.gov>

05/18/2011 06:24 AM

To "Stevens, Deborah" <desteven@blm.gov>
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From:	Rae, Kerry L
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Attachments:	AGO AZ 2Issues 5 11_USGS.docx

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-Kerry

Kerry Rae
Chief of Staff for Water & Science
U.S. Department of the Interior
Phone: 202-513-0535
Cell: 202-494-4101
Fax: 202-208-3324

-----Original Message-----
From: Janet_Lin@blm.gov [mailto:Janet_Lin@blm.gov]
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2011 12:46 PM
To: Jim_Kenna@blm.gov; Chris_Horyza@blm.gov
Cc: Rae, Kerry L; Conklin, Meghan M
Subject: Briefing materials for AGO meeting on Thursday

Jim and Chris:

As you know, Anne Castle has her AZ AGO meetings this Thursday. I understand that you are attending, Jim, but we weren't sure if you were planning on attending both the Governor's and stakeholder meetings?

Assistant Secretary Castle would still like a briefing paper from us - she would like to know about the timeline and specifics and the various actions being considered in the EIS. Also, she would appreciate if we could pull the State of AZ comments - might be helpful to pull the Governor's comments and the county comments you have received. As I undertand it, the message on timeline is that we have received over 290,000 comments and are working diligently to analyze those comments and that is it for now. Also, on her pre-call with the AZ Governor's natural resource advisor, she was asked the following:

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I have attached text from a previous briefing below that can provide the basic information for the paper - might need some updating.

Could you work with your USGS counterparts at the Exec or Management levels and provide something to Kerry Rae, Ann's Chief of Staff?

I know you have much going on, so we appreciate your help.

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Contact: Deputy Assistant Secretary Ned Farquhar (202) 253 0174

Attachments: 1) Proposed Withdrawal/Segregation Boundary Federal Register Map;
2) Mining Claims Within the Proposed Withdrawal Boundaries in H.R. 644

- Janet

_____

Janet H. Lin
Chief of Staff, Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-3801
(202) 208-5242 (f)

Date: May 13, 2011

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

FROM: Marcia McNutt
Director, U.S. Geological Survey

SUBJECT: Two important issues the USGS is addressing in Arizona

Issue 1: Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal

I. INTRODUCTION: Over one million acres of Federal lands in the Arizona Strip and Kaibab National Forest were segregated for two years while the Department evaluates whether the Secretary should withdraw these lands from location and entry under the Mining Law of 1872 for up to 20 years, subject to valid existing rights. The withdrawal, which is intended to protect the Grand Canyon watershed from adverse effects of locatable mineral exploration and mining, is being analyzed through an environmental impact statement (EIS) as required by the National Environmental Policy Act. A USGS scientific investigations report and other scientific investigations have provided the basis of impact assessment in the Draft EIS, which was completed and made available for public comment on February 17, 2011. The 45-day comment period was recently extended for 30 days and closed on May 4, 2011. A team of Federal Partners (BLM, USFWS, USGS and USFS) are preparing a briefing for the Department for week of June 6.

II. BACKGROUND: On July 21, 2009, the Department of the Interior published notice of Secretary of the Interior Salazar's proposal to withdraw approximately 1 million acres of Federal locatable minerals in northern Arizona from the location of new mining claims under the Mining Law of 1872 [30 United States Code (USC) 22–54], subject to valid existing rights. The withdrawal was proposed in response to increased mining interest in the region's uranium deposits and concern over potential impacts of uranium mining to the Grand Canyon watershed.

III. POSITION of INTERESTED PARTIES: Arizona Senators Kohn McCain and Jon Kyl do not support withdrawal of these lands, as they believe it violates a historic agreement between the mining industry and the environmental community to allow "balanced, responsible resource development and wilderness protection near the Grand Canyon National Park."

Congressman Trent Franks also does not support the proposed withdrawal and introduced H.R. 5665 to prohibit the Secretary's withdrawal of the subject lands.

The State of Arizona is mixed on the topic, with some legislators in favor and others opposed. The Governor's office is currently opposed to withdrawal.

Local counties in southern Utah and Mohave County Arizona oppose withdrawal because they consider the mining operations important economic opportunities. Coconino County is in favor of withdrawal because they depend largely on tourism to the Grand Canyon and fear expanded mining could have an effect on visitation.
Local tribes all support withdrawal. Historic uranium mining practices, both on the Navajo Reservation and the South Rim of the Grand Canyon, have been blamed for causing adverse effects to both humans and the environment.

Environmental organizations, such as the Grand Canyon Trust, the Center for Biological Diversity, and the Sierra Club, support withdrawal.

Over 300,000 comments were received from the public—overwhelmingly in support of withdrawal.

Issue 2: Northern Arizona Regional Groundwater Flow Model

I. INTRODUCTION: On April 12, 2011, USGS released a regional groundwater model of Northern Arizona and Scientific Investigations Report 2010-5180, *Regional Groundwater-Flow Model of the Redwall-Muav, Coconino, and Alluvial Basin Aquifer Systems of Northern and Central Arizona*, that describes the model. Knowledge of Northern Arizona's aquifers, including how they are interconnected, their connection to streams and springs, and potential changes from groundwater development, has generally been poorly understood.

The new model provides a valuable tool for water-resource managers to better understand how groundwater development may affect aquifers and surface-water resources. The release of the model, however, was accompanied by significant controversy among stakeholders, particularly in the upper and middle Verde watersheds.

II. BACKGROUND: In December 2010, the USGS Arizona Water Science Center (AzWSC) – the developer of the model – was approached by the City of Prescott with a variety of concerns pertaining to the model and the report that describes it. These concerns stemmed, in part, from Prescott's limited knowledge of both model and report, and in part from their knowledge that the model can simulate potential impacts of groundwater withdrawals on stream base flow. The Town of Prescott Valley holds views similar to Prescott.

The concern of Prescott related to the ability of the model to simulate potential groundwater-withdrawal impacts derives from the following: The City of Prescott has been granted permission by the Arizona Department of Water Resources to pump groundwater from a neighboring groundwater basin, the Big Chino subbasin, to supplement their supplies; in Arizona, special permission is required to transport groundwater between basins. The Big Chino is located above the headwaters of the Verde River and groundwater in the Big Chino is hydrologically connected to the river. Downstream users of Verde River water, including the towns and farms of the Verde Valley and metropolitan Phoenix, are concerned that groundwater withdrawals from Big Chino will eventually impact Verde flows and, accordingly, their water resources.

In order to elevate recognition of their concerns, Prescott contacted now retired Arizona Congressman John Shadegg and Congressman Paul Gosar, both who contacted USGS Director McNutt regarding this issue. The outcome of meetings between Congressman Shadegg and Director McNutt was a directive for AzWSC scientists to meet with Prescott technical staff to discuss the model and report.

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Contact: James M. Leenhouts, Acting Center Director, Arizona Water Science Center,
leenhout@usgs.gov, 520-670-6671 ext. 278

From:	Rae, Kerry L
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1849 C Street, NW
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(202) 208-5242 (f)

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Contact: James M. Leenhouts, Acting Center Director, Arizona Water Science Center,
leenhout@usgs.gov, 520-670-6671 ext. 278

From:	Scott, Janea
To:	Black, Steve
Subject:	Fw: Early Bird News Summary
Date:	Tuesday, March 09, 2010 8:44:57 AM
Attachments:	Early Bird 03-09-10.doc

Good morning Steve, Check out the solar energy article on page 26 and the green jobs opinion on page 53. Take care, Janea

---

From: Tsai, Brian
Sent: Tue Mar 09 06:47:16 2010
Subject: Early Bird News Summary

Brian Tsai
Office of Communications
202-208-5337

- EARLYBIRD EDITION -

Department of the Interior News Summary

Tuesday, March 09, 2010

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Secretary Salazar News

Budget Hearings

Outlook: Panels Take Up 'Cash For Caulkers'

National Journal
Amy Harder
03/08/10
http://energytopic.nationaljournal.com/2010/03/panels-take-up-cash.php

Two congressional committees are holding hearings this week on Home Star, the efficiency rebate program **President Obama** touted last week. Several budget hearings are on tap too, while renewable energy and environmental groups are holding events pushing for climate and energy legislation.

Here are the major hearings we know about so far:

• Tuesday: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Chairman **Jon Wellinghoff** testifies to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee at a hearing on financial transmission rights and other electricity market mechanisms. (10 a.m., 366 Dirksen Senate Office Building.)

• Tuesday: Interior Secretary **Ken Salazar** testifies to a Senate Appropriations subcommittee on his agency's FY2011 budget proposal. (9:30 a.m., 124 Dirksen.)

• Tuesday: Bureau of Land Management Director **Bob Abbey** testifies to a House Appropriations subcommittee on BLM's budget proposal. (2 p.m., B-308 Rayburn House Office Building.)

• Wednesday: A Senate Appropriations subcommittee holds a hearing on DOE's budget proposal for the National Nuclear Security Administration. NNSA Administrator **Thomas D'Agostino** will testify. (10:15 a.m., 116 Dirksen.)

• Wednesday: The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee holds a hearing on four bills related to energy efficiency standards. Witnesses include **Kathleen Hogan**, deputy assistant secretary of energy efficiency. (9:30 a.m., 366 Dirksen.)

• Wednesday: The Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee holds the Senate's first hearing *(subscription)* on reauthorizing a 2007 research and education bill that created the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) at DOE. (2:30 p.m., 253 Russell House Office Building.)

• Wednesday: A House Appropriations subcommittee holds a hearing on DOE's nuclear nonproliferation budget proposal. **Steven Black**, COO of the program, testifies. (2 p.m., 2362-B Rayburn House Office Building.)

• Wednesday: The House Science and Technology Committee holds a hearing on the budget proposals of the EPA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. NOAA Administrator **Jane Lubchenco** and Assistant EPA Administrator **Paul Anastas** will testify. (2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.)

• Thursday: The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee holds a hearing on legislation aimed at creating jobs related to energy efficiency, including Home Star. Assistant Energy Secretary **Catherine Zoi** will testify. (10 a.m., 366 Dirksen.)

• Thursday: Energy Secretary **Steven Chu** testifies on his department's budget proposal to a House Appropriations subcommittee. (10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.)

• Thursday: A House Appropriations subcommittee holds a hearing on the budget proposal for the Fish and Wildlife Service. Witnesses include the service's acting director, **Rowan Gould**, and **Thomas Strickland**, assistant Interior secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks. (9:30 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.)

• Friday: A House Energy and Commerce subcommittee holds a hearing on Home Star. No witnesses have been announced yet. (9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.)

Other events:

• Today: EPA Administrator **Lisa Jackson** speaks to a luncheon crowd at the National Press Club. (Noon.)

• Tuesday and Wednesday: The American Wind Energy Association holds a conference to urge passage of a Renewable Energy Standard. (The Sphinx Club, 1315 K Street, NW.)

• Tuesday: The Environmental and Energy Institute and WIRES hold a briefing on electric transmission. Former Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Chairman **James Hoecker** and other experts from utility companies are scheduled to speak. (2 p.m., 325 Russell House Office Building.)

• Wednesday: The Alliance to Save Energy holds a conference on energy efficiency. Scheduled speakers include Sen. **Byron Dorgan**, D-N.D., and Energy Undersecretary **Kristina Johnson**. (8 a.m., G-50 Dirksen.)

• Slate holds a discussion and reception on personal energy efficiency. **David Katz**, special assistant to Secretary Chu, is scheduled to speak. (5:30 p.m., House of Sweden.)

• Thursday: The Woodrow Wilson Center holds a discussion on the relationship between the United States and China as it pertains to climate policy. Experts from the World Resources Institute and the Institute for Sustainable Communities will speak. (Noon, Ronald Reagan Building, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW.)

• Friday: Obama's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology holds a meeting. The president's science czar, **John Holdren**, is among the officials scheduled to speak. (8:30 a.m., National Academy of Sciences Building, 2100 C St., NW. The public can watch the meeting via Webcast by registering at Whitehouse.gov.)

• Friday: The American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Meteorological Society and the American Statistical Association hold a briefing on the public perception and science behind climate policy. Experts from think tanks and academia are scheduled to speak. (902 Hart Senate Office Building.)

BLOG: Obama will meet with key senators on energy and climate

The Hill/Blog Briefing Room
Michael O'Brien
03/08/10
http://thehill.com/blogs/blog-briefing-room/news/85535-obama-will-meet-with-key-senators-on-energy-and-climate

President Barack Obama will meet with a bipartisan group of senators on Tuesday to discuss energy issues.

Obama will meet with Sens. John Kerry (D-Mass.), Joe Lieberman (I-Conn.), and Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) -- the group working to craft a bipartisan climate change bill -- along with 11 other senators and top administration officials tomorrow.

The meeting is set to bring together the chairmen and ranking members of top Senate committees on energy and climate issues, as well as a number of senators who have expressed reservations over the cap-and-trade legislation to address climate change that has stalled in the Senate.

The closed-door meeting will feature Energy Secretary Steven Chu, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, and Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, along with Sens. Max Baucus (D-Mont.), Jeff Bingaman (D-N.M.), Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.), Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.), Susan Collins (R-Maine), Judd Gregg (R-N.H.), George LeMieux (R-Fla.), Richard Lugar (R-Ind.), Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), and Jay Rockefeller (D-W.Va.).

National Monuments

Utah lawmakers say no to more monuments

Self-protection » Lawmakers, in a resolution, insist that local consent be obtained before such action is taken.

Salt Lake Tribune
Brandon Loomis
03/08/10
http://www.sltrib.com/portlet/article/html/fragments/print_article.jsp?articleId=14634373&siteId=297

The Utah Senate doesn't want the federal government to create any new national monuments in the state without local consent, senators said Tuesday.

In a nearly unanimous vote, with only Sen. Brent Goodfellow, D-West Valley City, dissenting, the Senate passed a resolution opposing federal creation of new monuments.

The vote comes weeks after lawmakers learned of a document in which the Interior Department discussed areas worthy of designation -- San Rafael Swell in south-central Utah and Cedar Mesa in San Juan County -- and after Interior Secretary Ken Salazar assured Utah officials nothing would happen without state consultation.

"Here in Utah, we certainly have an abundance of natural beauties that have been protected as national parks and also national monuments," said Sen. Kevin Van Tassell, R-Vernal, who sponsored SCR11.

National monuments, such as Grand Staircase-Escalante in southern Utah, inhibit energy development and other projects, he said.

The House took similar action Monday, voting 63-11 to pass HCR17.

Its sponsor, Kanab Republican Rep. Mike Noel, argued that two more national monuments in Utah would further restrict the state's use of natural resources on those lands and rob children of sorely needed education funding.

Minority Leader David Litvack said he opposed the resolution because of its fiery rhetoric.

"I take issue with language like 'the mere stroke of a presidential pen' or words like coronation," Litvack said, "that imply that our president thinks of himself as a king."

Leaked DOI documents stir local ire

Sublette Examiner (Pinedale, WY)
Derek Farr
03/08/10
http://www.subletteexaminer.com/v2_news_articles.php?heading=0&page=72&story_id=1398

In a leaked internal draft document last month, the Department of Interior (DOI) proposed areas that "may be good candidates for National Monument designation" under the American Antiquities Act (AAA) of 1906.

Wyoming lands were not on that list.

That's because the AAA was amended in 1950 following the creation of Grand Teton National Park. The amendment exempted Wyoming from the act's powers, which allow a president to set aside land for protection using an executive order – effectively bypassing the legislative process.

But the DOI document did include the Upper Green River Valley as part of a "land-rationalization" effort.

According to the document, land rationalization is a Bureau of Land Management (BLM) program that consolidates checker-boarded lands. In Sublette County, that amounts to 397,210 acres. A preliminary estimate puts the consolidation price tag at $2.4 billion – paying $6,000 per acre.

The notion of land rationalization does not please the Green River Valley Cattleman's Association (GRVCA). During its annual meeting last month, the association signed a resolution opposing the

proposal.

It projects the government will pressure landowners into selling their properties, saying, "Ranchers in the area will potentially be targeted by manipulation and regulation to the point individuals will give up and walk away."

It also says eliminating private ranches, which create wildlife habitat through irrigation of arid lands, will have adverse effects on greater sage-grouse, big game species and the pronghorn antelope's migration corridor.

And it says private property will constitute less than 6 percent of Sublette County after such a consolidation. Currently 19 percent of the county is

private.

The DOI document cites a bevy of agencies and groups – such as the state of Wyoming, Jonah Interagency Office, Green River Valley Land Trust and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation – who are "working cooperatively in the area … to provide big game migratory corridors and wildlife habitat improvement through easements and landscape level improvements projects."

"These cooperative efforts," the

document continues, "pay big dividends to the state, federal and private partners involved by increasing individual ownership and responsibly for projects."

It adds these partners decrease cost burdens to state and federal agencies.

The GRCVA isn't the only group opposed to the document, which proposes creating 11 new national monuments and three conservation designations – including Wyoming's Red Desert.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has called on Congress to limit the president's powers under the AAA and in a letter to President Obama's Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel, it elicited Wyoming's exemption saying, "By extending this requirement to all 50 states, we can readily ensure that the concerns of interested stakeholders will be heard."

The Congressional Western Caucus and the Senate Western Caucus also voiced their displeasure.

A representative to DOI Secretary Ken Salazar has told the Associated Press the document was the product of brainstorming and nothing more.

Sage Grouse

Group challenges sage grouse finding

Associated Press AP
Mead Gruver
03/08/10
Printed 243 times as of 6:00 a.m.
(Yahoo News!, Washington Post, San Jose Mercury News, etc)
http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_14635602?nclick_check=1

CHEYENNE, Wyo.—An environmental group is challenging plans by the Interior Department to classify sage grouse as merely a candidate for protection under the Endangered Species Act and not list the bird as threatened or endangered.

The department announced Friday that federal protection as an endangered or threatened species is warranted but precluded by higher priorities—species deemed in more dire need of protection right now.

Western Watersheds questioned that finding in a supplemental complaint filed Monday in U.S. District Court in Boise, Idaho.

"The sage grouse is, in our judgment, as qualified as any species on the candidate list for the protections of the act," Jon Marvel, director of Western Watersheds, said Monday. "Of course they should be acting on all of these species, and why aren't they?"

The new complaint calls the candidate species list "a black hole from which few species ever emerge, and under which they receive no ESA protection." The decision to put the sage grouse on the list was "arbitrary, capricious and contrary to law," the group claims.

An Interior spokeswoman declined to comment because the matter is being litigated.

Western Watersheds sued in 2006 over a previous decision not to list sage grouse. U.S. District Judge B. Lynn Winmill found that the earlier decision was politically motivated and told the department to re-evaluate, leading to Friday's announcement.

A supplemental complaint is filed to bring forth facts and claims that happen after an initial complaint in a case, said Laird Lucas, a Western Watersheds attorney.

The notion that sage grouse aren't a high priority for protection is implausible after the government spent considerable time and money studying whether they deserved protection, Lucas said

"They can't now claim they don't have the money to move forward. It does not make sense," Lucas said. "And that, to me, says really it is a political determination at the end."

Sage grouse are football-sized birds that live in the sagebrush in California, Colorado, the Dakotas, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming and western Canada.

Species placed on the candidate list are classified on a scale of one through 12, with lower-numbered species deemed in more dire need of protection. Sage grouse have been given a score of eight, two-thirds of the way down the list.

The candidate species finding was relatively good news for the wind and oil and gas industries, which rely on developing portions of the West's vast landscapes.

A species on the list can be raised as a concern ahead of development on public land, but the welfare of a candidate species doesn't have to be taken into consideration by law. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reviews the candidate species list annually.

Only a finding that federal protection for sage grouse is not warranted would have been better from industry's perspective.

About half of the birds are believed to live in Wyoming, where large areas of sage grouse habitat also are prime spots for natural gas development. In Nevada, the birds are challenged by invasive cheatgrass, which is prone to frequent wildfires that burn up native sagebrush.

Marvel group sues to put grouse on endangered list

IdahoStatesman (Boise, ID)
Rocky Barker
03/08/10
http://www.idahostatesman.com/2010/03/08/1110011/marvel-group-sues-to-put-grouse.html

Western Watersheds Project didn't wait long to challenge the Obama administration's sage grouse decision.

The group that has long urged listing of the grouse that lives in 11 states filed a suit in the Boise federal court of U.S. District Judge B. Lynn Winmill. It said the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Interior violated the Administrative Procedure Act and the Endangered Species Act by finding that the listing of the greater sage-grouse is "precluded".

"The Obama administration rightfully concluded that the greater sage-grouse fully qualify for the protections of the Endangered Species Act," said Jon Marvel, executive director of Western Watersheds Project. "Unfortunately, the administration has violated the law in not listing sage-grouse at the same time."

The federal agency said the bird was in no immediate threat of extinction and that conservation efforts of the states allowed it to focus on higher priorities. But the scientific analysis shows that current conservation efforts are failing to conserve sage-grouse, said Laird Lucas, executive director of Advocates For The West, the Boise-based legal firm representing Western Watersheds Project in the suit.

The decision Friday came in response to an earlier Winmill decision based on a Western Watersheds lawsuit.

BLOG: Sage Grouse Misses ESA Listing By A Feather

High Country News
Jonathan Thompson
03/08/10
http://www.newwest.net/topic/article/sage_grouse_misses_esa_listing_by_a_feather/C559/L559/

You might be all in a tizzy about whether Avatar or Hurt Locker won the big Oscar on Sunday. But a lot of folks in the Interior West—and enviro wonks from all over—were focused last week on a much bigger announcement: Will the greater sage grouse get federal protection under the Endangered Species Act or not?

The answer? No. At least not yet.

In a March 5 press conference, Interior Secretary Salazar said that the bird—whose numbers have declined by 90 percent over the past century—will not get federal protection. That's in spite of the fact that the feds believe the bird *needs* protection. Extensive scientific research over the past few years, said Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife Tom Strickland, has demonstrated that the grouse "does warrant protection. But we are proposing to not list, because of the need to address higher priority species."

In other words: The sage grouse needs protection, we just don't have time to deal with it right now. Instead, the grouse will hold the status of "candidate" species. Strickland said that will allow his agency to devote more resources to protection, but did not list specifics. Sage grouse hunting will be allowed to continue. And Salazar repeatedly said that this will allow both energy production—renewable and fossil fuels—to keep rushing along while also allowing the sage grouse to "thrive."

The decision leaves the bird's protection to state and voluntary efforts.

During the conference, official heaped oodles of praise on Wyoming's sage grouse protection plan. The plan designated sage grouse "core areas," zones in which a lot of grouse hang out, or breed, or have their leks. The core areas get extra protection—gas companies can only drill one well per section, for example, and wind farms are pretty much banned altogether. In exchange, energy development and other uses are encouraged and even incentivized in non-core areas.

State officials and many conservationists see this approach as a good one, maybe even better than ESA protection. It's a very targeted approach, focusing only on areas where the grouse remain active, whereas ESA restrictions would apply in all of the grouse's historic range, even in areas in which the grouse has already been wiped out beyond salvation. And, because industry was involved in the establishment of the core areas, it has buy-in. Federal regulations, to the contrary, tend to fuel anti-government sentiment, which might be redirected to the bird.

Critics of the core area approach, however, say that it goes too far in accommodating the oil and gas industry—the lines were clearly drawn to exclude drilling sweet-spots (and state officials are not shy about the plan's intent to keep severance tax revenues flowing into the state coffers). On the other hand, the wind industry *lost* a substantial portion of high grade Wyoming winds to the core areas, souring the turbine-boosters on the plan. Many of the core areas are also isolated from the others, raising fears that habitat connectivity and genetic diversity may be sacrificed.

Salazar said that in recent years sage grouse numbers had stabilized, and credited approaches like Wyomoing's for the success (Montana's plan is similar to Wyoming's, and every sage grouse state has

some sort of protection strategy). The core area approach was successful in another way, too: It's primary purpose was to avoid the listing of the sage grouse, which could have added significant restrictions to huge swaths of oil and gas country in Wyoming.

Officials emphasized that today's non-listing decision is not permanent, and merely provides "a window" during which other conservation efforts can be tested and analyzed. That possibility keeps up the pressure on those efforts to succeed.

Wild Horses

U.S. policy on wild horses challenged

UPI News
03/08/10
http://www.upi.com/Top_News/International/2010/03/08/US-policy-on-wild-horses-challenged/UPI-92801268093853/

PHOENIX, March 8 (UPI) -- A U.S. government policy of putting the wild mustangs of the West in corrals and pastures hundred of miles from their rangelands is under fire, officials said.

In Defense of Animals, a California-based non-profit group, has taken the government to court over the practice, and a federal court is expected to rule May 26, The Arizona Republic reported Monday.

Government officials say there are too many horses for the land to sustain, making the roundups -- the government prefers the term "gathers" -- necessary. The number of wild horses and burros has swelled from about 25,000 in 1971 to about 69,000, the newspaper reported.

The wild horses compete with elk, bighorn sheep and beef cattle for food and water and damage streams and wildlife habitat, government officials say.

Sen. Mary Landrieu, D-La., has challenged Interior Secretary Ken Salazar to find a better way to manage the horses.

"I would think that watching a herd of wild horses run free in the West is one of those things we don't ever want to shut out to our children," Landrieu said. "In my view, we're on the verge of a disaster policy if we don't work hard to change that."

Wild horses flock to small Wyo. town, but could be sent east

KUSA-TV NBC 9 Denver, CO
Dan Boniface and Kevin Torres
03/09/10
http://www.9news.com/news/article.aspx?storyid=134170&catid=339

GREEN RIVER, Wyo. - They're considered an American icon and a symbol of the West. But very soon, thousands of wild horses could be moving east.

The Bureau of Land Management says wild horse populations are growing so quickly, they can barely keep up with them.

In fact, in the tiny Wyoming city of Green River, there are so many wild horses - city officials say they're having a tough time keeping them away from homes, streets and the local cemetery.

City crew workers have spent the last couple of weeks putting up new fences around the Riverview Cemetery. It's butted up against White Mountain, where hundreds of wild horses live.

"Every time I come here, there are more fences," Kevin Holdsworth, who lives in Green River, said. "It's the first time we've seen any horses in the cemetery."

Aside from the fences, city workers also placed a cattle guard at the front entrance of the cemetery.

"The horses are afraid to cross over it. They don't want to get their hooves stuck," Allan Wilson, the city's park supervisor, said.

Lorraine Keith, with the Bureau of Land Management in nearby Rock Springs, Wyo., says there are about 5,000 wild horses between Wyoming and Colorado.

"That's a lot of horses," Keith joked.

Every year, the wild horse population grows larger.

"They can double their population every four years," Keith said.

With so many wild horses, it's tough for the federal government to keep track of them.

"If we don't keep removing the horses or find some other way to keep their numbers down, they can overpopulate the range," Keith said.

It is part of the reason why communities like Green River are seeing the horses come closer to town.

Since December, a rowdy herd racked up about $5,000 worth of damage inside the Riverview Cemetery.

"It's just their way of marking their territory," Wilson said.

The horses made a mess of the lawn and knocked down old headstones.

"They toppled it over by getting chased," Wilson added.

The BLM says it's never seen anything quite like it before, either.

"I haven't seen that in the 14 years I've been here," Keith said.

Lorraine Keith says it's more of a reason to continue rounding up a portion of the wild horse population every year. Last year, the BLM removed 1,000 horses from the range.

Most of the horses are brought to sanctuaries in the Dakotas and Nebraska, while others are used in certain prison programs in Colorado.

Keith says the Bureau is looking to move more horses to the East Coast, to expand its sanctuaries.

There is a lot of hesitation from Westerners about that proposal. They believe the wild horses should stay out West.

The Bureau of Land Management is looking to remove about 1,500 horses from Wyoming this fall. It's unclear where they will be moved to.

Grand Canyon

Scoping Report Released on Proposed Mining Claims Withdrawal Near Grand Canyon National Park

KSCG-TV MyNetworkTV St. George, UT
03/08/10
http://www.kcsg.com/news/local/86977467.html

(St. George, UT) - The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has released a Scoping Report for the proposed withdrawal of nearly 1 million acres of federal lands near the Grand Canyon from new uranium mining claims. The purpose of scoping is to provide an opportunity for members of the public to learn about the proposed action and to provide comments on issues and concerns.

A total of 83,525 submissions were received containing 8,600 distinct comments. The information gathered by the BLM through the scoping process will be used in developing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced on July 21, 2009, a decision to segregate nearly 1 million acres of federal lands in the Arizona Strip for two years while the Department evaluates whether to withdraw these lands from new mining claims for an additional 20 years. The lands under review are managed by the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service and are within portions of the Grand Canyon watershed. The acreage contains significant environmental and cultural resources as well as substantial uranium deposits.

Arizona Governor Jan Brewer called on Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar last fall to halt efforts to impose a 20 year withdrawal of nearly 1 million acres of federal lands in northern Arizona from hard rock mineral exploration and mining. The Governor's letter in November 2009 noted that federal and state laws heavily regulate mining in Arizona and the proposed restrictions are unnecessary and "will adversely impact the State of Arizona."

Federal Subsistence Program

OP-ED: Subsistence a state priority

Juneau Empire (AK)
Corey L. Rossi
http://www.juneauempire.com/stories/030810/opi_572371611.shtml

According to Alaska law, subsistence is the priority use of fish and game throughout most of the state.

Some Alaskans are born into a subsistence lifestyle. Others voluntarily select it. Alaska law provides a priority for all Alaska residents, but carefully crafted regulations and abundance-based management also provide for increased subsistence harvest opportunities.

In the McGrath area, Nelchina Basin and Alaska Peninsula, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game has worked diligently with the Board of Game to increase moose and caribou populations for Alaska subsistence uses. These successes have been encouraging. For example, from 2004 through 2008, the moose population in the McGrath area nearly doubled in size and is now on the verge of completely meeting local needs.

In the areas of the state where it is most important, state policies, regulations and programs are designed to help put more food on Alaskans' tables. Yet, rural subsistence users are often disappointed that the same policy is not in place on federally managed lands.

Last October, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar announced that the current federal subsistence program would be reviewed to see what the federal government must do to live up to their "obligations under the law." The subsistence review process was initiated to determine how the federal subsistence management program can better address the needs and expectations of Alaska's subsistence users.

On Dec. 3, representatives from the 10 Regional Advisory Councils traveled to Anchorage to weigh in on this important issue. Among other points, the RACs voiced an overwhelming plea to the federal government to provide subsistence users with better wildlife management by joining in the state's predator management programs. The RACs have repeated this request for over a decade. The request creates a quandary for some federal land managers who, in recent years, have been unwilling to manage predators on federal lands.

Many Alaskans don't realize that the state has the responsibility to manage wildlife on all lands, regardless of ownership. The courts have repeatedly recognized that the states' sovereignty includes their authority to manage wildlife, and is protected under the Tenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Unfortunately for subsistence users, federal agencies control 60 percent of the land, and in recent years, some federal managers have failed to support implementation of the State's intensive management programs on federal lands.

It is worth noting that this most recent appeal for better management of federal lands comes from rural Alaskans who have already been granted a federal "rural" harvest preference on those lands. Many rural users who are surrounded by federal lands are beginning to realize that a priority provides little benefit when resources are scarce. As one frustrated RAC representative recently stated, "Do we manage it to give rural residents a priority, or do we manage it to give them the scraps?"

Until a decision is made to manage important federal lands for more abundant wildlife harvests, many rural users will likely remain dissatisfied. While the "leave nature alone" approach might appease some, it rings hollow for those who are intimately connected to the land and its resources but are going hungry. With proper management and abundant resources, we can provide ample opportunities for a broad range of users.

Only time will tell what insights the federal subsistence review will produce. Perhaps more will come to realize that working cooperatively with the state to improve and enhance Alaska's wildlife resources is far more productive than a dual management system that simply shifts the allocation of an already insufficient yield and further divides Alaskans. I certainly hope so.

Corey L. Rossi is assistant commissioner Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Energy

Cape Wind

Salazar sets countdown to Cape Wind decision

Tribal nations decline $1m offer to abandon opposition

Indian Country Today
Gale Courey Toensing
03/09/10
http://www.indiancountrytoday.com/national/northeast/86598797.html

WASHINGTON – Interior Secretary Ken Salazar has ended the historic preservation consultation process on a controversial wind energy proposal off Cape Cod after the developer failed to convince the Aquinnah and Mashpee Wampanoag nations to abandon its opposition to the project, which would be built in an area they consider sacred.

The nations declined a $1 million incentive from Cape Wind to give up their opposition.

Salazar, who had set a March 1 deadline for the tribes to reach an agreement on the proposal, announced in a media release that he has notified the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation "that the parties to the consultations have not been able to reach agreement on mitigation actions for the proposed wind turbine farm in federal waters off Nantucket Sound."

Nantucket Sound is a sacred area to the Wampanoag nations – the People of the First Light. The wind energy plant would obscure their view of the rising sun in ceremony, and the Sound, which was once dry land, is where the ancestors lived and were buried, the nations say.

Massachusetts' Office of the State Historical Preservation Officer determined that the proposed Cape Wind site is a traditional cultural property and in early January, the National Park Service said Nantucket Sound is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a significant traditional, cultural, historic and archaeological property. A designation on the National Register would place Nantucket Sound under a number of federal laws providing protection and preservation of historical and sacred sites.

Cape Wind proposes to build a commercial wind power facility on Horseshoe Shoal in Nantucket Sound, which lies between Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. The plant would include 130 wind turbines rising some 440 feet above the ocean surface across a 25 square mile area in federal – public – waters in the Outer Continental Shelf.

The wind energy plant would generate a projected maximum electric output of 468 megawatts and serve communities in the Nantucket Sound area.

"The time has come to bring the reviews and analysis of the Cape Wind Project to a conclusion," Salazar said. "It is clear to me that the consulting parties are not able to bridge their divides and reach agreement on actions to minimize and mitigate the Cape Wind Project's effects on historic and cultural resources. I am asking the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for their comments and I will then make a final decision on the proposal. The parties, the public, and the permit applicants deserve resolution and certainty."

The notification begins the clock ticking on a 45-day public comment period that will put the proposal on

track for Salazar's targeted mid-April decision.

Mashpee Wampanoag Chairman Cedric Cromwell said his nation anticipates the rest of the review process.

"We look forward to the historic preservation review process mandated by Section 106 (of the National Historic Preservation Act). We are confident that the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation will agree with the National Park Service and Massachusetts Historic Preservation Officer that Nantucket Sound is worthy of protection as a place with great historical, cultural and spiritual importance to the Mashpee Wampanoag people."

In the week before the consultation period ended, Cape Wind offered the nations each $1 million – $50,000 a year for 20 years, according to Cape Cod Online.

Cape Wind spokesman Mark Rodgers told the online news site that a "financial mitigation" offer was made to the tribes but he would not confirm the amount of money.

"Cape Wind proceeded as constructively as possible with other parties in the spirit of working together and we'll find out on Monday (March 1) from the secretary's office what, if anything, they were able to arrange," Rodgers told the news site.

The offer was rejected by both nations.

"Nantucket Sound is a place of great cultural, historical and religious significance for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe. As such, we have raised concerns about the impact of Cape Wind for many years. A financial offer was made to our tribe and it was rejected. This issue has never been about money for us," Cromwell said.

Aquinnah Wampanoag Chairwoman Cheryl Andrews-Maltais expressed the same sentiment.

"For me personally, there is no amount of money that would justify selling out our people and our right to practice our traditions and ceremony; now and/or into the future."

From a purely business point of view, the offer was "very poor" and "a token," Andrews-Maltais said.

"Most folks I know wouldn't even consider taking a million dollar settlement over 20 years at $50,000 a year."

Bettina Washington, the Aquinnah Wampanoag's tribal historic preservation officer, said the tribe had no room for compromise with Cape Wind. The company had declined the nation's request to relocate the wind plant further out where it would not impact the view shed, but that suggestion was rebuffed.

"We don't have an alternative option, the Nantucket Shoal is a one-of-a-kind traditional cultural property; on the other hand, the proponent is choosing not to move the project when there are other viable locations for an industrial park wind farm."

Washington said the nation intends to participate in Advisory Council of Historic Preservation review.

In February, Jeff Madison, a former member of the Aquinnah's tribal council, wrote to Salazar, calling the claim that the wind energy installation would harm the tribe's cultural tradition a "fabrication" invented by opponents of the project. He included a petition signed by a few tribal members.

Madison is an attorney with the firm Wynn and Wynne that Cape Wind hired recently to advise the company on Indian affairs.

“It is truly unfortunate when a few of your own people decide to go outside their community, and challenge those who have cultural knowledge rather than go to the cultural representatives who have standing and who have been designated to speak to these issues,” Andrews-Maltais said.

Not all tribal members have the same level of traditional and cultural knowledge, she said.

“This is no different than any other culture or religion. There are some who are serious about it and committed to it and some that are not.”

Oil and Gas

OIL AND GAS: Unconventional plays fueling merger mania -- report

E & E News PM
Katie Howell
03/08/10
http://www.eenews.net/eenewspm/2010/03/08/7/

After a two-year slump, energy companies are once again spending big to expand reserves, score new technology and lay claim to promising oil and gas fields.

Sparked by rising interest in North American unconventional plays, like the oil sands in Canada and shale gas fields in the United States, energy companies in 2009 increased their spending in mergers and acquisitions for the first time in two years, according to a new report from IHS Herold.

And the trend is expected to continue in 2010.

Propelled by the two largest corporate takeovers since 2006 -- Exxon Mobil Corp.'s $41 billion acquisition of XTO Energy and Suncor Energy's $21 billion merger with Petro-Canada -- global merger and acquisition values increased 40 percent to $150 billion in 2009, according to the study.

Six of the 10 largest deals were driven by buyers' interest in building access to massive North American unconventional gas and oil sands reserves. And 65 percent of the 2009 transactions were North American, the report found.

"Despite current soft gas prices, the massive volumes of long-lived North American unconventional gas resources with minimal exploratory risk are extremely enticing for [international oil companies] that seek to replace declining production from mature, conventional basins," said Chris Sheehan, director of merger and acquisition research at IHS Herold, in a statement.

Exxon Mobil's acquisition of XTO has been seen by many analysts as a firm endorsement of the controversial technology used to tap vast new domestic natural gas plays. The deal would grant Exxon access to XTO's extensive North American gas reserves and expertise in using horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing.

"The scale of Exxon's investment is an indication that it believes the progress made so far is well-founded, and I think that's an important sign to the entire sector," said David Bloom, a regulatory attorney covering energy issues at Mayer Brown, in a recent interview. "It clearly makes available massive new amounts of money for the development of these plays, and we're quite likely to see other parties come into the industry and make financial contributions" (*Greenwire*, Dec. 15, 2009).

Deal-making outside of North America increased to an all-time high as companies looked to build oil reserves by acquiring small companies exploring in frontier regions and to access world-class discoveries in Africa and the Middle East, the report says.

"National oil companies spent record sums on oil-based deals outside of North America, including more than $15 billion by Chinese state-owned entities," Sheehan said. "Africa fueled international [merger and acquisition] deal growth last year as the region represented nearly 10 percent of global deal value and more than 25 percent of transaction value outside North America in 2009, both record highs."

And the merger trend is expected to continue in 2010, IHS Herold says. Relatively strong crude oil prices and continued thawing of credit markets should continue to boost global activity in 2010, the report says, as international buyers seek to secure supply and grow reserves.

Solar Energy

Solar Industry Learns Lessons in Spanish Sun

New York Times
Elisabeth Rosenthal
03/09/10
http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/09/business/energy-environment/09solar.html?sq=Solar%20Industry&st=nyt&scp=3&pagewanted=print

PUERTOLLANO, Spain — Two years ago, this gritty mining city hosted a brief 21st-century gold rush. Long famous for coal, Puertollano discovered another energy source it had overlooked: the relentless, scorching sun.

Armed with generous incentives from the Spanish government to jump-start a national solar energy industry, the city set out to replace its failing coal economy by attracting solar companies, with a campaign slogan: "The Sun Moves Us."

Soon, Puertollano, home to the Museum of the Mining Industry, had two enormous solar power plants, factories making solar panels and silicon wafers, and clean energy research institutes. Half the solar power installed globally in 2008 was installed in Spain.

Farmers sold land for solar plants. Boutiques opened. And people from all over the world, seeing business opportunities, moved to the city, which had suffered from 20 percent unemployment and a population exodus.

But as low-quality, poorly designed solar plants sprang up on Spain's plateaus, Spanish officials came to realize that they would have to subsidize many of them indefinitely, and that the industry they had created might never produce efficient green energy on its own.

In September the government abruptly changed course, cutting payments and capping solar construction. Puertollano's brief boom turned bust. Factories and stores shut, thousands of workers lost jobs, foreign companies and banks abandoned contracts that had already been negotiated.

"We lost the opportunity to be at the vanguard of renewables — we were not only generating electricity, but also a strong economy," said Joaquín Carlos Hermoso Murillo, Puertollano's mayor since 2004. "Why are they limiting solar power, when the sun is unlimited?"

Puertollano's wrenching fall points to the delicate policy calculations needed to stimulate nascent solar industries and create green jobs, and might serve as a cautionary tale for the United States, where a similar exercise is now under way.

For now, electricity generation from the sun's rays needs to be subsidized because it requires the purchase of new equipment and investment in evolving technologies. But costs are rapidly dropping. And regulators are still learning how to structure stimulus payments so that they yield a stable green industry that supports itself, rather than just costly energy and an economic flash in the pan like Spain's.

"The industry as a whole learned a lot from what happened in Spain," said Cassidy DeLine, who analyzes the European solar market for Emerging Energy Research, a firm based in Cambridge, Mass. She noted that other countries had since set subsidies lower and issued stricter standards for solar plants.

Yet, despite the pain that Spain's incentives ended up causing, in many ways they fulfilled their promise, Ms. DeLine said.

"Even though incentives can create bubbles and bursts, without them this industry won't take off," she said. "The U.S. is really behind Europe on this, and if we wait until solar is cost-competitive on its own, we may miss the boat and an opportunity to shape the market."

The most robust Spanish solar companies survived the downturn, have restructured and are re-emerging as global players.

For example, when the government changed course, Siliken Renewable Energy, originally a producer of solar panels, shut its factories for five months and cut its staff to 600 from 1,200. But after shifting its focus to external markets like Italy, France and the United States, and diversifying into solar support services, the company now turns a profit.

"We were a company that banks trusted, so we could make the shift," said Antonio Navarro, a company spokesman. "But a lot of little companies disappeared."

The period was particularly difficult because it coincided with the global economic crisis, he said.

To encourage development of solar power and reduce dependence on fossil fuels, Europe has generally relied on so-called feed-in tariffs, through which governments pay a hefty premium for electricity from renewable resources. Regulators in the United States have favored less direct incentives like requiring municipalities to buy a percentage of their electricity from companies making renewable energy, although a few cities and states, most notably Vermont, are experimenting with the feed-in concept.

When it was announced in the summer of 2007, Spain's premium payment for solar power was the most generous anywhere — 58 cents per kilowatt-hour — with few strings attached.

In retrospect it was far too high. "Everyone from all over the world was installing in Spain as fast as they could, and every biologist who could add was working in solar," said Pedro Banda, director general of the Institute of Concentration Photovoltaic Systems, one of the research institutes in Puertollano.

Even inefficient, poorly designed plants could make a profit, and speculation in solar building permits was common.

Although Spain's long-term goal had been to produce 400 megawatts of electricity from solar panels by 2010, it reached that milestone by the end of 2007.

In 2008 the nation connected 2.5 gigawatts of solar power into its grid, more than quintupling its previous capacity and making it second to Germany, the world leader. But many of the hastily opened plants offered no hope of being cost-competitive with conventional power, being poorly designed or located where sunshine was inadequate, for example.

Designs for solar power plants vary. The most common type uses photovoltaic panels to generate electricity. Others, called thermal solar plants, use mirrors to focus the sun's energy on a liquid that, when heated, drives a steam turbine.

In its haste to create a solar industry, Spain made some miscalculations: solar plants can be set up so quickly and easily that the rush into the industry was much faster than anticipated. And the lavish

subsidies inflated Spanish solar installation costs at a time when they were rapidly decreasing elsewhere — in part because of increasing competition from panel makers in China, but also because higher volumes produced economies of scale.

In Spain, the tariff, now adjusted quarterly, is about 39 cents per kilowatt-hour for electricity from freestanding solar power plants, and slightly higher for panels on rooftops.

Germany's tariff, 53 cents per kilowatt-hour, is expected to fall at least 15 percent this summer, and there are proposals before Parliament to eliminate subsidies for solar plants on farmland.

The bonus payments required to make solar energy financially viable vary, depending on local sunshine and the cost of conventional energy. Experts predict that, possibly by next year, Italy will be the first place where solar-generated electricity will not need subsidies to compete with electricity from fossil fuel. Italy has abundant sun and sky-high energy rates, given that it imports most of its fossil fuel.

Even with the reduced incentives and local economic downturn, the solar industry gave Puertollano something of a face-lift and, potentially, a new economic future. Research institutes there are developing cutting-edge technologies. Unemployment, though now up around 10 percent, has not returned to the 20 percent figure. The city is home to a number of solar businesses: a new 50-megawatt thermal-solar plant owned by the Spanish energy giant Iberdrola created hundreds of jobs.

Although coal mines still dot the landscape and a petrochemical factory remains one of Puertollano's largest employers, that new solar plant sits just next door, with more than 100,000 parabolic mirrors in neat rows on about 400 acres of former farmland. Clean and white as a hospital ward, it silently turns sunshine into Spanish electricity.

Native American Artifacts

Suicide Raises Legal Issues in Indian Artifacts Cases

New York Times
Kirk Johnson
03/09/10
http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/09/us/09artifacts.html?sq=Indian%20Artifacts&st=nyt&scp=1&pagewanted=print

SALT LAKE CITY — Every person's life is a mix of the things revealed and unrevealed, secrets spilled or kept. Ted Gardiner, who committed suicide last week, was no exception.

"He had a lot of demons," said his son Dustin, 23.

As an undercover federal source in a years-long investigation into the shadowy world of the excavation and trading of ancient American Indian art and artifacts in the Southwest, Mr. Gardiner, 52, was at the center of a sprawling criminal case unfolding in federal court here and in Colorado. On Monday, federal prosecutors said at a hearing that the cases would go on.

Twenty-four people were indicted last June on felony charges of stealing or plundering history on public or Indian tribal lands — largely based on secretly recorded conversations with Mr. Gardiner — and felony charges against 21 are still proceeding.

Mr. Gardiner's suicide was the third in the case. Two of the 24 defendants killed themselves last year, and one pleaded guilty.

A former executive of a grocery store chain, Mr. Gardiner was known to struggle at times with the abuse of alcohol and pain medications, according to court documents and his son. Those struggles intensified after the earlier suicides and as the first of the trials approached.

Last week, Mr. Gardiner shot himself in the bedroom of his home in a Salt Lake suburb in the midst of a standoff with local police officers who had been summoned for the second time in three days because of concerns about his state of mind and talk of suicide.

His departure left not only a grieving family but also a ghostly legal presence and a host of questions in the artifact cases.

The death of the government's "confidential source," as Mr. Gardiner was always identified in court documents (he later gave interviews with reporters in Utah, using his name openly and talking about his role) will change how the evidence is presented, prosecutors said, and how the tapes of his conversations with defendants will be introduced. But the tapes themselves, they said, can still be played to juries.

"We believe the cases can proceed," said Carlie Christensen, the acting United States attorney for Utah.

Some other prosecutors and defense lawyers were not as certain. After Mr. Gardiner's death, one of the first trials, scheduled to begin this month in Federal District Court in Denver, was postponed at the request of prosecutors.

“This gives us time to consider what options we have as we review our case in toto,” said Jeff Dorschner, a spokesman for the United States Attorney’s Office there.

Several defense lawyers at Monday’s hearing said they planned to file motions challenging the government’s use of Mr. Gardiner’s work — either because the defendants will lack an ability to confront a witness against them, a violation of the Sixth Amendment, or concerns over the possible violation of rules about hearsay evidence, when one witness quotes another.

“No one knows the answers,” Walter F. Bugden Jr., a lawyer in Salt Lake who represents one defendant, Vern Crites, said in an interview. “Everyone is going to have to step back and try to assess what legal impact this will have on the admissibility of evidence.”

Several criminal law experts said that because Mr. Gardiner did not act alone — he often talked in interviews and to his family about how federal agents hid in the brush surrounding a dig for artifacts or helped him prepare the recording equipment he wore —prosecutors should have other witnesses who could lay a legal foundation for the tapes.

“If they have an audiotape and somebody is to able to say, ‘I recognize the voices, the undercover agent and defendant’s voice,’ or someone who helped set up the tape, or authenticate the tape, it should be admissible,” said Sherry F. Colb, a law professor at Cornell who teaches evidence and criminal procedure.

The real question, Professor Colb and others said, is how much prosecutors had intended to rely on Mr. Gardiner as a physical presence in the courtroom to help construct the government’s narrative of the case.

Dustin Gardiner said his father, who came of age in the 1970s in Utah and fell in love with the history and landscape of the desert badlands in the Four Corners area, where Utah, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico meet, never expressed doubts about his role in the investigation.

He told his family, Dustin Gardiner said, about the callous carelessness he had seen toward the land and the Indian sites.

“He often talked about a moment where one of the diggers dug up a human skull and just kind of tossed it aside,” Mr. Gardiner said. “He saw a lot of things that disgusted him.”

But the suicides of the defendants, including that of a prominent doctor in Blanding, Utah, James Redd, came as a surprise, Mr. Gardiner said. He said his father, who at that time had been sober for about two years, started drinking again.

“He always knew he was doing the right thing, but the fact that two other people killed themselves because of it weighed on him deeply,” Mr. Gardiner said. “He felt guilty.”

“The stress of the cases, the investigation, it seemed to be extremely intense,” he added, “and as time went on and the trials got closer, it all seemed to be having a pretty big impact on him.”

Ted Gardiner’s ashes were scattered in southern Utah this week, his son said, along a stretch of river in a grove of blue spruce where he loved to camp.

On Monday, Magistrate Judge Samuel Alba said defense challenges about the evidence would be considered as they came in. Judge Alba set trial dates beginning in May for many defendants.

Artifact cases proceed despite source's death

Probe » Attorneys say it won't break new legal ground to proceed.

Salt Lake Tribune
Patty Henetz
03/08/10
http://www.sltrib.com/portlet/article/html/fragments/print_article.jsp?articleId=14634402&siteId=297

Despite the death of a key witness, a federal judge Monday set trial dates for eight defendants accused of multiple felonies in the 2 1/2-year artifacts-trafficking probe that spanned public and tribal lands in the Four Corners region.

U.S. District Magistrate Judge Samuel Alba denied a defense attorney's motion for more information about the undercover operative known as "the Source" after Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard McKelvie said prosecutors never took testimony from the Source under oath, so there wouldn't have been grounds for cross-examination.

Authorities would not name the operative during or after the hearing, but the Source was Ted Gardiner, 52, a Salt Lake County resident who volunteered in 2006 to go undercover for the FBI. Gardiner died a week ago from a gunshot police say was self-inflicted. The shooting remains under investigation.

Gardiner used a hidden audiovisual recorder to document transactions in which he bought and sold artifacts that court papers say were obtained illegally from public and tribal lands. Court documents also say transactions were observed by other law-enforcement investigators.

While the operative's death means prosecutors will change the manner in which they present evidence during trials, McKelvie said, "it ought to be obvious to anyone" the taped evidence would remain at the center of the cases.

"The Source is no longer available," McKelvie said after the hearing. "We still have to lay foundation for [the evidence's] authenticity and reliability."

But that wouldn't break new legal ground, he said.

Acting U.S. Attorney for Utah Carlie Christensen said she anticipated more motions to suppress the recorded evidence.

U.S. District Judge Ted Stewart last week ordered a March 25 hearing on Blanding defendant Brandon Laws' motion to toss the taped evidence.

Indicted on two felony counts for alleged theft of tribal property and violation of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act, Laws claims the confidential source broke Utah law by conducting surveillance without his knowledge at the home of Blanding resident Joseph M. Smith in 2008.

Federal authorities responded that such surveillance, under Utah and federal law, is legal as long as one person is aware of the recording, and that the suspect had been caught in the act of committing a crime.

Authorities have given defense attorneys the tapes, the terms-of-service contract the FBI signed with Gardiner, a nondisclosure agreement and Gardiner's background check. His criminal record consists of a 2005 arrest for driving under the influence that was reduced to reckless driving.

If there were more evidence, defense attorney Scott Williamson said, he and other attorneys want to see it.

"Obviously now we can't cross-examine" Gardiner, he said.

Two of the suspects -- Blanding physician James Redd and Santa Fe, N.M., resident Steven Shrader -- committed suicide within a week of their arrests. Two others -- Redd's wife, Jeanne Redd, and daughter Jericca Redd -- reached plea deals that resulted in probation sentences and the forfeiture of more than 800 relics.

Another Blanding resident, Charles Denton Armstrong, was sentenced to prison for threatening to beat up Gardiner.

Alba scheduled six Utah trials for eight defendants to begin May 3, with the last of the six scheduled for a June 7 start. Alba also ordered defense attorneys to file further motions by April 2 so he can schedule the rest of the trials.

A trial for a Colorado suspect is scheduled for July 6 in Denver.

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Hearing looms on tapes

Blanding defendant Brandon Laws is challenging the audiovisual evidence compiled by undercover operative Ted Gardiner in the artifact case. U.S. District Judge Ted Stewart will consider the issue March 25 in Salt Lake City.

Trust Land

Schumer: Let Congress settle land into trust

Observer Dispatch (Utica, NY)
03/09/10
http://www.uticaod.com/news/x1224401781/Schumer-Let-Congress-settle-land-into-trust

It should be Congress, not the Obama administration, that takes the lead in responding to a 2009 Supreme Court ruling governing trust land for Indian tribes, U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., said Monday.

Schumer has sent a letter to U.S. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, urging him to hold off on administrative action that would change current law governing land-into-trust issues related to a Supreme Court decision involving the Narragansett tribe in Rhode Island.

In that ruling, the court determined that the Interior Department could not take into trust land belonging to tribes that were not under federal jurisdiction in 1934.

The Obama administration has considered issuing rules to circumvent that ruling, Schumer said. The senator, however, argued that Congress bears the responsibility for acting.

“This is an issue that has important impacts and must be handled with careful deliberation and adequate input from all parties involved; and Congress, not the federal bureaucracy, is the appropriate place for that to happen,” Schumer said.

Legislation currently is pending before Congress to address the court ruling.

“Given that the issues surrounding the land-trust process are challenging, and affect different parts of the country differently, Congress is the best place to mete out these issues,” Schumer’s office said.

Last year, an attorney for Oneida and Madison counties said the Rhode Island ruling would hinder the Oneida Indian Nation’s efforts to put its land into federal trust. The counties do not believe the Oneidas were a federally recognized tribe in 1934.

The Oneidas, however, disagree, pointing to a 2005 Supreme Court ruling that they say paved the way for them to seek trust status for their land.

Earthquakes

Survivors shiver in Turkey after quake kills 51

Associated Press AP
Burhan Ozbilici and Suzan Fraser
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OKCULAR, Turkey (AP) -- Hundreds of earthquake survivors huddled in aid tents and around bonfires Monday in eastern Turkey, seeking relief from the winter cold after a strong temblor knocked down stone and mud-brick houses in five villages, killing 51 people.

The damage appeared worst in the Kurdish village of Okcular, which was almost razed. At least 15 of the village's 900 residents were killed, the Elazig governor's office said, and the air was thick with dust from crumpled homes and barns.

The pre-dawn earthquake caught many residents as they slept, shaking the area's poorly made buildings into piles of rubble. Panicked survivors fled into the narrow streets of this village perched on a hill in front of snow-covered mountains, with some people climbing out of windows to escape.

"I tried to get out of the door but it wouldn't open. I came out of the window and started helping my neighbors," Ali Riza Ferhat of Okcular told NTV television. "We removed six bodies."

The Kandilli seismology center said the 6.0-magnitude quake hit at 4:32 a.m. (0232 GMT, 9 p.m. EST Sunday) near the village of Basyurt in a remote, sparsely populated area of Elazig province. The region is 340 miles (550 kilometers) east of Ankara, the capital.

The U.S. Geological Survey listed the quake at 5.9 magnitude.

Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Kandilli Observatory's director, Mustafa Erdik, urged residents not to enter any damaged homes, warning they could topple from aftershocks that Erdik said could last for days.

More than 100 aftershocks measuring up to 5.5 magnitude shook the region on Monday alone.

In addition to the deaths, 34 people were being treated for injuries, Turkey's crisis center said.

Abdulkerim Sekerdag, 72, said he had just risen for early morning prayers when the quake hit.

"The jolt threw me onto the ground," he told The Associated Press. "When I got up I checked my animals and then I checked on my neighbors."

"Two of them were buried. We pulled them out," he said, adding that they were alive but injured.

Men used shovels and bare hands to dig two bodies out from under piles of dirt, rubble and concrete blocks, video footage showed. Both bodies were covered in blankets and carried away. One appeared to be a baby or young child.

Women in veils gathered near the rescue scenes, some crying.

"Everything has been knocked down, there is not a stone in place," said Yadin Apaydin, administrator for the village of Yukari Kanatli, where three died.

Fifteen people were killed in the nearby village of Yukari Demirci, Gov. Muammer Erol said, while four each were killed in the villages of Kayalik and Gocmezler and 10 others died after being taken to a hospital in the town of Kovancilar.

Most of the dead were immediately buried according to Muslim traditions. A few funerals had to be put off until Tuesday.

The temblor also knocked down barns, killing many farm animals. A half-dozen dead cows were seen partially buried near one collapsed home. One man, Haci Sekerdag, said he lost eight cows and calves - his main livelihood.

The Turkish Red Crescent set up tents and villagers laid plastic sheeting to shelter them from the cold and dirt. The government said it rushed ambulance helicopters, prefabricated homes and mobile kitchens into the stricken area.

Erdogan blamed the region's mud-brick buildings for the many deaths and said the government housing agency would build quake-proof homes in the area.

The quake was also felt in the neighboring provinces of Tunceli, Bingol and Diyarbakir, where residents fled to the streets in panic and stayed outdoors. Schools were closed for two days. In Tunceli province, the quake caused one school's walls to crack, the state-run Anatolia news agency reported.

A museum in Elazig displaying artifacts from the Iron-age Kingdom of Urartu was not affected by the quake, and nearby dams were also intact.

Earthquakes are frequent in Turkey, much of which lies on top of two main fault lines. In 1999, two powerful earthquakes struck the country's northwest, killing about 18,000 people. In 2003, a 6.4-magnitude earthquake killed 177 people in Bingol, including 84 children whose school dormitory collapsed.

Monday's quake in eastern Turkey followed deadly recent temblors in Haiti and Chile, but Bernard Doft, the seismologist for the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute in Utrecht, said there was no direct connection between the three.

"These events are too far apart to be of direct influence to each other," he said.

Richard Luckett, a seismologist from the British Geological Survey, said there has not been a spike in global seismic activity.

"If there was a big increase in the number of magnitude 6.0s in the past decade we would know it, because we would see it in the statistics," Luckett said. "We haven't seen an increase in 7.0s either."

He said scientists often see strong earthquakes but they don't get reported because the damage or death toll is minimal. According to USGS data, the world is hit by about 134 earthquakes a year in the 6.0- to 6.9-magnitude range - or about two a week.

"The point is that earthquakes are common and always have been," he said.

Not more quakes, just more people in quake zones

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Seth Borenstein
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First the ground shook in Haiti, then Chile and now Turkey. The earthquakes keep coming hard and fast this year, causing people to wonder if something sinister is happening underfoot.

It's not.

While it may seem as if there are more earthquakes occurring, there really aren't. The problem is what's happening above ground, not underground, experts say.

More people are moving into megacities that happen to be built on fault lines, and they're rapidly putting up substandard buildings that can't withstand earthquakes, scientists say.

And around-the-clock news coverage and better seismic monitoring make it seem as if earthquakes are ever-present.

"I can definitely tell you that the world is not coming to an end," said Bob Holdsworth, an expert in tectonics at Durham University in northern England, referring to the number of quakes.

A 7.0 magnitude quake last month killed more than 230,000 people in Haiti. Less than two weeks ago, an 8.8 magnitude quake - the fifth-strongest since 1900 - killed more than 900 people in Chile. And on Monday, a strong pre-dawn 6.0 magnitude quake struck rural eastern Turkey, killing at least 51 people.

On average, there are 134 earthquakes a year that have a magnitude between a 6.0 and 6.9, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. This year is off to a fast start with 40 so far - more than in most years for that time period.

But that's because the 8.8 quake in Chile generated a large number of strong aftershocks, and so many occurring this early in the year skews the picture, said Paul Earle, a seismologist at the U.S. Geological Survey.

Also, it's not the number of quakes, but their devastating impacts that gain attention with the death tolls largely due to construction standards and crowding, Earle said.

"The standard mantra is earthquakes don't kill people, buildings do," he said.

There have been more deaths over the past decade from earthquakes, said University of Colorado geologist Roger Bilham, who just returned from Haiti. In an opinion column last month in the journal Nature, Bilham called for better construction standards in the world's megacities. Last year his study of earthquake deaths, population, quake size and other factors produced disturbing results. And that was before Haiti, Chile and Turkey.

"We found four times as many deaths in the last 10 years than in the previous 10 years," Bilham told The Associated Press Monday. "That's definitely up and scary."

Other experts said they too have noticed a general increase in earthquake deaths. The World Health Organization tallied than 453,000 deaths from earthquakes from 2000 to 2009, up markedly from the previous two decades. In the 1970s, however, a massive quake in China killed about 440,000 people.

But those numbers fluctuate every year. Statisticians say the hit-or-miss nature of earthquake fatalities makes it hard to see a trend in deaths.

A quick analysis by two statistics experts found no statistically significant upward trend since the 1970s because of the variability - despite the earthquake experts' perceptions that deaths have been rising, at least since the 1980s.

The Haiti quake likely set a modern record for deaths per magnitude of earthquake "solely as a function of too many people crammed into a city that wasn't meant to have that many people and have an earthquake," said University of Miami geologist Tim Dixon.

Disaster experts say they've seen more deaths especially from quakes that wouldn't have been as bad decades ago. They point to two in Turkey and India - a 1999 earthquake in Izmit that killed 18,000 and the 2001 disaster that killed 20,000 in Bhuj.

"Look at some of the big ones recently," said Debarati Guha-Sapir, director of the WHO's disaster epidemiology research center. "Had the Izmit or Bhuj quakes happened 30 years ago, the events would have been relatively insignificant as the population of these cities were a third of what it was when it did happen. Increasing population density makes a small event into a big one."

Disaster and earthquake experts say the problem will only worsen. Of the 130 cities worldwide with more than 1 million population, more than half are on fault lines, making them more prone to earthquakes, Bilham said.

"I've calculated more than 400 million people at risk just from those," he said.

Developing nations, where the population is booming, also don't pay attention to earthquake preparedness, Bilham said. "If you have a problem feeding yourself, you're not really going to worry about earthquakes."

He said he when he went to Haiti after the January quake, he had hope that construction would be quake-proof because of the emphasis on it. Instead, people rebuilt their houses their old unsafe ways.

Another reason quakes seems worse is that we're paying attention more. The phenomenon of Haiti quickly followed by the 8.8 in Chile got everyone's attention.

But it won't last, said disaster researcher Dennis Mileti, a former seismic safety commissioner for the state of California.

"People are paying attention to the violent planet we've always lived in," Mileti said. "Come back in another six months if there has been no earthquakes, most people will have forgotten it again."

Climate Change

Greenpeace activists arrested in Senate building

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http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iAwYuaVwL5v1T-Sdpkc9yl7VPg7AD9EALS600

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Three Greenpeace activists were arrested Monday after their balloon-powered banner criticizing Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, was released in the Senate Hart Office Building.

Sgt. Kimberly Schneider, a Capitol Police spokeswoman, said they would be charged with unlawful conduct, demonstrating in a Capitol building.

The banner that rose to the ceiling of the building's 90-foot atrium said "Lisa Murkowski, Happily matched since 2004" and had the logos of three companies: Exxon, Chevron and Southern Co.

Greenpeace spokesman Joe Smyth said Greenpeace was protesting ties between Murkowski and polluters.

Murkowski spokesman Michael Brumas said, "This is another desperate attempt by an outside group to distract from the merits of the debate. Sen. Murkowski has legitimate concerns about the economic consequences of EPA regulating greenhouse gases and believes the American people deserve a full debate on the issue. It's unfortunate that some extreme groups have to resort to breaking the law to try to quash that debate."

Smyth identified the three who were arrested as Rachel Humphreys and Alec Rothman of Washington, D.C., and Samantha Corbin of New York City.

CLIMATE: Greenpeace stunt targets Murkowski on EPA regs

E & E News PM
Anne C. Mulkern
03/08/10
http://www.eenews.net/eenewspm/print/2010/03/08/5

Greenpeace continued its campaign today against Sen. Lisa Murkowski and her effort to handcuff EPA on greenhouse gas regulation, hanging a banner in the Hart Senate office building featuring the Alaska Republican's picture beneath hearts bearing the names of oil companies and the words "happily matched since 2004."

The banner used the theme Greenpeace employed in a Web site called PolluterHarmony, a tongue-in-cheek page that proclaims itself "the #1 matchmaking site for polluters, industry lobbyists, & politicians!" It features the logos of Chevron Corp., Southern Co. and Exxon Mobil Corp., a picture of Murkowski and a video with a man who says he is a corporate lobbyist and is matched with "Lisa," who "likes to stay up late at night and gut clean energy bills."

"This is another desperate attempt to distract from the merits of the debate. Senator Murkowski believes the American people deserve a full debate on EPA regulating greenhouse gases," Murkowski spokesman Robert Dillon said. "It's unfortunate that some extreme groups are willing to break the law to try to quash that debate."

Dillon previously has said that the PolluterHarmony site is a "personal attack" and "smear campaign" that is "highly offensive and clearly crosses the line."

Greenpeace activists hung the banner with hearts naming Chevron, Exxon Mobil and Southern Co. at the entrance to Hart Senate Office Building. It stayed up for about an hour, Greenpeace spokesman Joe Smyth said. Capitol police arrested Greenpeace activists Rachel Humphreys, Alec Rothman and Samantha Corbin, Smyth said.

Greenpeace said it wants to attract attention to Murkowski's efforts to handcuff EPA's ability to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act. Murkowski plans to circumvent the committee process and offer a resolution on the Senate floor that effectively would veto EPA's finding that greenhouse gases endanger human health and welfare. Released last December, EPA's determination opens the door for rules aimed at slashing emissions from a broad range of sources. Murkowski said she is concerned about the economic effect the EPA action would have.

The group also said it is targeting Murkowski's comment last week that a climate and energy bill needed to include opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling (*E&ENews PM*, March 4).

"While Alaska's arctic environment is especially vulnerable to the impacts of global warming," Greenpeace said in a statement, "drilling in ANWR would further threaten Arctic wildlife with new roads, pipelines, and the risk of oil spills."

"Senator Murkowski's recent outrageous demand that her vote for global warming legislation can be bought by permitting oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is just the latest example of her dedication to polluter lobbyists' interests over the public interest or the environment," said Kert Davies, Greenpeace research director. "Ideas like promoting reckless oil drilling and trashing the Clean Air Act might entice dirty energy interests to write campaign checks, but they have no place in sane national energy policy."

The PolluterHarmony ad targets what Greenpeace sees as the corrupting influence of lobbyists on the legislative process. News reports earlier this year revealed that Jeff Holmstead, an industry lawyer who served in the George W. Bush administration, advised Murkowski's office on a failed amendment last year to block EPA regulations. Environmentalists have pointed to Holmstead's involvement as a signal that Murkowski is working on behalf of industry interests. Murkowski has said her staff consulted with a variety of outside experts, including environmentalists and Republican and Democratic lawmakers, when drafting that amendment.

Murkowski spokesman Dillon said that the Greenpeace account of ANWR is incorrect. The senator wants ANWR drilling to be "on the table" in an energy bill, but would not vote for or against it based on that. Moreover, he said, Murkowski offered information on ANWR after Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) asked Murkowski's office for language that could go into an energy production section of legislation. Murkowski's office included ANWR at Graham's request, Dillon said.

Edgar Wayburn

Conservationist Edgar Wayburn dies at 103

Associated Press AP
03/08/10
Printed 231 times as of 6:00 a.m.
(MyMotherLode.com, CBS 2, OneNewsNow, etc)
http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jGNnH5K53A7EnSY6MQrWqkXv526QD9EAM1600

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) -- Dr. Edgar Wayburn, a five-term Sierra Club president who received the Presidential Medal of Freedom for working to preserve vast tracts of U.S. wilderness, has died. He was 103.

Wayburn died Friday at his home in San Francisco, surrounded by family, the Sierra Club said.

Wayburn, a physician who conducted his conservation work under the radar and largely in his spare time, spearheaded successful efforts to greatly expand national parks.

"He was the 20th century John Muir," Bruce Hamilton, the Sierra Club's deputy executive director, said in a statement. "He enlisted the help of presidents, cabinet members, powerful members of Congress, mayors and millions of Americans and would not take no for an answer."

Working with his wife Peggy, who died in 2002, Wayburn helped win passage of the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, which created millions of acres of national parkland, almost doubling the system's land.

The Wayburns' work resulted in the creation and expansion of vast national parks in Alaska.

In the 1950s and '60s, Wayburn led the movement to create the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in and around San Francisco, a linked system of beaches, coastal woods and Alcatraz island.

Wayburn also helped in the 1962 creation of the Point Reyes National Seashore and the preservation of the Marin Headlands, the green rolling hills just north of Golden Gate Bridge.

Frank Dean, acting superintendent of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, worked with Wayburn in his early days with the park service. Dean was impressed the doctor continued working hard on local parks issues even after having achieved so much nationally.

"He was a very successful physician, he didn't have to jump in and do anything. But he decided to volunteer his time and make a difference, it's a testament to what one person can do if they put their mind to it," Dean said.

Wayburn said in a San Francisco Chronicle interview in 2005 that he first viewed those open spaces north of San Francisco in the 1940s and was inspired to protect them.

"It seemed incredible to me that there were no cities or suburbs built on those Marin hills, so close to San Francisco," Wayburn told the paper. "I wondered how long that miracle would last."

President Bill Clinton awarded Wayburn the Medal of Freedom in 1999, the country's highest civilian award, saying he had "saved more of our wilderness than any person alive."

In his later years, Wayburn fought what he believed to be the "over commercialization" of Yosemite National Park.

"As we destroy our environment, we destroy ourselves," Wayburn said in 1995 after receiving the Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism.

Edgar Wayburn, 103, dies; No. 1 protector of U.S. wilderness

Washington Post
Emma Brown
03/09/10
http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/03/08/AR2010030805247_pf.html

Edgar Wayburn, 103, a physician and five-time Sierra Club president who is credited with protecting more wilderness and parkland than any other American citizen, died March 5 at his home in San Francisco. No cause of death was reported.

As a volunteer conservationist for more than 50 years, he was a behind-the-scenes force for wilderness protection who never earned the widespread renown of contemporaries such as the outspoken environmental activist David Brower and photographer Ansel Adams. Dr. Wayburn maintained a full-time medical practice, working evenings and weekends to stave off post-World War II development in California's coastal hills and later to protect millions of acres in Alaska.

"Edgar Wayburn has helped to preserve the most breathtaking examples of the American landscape," President Bill Clinton said in 1999, when he presented Dr. Wayburn with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor.

Armed with genteel persistence and encyclopedic knowledge of the lands he aimed to defend, Dr. Wayburn set his sights first on wild places close to home. He was instrumental in establishing Point Reyes National Seashore in 1962, protecting a peninsula that juts into the Pacific north of San Francisco.

Ten years later, he partnered with Rep. Phillip Burton (D-Calif.) to push through legislation creating San Francisco's Golden Gate National Recreation Area, which is one of the world's largest urban parks. He also played a key role in creating Redwood National Park in 1968 in Northern California. His crowning achievement came in 1980, when President Jimmy Carter signed a bill that preserved more than 104 million acres in Alaska -- called "the greatest act of wilderness creation that we'll ever see on this planet" by wilderness historian Roderick Nash. That Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, which created 10 new parks and effectively doubled the size of the nation's parklands, was the result of 13 years of lobbying led by Dr. Wayburn.

He had first become enamored of the nation's northern frontier on a 1967 trip to Alaska with his wife, fellow conservationist Peggy Wayburn.

"I think of flying with my wife, Peggy, above the clouds over the Alatna River in Alaska," he told the San Francisco Chronicle in 2006. "The clouds cleared just at that time so we could see the startling color of the beautiful green-blue river. This was one of the things that got us started in trying to protect it."

He persuaded leaders of the Sierra Club and other national environmental groups to focus on protecting Alaska -- a rare opportunity to save wide swaths of pristine land. The Wayburns returned north frequently, scouting and mapping lands worthy of protection. Peggy Wayburn wrote two books about the north while her husband visited Washington to work the halls of Congress.

Edgar Wayburn, a tactful Georgia native, cultivated relationships with unlikely allies, including Burton, a brash and aggressive politician with little interest in outdoor adventure, and Rogers Morton, secretary of the interior under Nixon, who was no friend to environmentalists and whose nomination the Sierra Club had opposed.

Morton rebuffed Dr. Wayburn's invitations to meet, but was later swayed by the doctor's quiet persistence. In a 1970s Senate committee hearing, the secretary opposed the National Park Service's proposed boundaries for the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, supporting the Sierra Club's more expansive boundaries instead.

"The Park Service wants me to support their plan, but I went out there to the site with my friend Dr. Wayburn," Morton told a room of shocked senators, "and he convinced me otherwise."

Alarmed by sprawl

Edgar Arthur Wayburn was born Sept. 17, 1906, in Macon, Ga., and as a boy made frequent visits to California to visit an uncle who operated a tuberculosis sanatorium in the hills south of San Francisco. He graduated from the University of Georgia in 1926 and from Harvard Medical School in 1930. He arrived in San Francisco by train in 1933.

He joined the Sierra Club in 1939, not out of any great conservation zeal, but because he wanted to go on a burro trip organized by the club. He joined the U.S. Army Air Forces during World War II, serving for four years before returning to San Francisco. It was only then, when he considered how the fast-growing suburbs might sprawl into the quiet hills and wild beaches where he enjoyed hiking on weekends, that he became an activist.

"It seemed incredible to me that there were no cities or suburbs built on those Marin Hills so close to San Francisco," he told the San Francisco Chronicle in 2004. "I wondered how long that miracle would last."

In 1946, he met Peggy Elliott, a chic, chain-smoking former Vogue editor. Their first date was a steep climb from a beach north of San Francisco to the top of Mount Tamalpais and a just-as-steep descent.

The two were married less than six months later. Peggy gave up smoking as a wedding gift and they went on countless subsequent hikes together, including one -- when she was seven months pregnant -- to the top of a 12,000-foot peak in the Sierra Nevadas. They turned their family vacations into wilderness-preservation reconnaissance efforts, taking weeks-long trips to places such as the Sawtooth Mountains in Idaho and the Wind River Range in Wyoming. They invariably returned with armloads of maps marked with the boundaries of possible parks.

In 1958, Dr. Wayburn won his first major conservation victory when he successfully lobbied California politicians in Sacramento to expand Mount Tamalpais State Park to seven times its original size.

He served on the Sierra Club board from 1957 to 1994, including five terms as president during the 1960s. He became the Sierra Club's honorary president in 1993, and in 1995 was awarded the prestigious Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism, given by New York's Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and administered by Johns Hopkins University.

Peggy Wayburn died in 2002. Survivors include four children, William Wayburn of Seattle, Cynthia Wayburn of Bellevue, Wash., Laurie Wayburn of San Francisco and Diana Wayburn of New York; and three grandchildren.

In addition to his conservation work, Dr. Wayburn taught for more than 40 years, first at Stanford Medical School and then at the University of California at San Francisco. "I have loved medicine and conservation," he told the journal of the San Francisco Medical Society. "In one sense, my involvement with both might be summed up in a single word: survival. Medicine is concerned with the short-term

survival of the human species, conservation with the long-term survival of the human and other species as well. We are all related."

Persuasive Voice for Parkland

Edgar Wayburn 1906-2010

Wall Street Journal
Stephen Miller
03/09/10
http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703954904575110013694701570.html

An outdoorsman who became a political insider, Edgar Wayburn led the Sierra Club's efforts that pushed the government to preserve millions of acres of redwood forests, California coastline and Alaskan wilderness.

Dr. Wayburn, who died Friday at age 103, was an avid hiker and camper who once said he joined the Sierra Club "not because I was filled with conservation zeal but because I wanted to go on a burro trip."

But lobbying members of Congress, cabinet secretaries and presidents made Dr. Wayburn a hero to conservationists. He championed the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, the Point Reyes National Seashore and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, which put 103 million acres of land off-limits to development. The act doubled the size of the National Park system at a stroke when it was signed into law in 1980 by President Jimmy Carter.

"He has saved more of our wilderness than any other person alive," President Bill Clinton said in 1999, when Dr. Wayburn was presented with the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

A native of Macon, Ga., Dr. Wayburn graduated from Harvard Medical School and opened a practice in San Francisco in the early 1930s. He came to love California's natural areas.

After serving in the Army Air Forces in Europe during World War II, Dr. Wayburn returned to find the Bay Area in the midst of a building boom that threatened some of his favorite land. In the late 1940s, he helped lead a campaign that expanded Mount Tamalpais State Park, in Marin County north of San Francisco.

"It seemed incredible to me that there were no cities or suburbs built on those Marin hills so close to San Francisco," Dr. Wayburn said in a Sierra Club history. "I wondered how long that miracle would last." He met his future wife, Peggy, while hiking on Mount Tamalpais. She was also a Sierra club activist and author of books about nature.

During the 1960s, when Dr. Wayburn was president of the Sierra Club, he was a familiar face in Washington, D.C. The club in 1963 published "The Last Redwoods," bringing attention to clear-cutting of the giant conifers. It was Peggy Wayburn who first lobbied President John F. Kennedy's interior secretary, Stewart Udall, on the need for what became Redwood National Park. The park, created in 1968, is home to some of the world's tallest trees.

Dr. Wayburn got the Sierra Club to join forces with Rep. Phillip Burton of San Francisco, mapping out the area that would become the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, including Alcatraz, the Presidio and 60 miles of coastland around San Francisco.

The Wayburns liked to spend summers in the Alaskan wilderness, bringing back stories of rafting down remote rivers and encountering grizzly bears. Starting in 1967, he made Alaskan wilderness preservation a Sierra Club priority. He soon began lobbying the Nixon administration.

Dr. Wayburn in the early 1970s courted Secretary of the Interior Rogers Morton. Mr. Morton happened to be recovering from a cancer operation at Stanford University Medical Center, and Dr. Wayburn, who was affiliated with the hospital, would drop in and chat with him about Alaskan conservation.

The two became friends despite the fact that the Sierra Club had initially opposed Mr. Morton's appointment to the Interior Department post. Mr. Morton in 1971 oversaw passage of a law temporarily setting aside about 80 million acres of land, the beginnings of what would become the big Alaskan parkland declaration of 1980.

"It was Ed's courting relationship with politicians, his persistence and persuasiveness, that was key," said Bruce Hamilton, deputy executive director of the Sierra Club. "Even when he got his presidential medal, he turned around and lobbied the president."

EDITORIAL: Sierra Club's Edgar Wayburn was a quiet hero

San Francisco Chronicle
03/09/10
http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2010/03/09/ED3U1CCO15.DTL&type=printable

Edgar Wayburn isn't a household name, but he should be.

The long-lived physician (he died Friday at the age of 103) from San Francisco served five terms as the Sierra Club's president. Along the way he helped to preserve millions of acres of parks and open space all over the country.

Wayburn is also responsible for making the Bay Area such a wonderful place to live. Point Reyes National Seashore, Mount Tamalpais, the Marin Headlands, the Presidio, Golden Gate Park - in large part, the preservation of these local jewels came about because of his tireless campaigning.

He did his work without fanfare, but our debt to him is enormous. Thank you, Dr. Wayburn.

Bluefin Tuna

Tokyo Carps About Bluefin Ban

Wall Street Journal
Yuka Hayashi
03/09/10
http://online.wsj.com/article/SB20001424052748704869304575103343124191202.html

TOKYO—Japan, whose unique seafood-eating culture is coming under increasing criticism as fish stocks decline, is facing another challenge as an international wildlife-protection body prepares a ban on trading of bluefin tuna.

Alarmed by sharp declines in the population of the species from overfishing, member nations of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species are likely to approve a proposal to ban import and export of bluefin tuna in the Atlantic at their meeting in Doha, Qatar, starting Saturday. A number of nations, including the U.S., support the proposal, making it likely it will win two-thirds of the votes needed to pass at the 175-member body, officials say.

Japan, which consumes 70% to 80% of the global catch of bluefin—a pricey breed prized for sushi and sashimi—and about a quarter of all tuna, has unsuccessfully fought the proposal, and Japanese government officials are now threatening to "opt out"—essentially defy the consensus of the international community—if it is approved in its current form.

"Japan would have no choice but to take a reservation if the Cites vote to include bluefin in Appendix 1," Hisashi Endo, a negotiator from Japan's Fisheries Agency, said, referring to the list of endangered species whose trading is prohibited.

Japan wouldn't face any penalty for opting out—though it is likely to face criticism. The next step would be for countries seeking a ban to try to negotiate a compromise with Tokyo.

The proposed ban is the latest headache for Japan's fisheries officials, who have faced increasing heat from environmentalists and other governments in recent years. Japan has been forced to curtail catches of other types of tuna, and is competing more and more with China and other increasingly wealthy Asian neighbors as their demand for seafood rises. Japan is also under pressure to stop whaling, a less-significant but long-lasting practice in the nation.

Japan says the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, a body made up of a smaller number of fishing nations, should manage bluefin resources. "We aren't convinced bluefin tuna should be thrown in the same league as the tiger and the giant panda, whose populations number in thousands," Mr. Endo said.

The new agreement could be weakened significantly if Japan, the primary player, stays out. Any nation that declines to adhere to the ban would continue to trade in the species as if the ban didn't exist, providing it can find a partner also opting out. Japanese officials say other tuna-eating nations like South Korea and developing countries along the Atlantic and the Mediterranean will also likely disregard the ban.

The European Union has expressed support for the ban but proposed changes that would make it less strict. The EU includes bluefin-fishing nations like Italy and Spain.

Stocks of bluefin tuna in the Atlantic and the Mediterranean are estimated to have dropped to 15% to 30% of the levels four to five decades ago before large-scale international trading started, according to the Cites.

"Whatever has been tried so far hasn't been successful," said David Morgan, chief scientist at the Geneva secretariat of the Cites. "Something needs to change. Otherwise there will be no fish left."

Walmart

CLIMATE: Wal-Mart settles Calif. lawsuits over 'big box' emissions

Greenwire
Colin Sullivan
03/08/10
http://www.eenews.net/eenewspm/print/2010/03/08/1

SAN FRANCISCO -- A pair of lawsuits filed under a California land-use law were settled out of court today when Wal-Mart Stores Inc. agreed to adopt climate-mitigation measures at two proposed "supercenters" to be built in the southern part of the state.

The Center for Biological Diversity agreed to drop the suits after Wal-Mart agreed to install solar rooftops at proposed stores in Perris and Yucca Valley. Wal-Mart also pledged to incorporate efficient building designs and energy-saving refrigerators into its plans for construction.

Matt Vespa, one of the attorneys at the center behind the suits, said the settlement is proof that the California Environmental Quality Act is an appropriate tool for getting developers to acknowledge their effect on global warming at the design and permit stage.

"The settlement raises the bar for future projects," Vespa said. "If big-box stores are to be built in California, measures like the installation of solar-power systems must be adopted to minimize the project's greenhouse gas pollution."

Walmart also agreed to contribute $120,000 to a conservation group in the Mojave Desert to offset construction impact at the Yucca Valley site, which borders Joshua Tree National Park and is less than 100 miles from Mojave National Preserve along the California-Nevada border.

The center was one of the first groups to use CEQA, which is the state equivalent of the National Environmental Policy Act, to pursue greenhouse gas mitigation in urban planning and development projects. The tactic eventually led the California Legislature to beef up the law with revised climate language, though Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger (R) has sought to suspend CEQA in some cases to expedite pet projects (*E&ENews PM*, Oct. 22, 2009).

Green Jobs

OP-ED: Green jobs mirage

Washington Times
William Yeatman
03/09/10
http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2010/mar/09/green-jobs-mirage//print/

The Department of Energy has spent just 7 percent of the $37 billion it received from the stimulus for clean-energy subsidies, and already the Obama administration is pushing for another billion-dollar bailout for "green" industries. Last week in Georgia, the president unveiled a $6 billion "cash for caulkers" program, which would defray the cost of energy-efficiency retrofits in homes and businesses. He said the program is a good idea because these "green jobs" can't be outsourced. To illustrate his point, Mr. Obama claimed, "It's very hard to ship windows from China."

It's not as hard as the president thinks. With a simple Google search, I quickly found the Guang Zhou Hans Building Materials Technology Co. Ltd., Zhongshan Good Life Sun Sheet Co. Ltd. and Zehao Windows Manufactory Ltd., all of which export energy-efficient windows for the international market.

This wouldn't be the first time the Obama administration used taxpayer money to send green jobs overseas. According to a recent report from the American University's Investigative Reporting Workshop, 1,219 of the 1,807 wind turbines funded by the stimulus were manufactured in foreign countries. The report prompted four Democratic senators to send a letter last week to the Obama administration demanding a cessation of the wind-energy grants.

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a hearing Thursday to investigate the slow pace of stimulus spending on green energy. Patricia Denton, testifying on behalf the Government Accountability Office, told the senators that the backlog in DOE's environmental outlays was caused by - wait for it - environmental regulations.

Matthew Rogers, a senior adviser to the department, defended its stimulus spending by noting that it had saved 20,300 jobs. The department's Web site reports that it has spent almost $2.5 billion of its stimulus share, which means each job cost about $125,000.

That's a lot of money, and it's a sound investment only if you think government is good at picking and choosing winners in the energy industry. History suggests it isn't. Congress has thrown billions of dollars at dead-end energy startups such as the Clinch River Breeder Reactor and the Synthetic Fuels Corp.

There is evidence that green-energy subsidies are even worse than a waste. Money spent by the government on green energy cannot otherwise be allocated by the free market, and the difference in wealth creation is palpable. According to a study by Gabriel Calzada, professor at the King Juan Carlos University, green-energy subsidies in Spain have eliminated 2.2 real jobs for every green job created.

That's a sobering statistic, especially in light of the fact that the Obama administration could create millions of jobs in the energy industry without spending a dime of taxpayer money. Last month, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners released a report showing that the government could produce 13 million jobs and generate more than $2 trillion in national wealth just by expanding access for oil and gas drilling on federal lands.

If the president is serious about his jobs agenda, there's an easy two-step solution: (1) Drop wasteful green energy subsidies and (2) drill, baby, drill.

William Yeatman is an energy policy analyst at the Competitive Enterprise Institute.

Department of the Interior or Related News

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Sea lions killed for eating too many salmon

Associated Press AP
Abby Haight
03/08/10
Printed 201 times as of 6:00 a.m.
(Press-Enterprise, Arizona Daily Sun, Washington Post, etc)
http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hBxxsWlviQ1IPQDQ_z4hrnAgzJawD9EAP0781

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) -- Wildlife officials have tried everything to keep sea lions from eating endangered salmon, dropping bombs that explode under water and firing rubber bullets and bean bags from shotguns and boats. Now they are resorting to issuing death sentences to the most chronic offenders.

A California sea lion last week became the first salmon predator to be euthanized this year under a program that has been denounced by those who say there are far greater dangers to salmon - including the series of hydroelectric dams on the Columbia.

This is the second year of the program, which is administered by wildlife officials in Oregon and Washington and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Last year, 11 sea lions were euthanized. Another four were transferred to zoos or aquariums.

The sea lions represent a massive headache each year as chinook salmon begin arriving at the Bonneville Dam east of Portland, congregating in large numbers as they return from the ocean. Sea lions have become keenly aware that the dam is a great spot to feast on salmon, easy pickings as they wait to go up the dam's fish ladders.

"They learn. They come up here and know it's a good place to eat, and sooner or later the salmon are going to arrive," said Robert Stansell, a fisheries biologist with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Officials are tracking 63 additional sea lions listed as repeat offenders. They are identified by scars or by numbers that were branded on them by researchers.

"To get on that list, we have to have observed them as distinct individuals," said Jessica Sall, spokeswoman for the Oregon office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "They are not responding to hazing, and they're eating chinook salmon."

Sea lions have gobbled salmon forever. But their numbers have soared in recent years, as has the number of those cruising upriver to dine on salmon at Bonneville Dam. Frustrations peaked, especially among fishermen who have watched sea lions snatch salmon right out of their gill nets.

The Bonneville crowd of hefty mammals - they can reach more than 600 pounds and eight feet in length - have become the enemy of commercial and sport fisherman, who are allowed to catch and keep hatchery-raised fish, and a concern for conservationists trying to restore migratory runs, since sea lions don't distinguish between hatchery and wild fish.

At least three of the upper Columbia River spring salmon runs that pass through the dam are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, most significantly the spring chinook salmon run.

The sea lions' growing numbers forced state, federal and tribal agencies to intensify efforts to protect the region's multibillion-dollar salmon recovery program.

The sea lions are protected by a 1972 federal law, but an amendment leaves open the possibility that some can be captured or killed if the states request it. Oregon and Washington did in 2006 with the support of Indian tribes and sport and commercial fishing groups.

Two years ago, the National Marine Fisheries Service authorized Oregon and Washington officials to first attempt to catch the sea lions that arrive at the base of Bonneville Dam and hold them 48 hours to see whether an aquarium, zoo or similar facility will take them.

Otherwise, they could be euthanized, along with those that avoid trapping. Only California sea lions can be destroyed. Stellar sea lions cannot be killed because they are protected under the Endangered Species Act.

Supporters say the program works. The numbers of sea lions at the dam have dropped, although the 4,489 salmon they ate last year was the highest since tracking began in 2002.

Critics, led by the Humane Society of the United States, say that a far greater danger to salmon are hydroelectric dams on the Columbia, which are an obstacle to salmon both as they head out to sea and when they return from the ocean to spawn.

The Humane Society also says fishermen catch three times as many salmon as sea lions eat.

The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission this year has begun tracking the sea lions' movements with acoustic transmitters and cameras placed along the river. Instead of just reacting to the sea lions, the data might help authorities plan a more successful campaign, a fisheries scientist says.

"All of the counts that you hear, all of the impact on salmon, is based on what they can see from the dam," said Doug Hatch, of the inter-tribal commission. "That doesn't account for the whole 150 river miles below the dam."

The frustration comes as experts predict the largest spring chinook run since 1938. Thanks to good ocean conditions for young salmon, an expected 470,000 fish will head up the Columbia River, compared to 169,300 in 2009.

The primary weapon against the sea lions still remains hazing, but even that has limitations.

"The problem is, as soon as the boats go around the corner, they're right back," Stansell said. "Some of the animals that have been there a long time don't even move when they get hit in the back with a rubber bullet. They just keep eating their fish."

From:	Stevens, Deborah
To:	Rae, Kerry L
Cc:	Kenna, James G; Suazo, Raymond M; Losacco, Joan
Subject:	Arizona AGO Meeting Info
Date:	Tuesday, May 17, 2011 8:04:31 PM
Attachments:	Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS Briefing Paper.docx

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Karen,

Following is some information to concerns and questions the Arizona Governor's Office expressed during the AGO pre-meeting conference call. Also attached is an updated briefing paper on the Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS.

Responses to Governor's questions to be asked at the upcoming America Great Outdoors Meeting on Thursday, May 19.

Comments and Questions: (b) (5)

Comments and Questions: (b) (5)

(b) (5)

Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS Briefing Paper

BACKGROUND:

Proposed Withdrawal:

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Status of Interagency Coordination during the Segregation Period:

(b) (5)

Status of Northern Arizona Withdrawal EIS:

(b) (5)

Status of Existing Claims and Mining Activity:

(b) (5)

History of Mining:

(b) (5)

POSITIONS of INTERESTED PARTIES

Members of Congress: (b) (5)

(b) (5)

Arizona Governor's Office: (b) (5)

Tribes: (b) (5)

- **Navajo Nation -** (b) (5)

- **Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians –** (b) (5)

- **Havasupai Tribe –** (b) (5)

(b) (5)

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NACo: (b) (5)

Coconino County, AZ: (b) (5)

Mojave County, AZ: (b) (5)

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Contact: BLM Arizona State Director Jim Kenna, (602) 417-9500

Deborah E. Stevens
Public Affairs Specialist
One North Central Ave., Suite 800
Phoenix, AZ 85004-4427
Phone: 602-417-9215
Fax: 602-417-9424
Email: deborah_stevens@blm.gov

Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS Briefing Paper

BACKGROUND:

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From:	Stevens, Deborah
To:	Rae, Kerry L
Cc:	Kenna, James G; Suazo, Raymond M; Losacco, Joan
Subject:	Arizona AGO Meeting Info
Date:	Tuesday, May 17, 2011 8:04:31 PM
Attachments:	Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS Briefing Paper.docx

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Responses to Governor's questions to be asked at the upcoming America Great Outdoors Meeting on Thursday, May 19.

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From:	Stevens, Deborah
To:	Rae, Kerry L
Cc:	Kenna, James G; Losacco, Joan; Suazo, Raymond M
Subject:	RE: Arizona AGO Meeting Info
Date:	Wednesday, May 18, 2011 12:00:01 PM
Attachments:	Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal EIS Briefing Paper.docx

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"Rae, Kerry L" <Karen_Rae@ios.doi.gov>

05/18/2011 06:24 AM

To "Stevens, Deborah" <desteven@blm.gov>
cc "Kenna, Jim" <jkenna@blm.gov>, "Suazo, Raymond" <rmsuazo@blm.gov>, "Losacco, Joan B" <jlosacco@blm.gov>
Subject RE: Arizona AGO Meeting Info

Good morning Deborah and all – this is very helpful. I'll get it to Anne this morning.
Thanks for your help, Kerry

From: desteven@blm.gov [mailto:desteven@blm.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2011 8:04 PM
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Contact: BLM Arizona State Director Jim Kenna, (602) 417-9500

From:	Suazo, Raymond M
To:	Tuggle, Benjamin; Uberuaga, Dave; Newman, Corbin; Lyder, Jane; Sogge, Mark K.
Subject:	N AZ Proposed Withdrawal Final EIS - Public Release
Date:	Wednesday, October 26, 2011 1:54:22 PM
Attachments:	GC WITHDRAWAL combined version Oct25 with SOL edits_akf.docx Talking Points Northern Arizona Withdrawal-FEIS-2011-10-11_ch (3).docx

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Executive Steering Committee,

I spoke to several of you today and left messages for those I could not reach regarding the enclosed notice.

This notice is to alert you to the release/availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal. The BLM *Federal Register* Notice of Availability for the FEIS will be published tomorrow (October 27, 2011) and will be available on the Arizona BLM website today (October 26, 2011) at www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/mining/timeout/feis.html. Individual copies have been mailed out and documents will also be available at the BLM office in St. George, UT; the Kaibab National Forest Office in Williams, AZ; and the BLM Arizona State Office in Phoenix, AZ.

As you are aware, in June 2011, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar identified the preferred alternative in the EIS as Alternative B, which would withdraw over a million acres of public land in the vicinity of the Grand Canyon for 20 years. Any withdrawal would be subject to valid existing rights.

Attached you will find a copy of the news release which will go out officially at 11 am this morning. I have also included talking points for your use in responding to public inquiries. Finally, I want to thank each of you for your commitment and participation as Executive Steering Committee Members. Each of you worked closely with Jim Kenna to resolve issues while ensuring transparency and integrity in the project.

Ray Suazo
Acting State Director
BLM Arizona
rmsuazo@blm.gov
(602)417-9500
(602)350-8691 Cell

Northern Arizona Proposed Mineral Withdrawal

Final EIS

Talking Points/Questions & Answers – For Internal Use Only

Who makes the final decision on the withdrawal?
The Secretary of the Interior.

What are his options?

- Withdraw 1 million acres of Federal land in the Arizona Strip District managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Kaibab National Forest managed by the U.S. Forest Service from new mining claims for up to 20 years.
- Withdraw a portion of the lands studied in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) from new mining claims.
- Take no action, leaving the Federal lands open to new mining claims.

When can we expect a decision?
Nov. 28, 2011, is the earliest date that a decision can be announced.
A temporary, six-month emergency withdrawal expires on Jan. 20, 2012, so it is likely a decision will come before that date.

Is the BLM still taking public comments on the EIS?
The FEIS is out for review. The public comment period for the Draft EIS ended on May 4, 2011. The BLM received 296,000 submitted comments, all of which were evaluated. We are not inviting public comments, but they will be accepted and entered into the administrative record, if we receive any.

Would the withdrawal stop mining in the studied areas?
No. The withdrawal would stop new mining claims. Operations with valid existing claims could conduct exploration or extraction operations in the withdrawn area. The EIS estimates that as many as 11 uranium mines could be operational over the next 20 years even if the lands are withdrawn. With no withdrawal, as many as 30 uranium mines could be operational. In either case, mines with surface disturbance of more than 5 acres would have to have an approved plan of operation.

Could the BLM reject all applications for mining even without the withdrawal?
The BLM cannot disapprove exploration or mining activities that meet the requirements of all applicable laws, including the 1872 Mining Law and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

Is uranium the only mineral that would be affected by the mining withdrawal?
All hard rock minerals would be affected. That includes gold, silver, copper, and platinum. It does not include salable minerals such as gravel, nor does it include leasables such as coal, oil, and gas. As of August 11, 2011, there were 3,348 active mining claims within the 1 million acres of the withdrawal area. BLM does not track its active mining claims by hard rock mineral type, until an individual or company provides BLM with a mining plan of operation.

Of the 3,348 active mining claims within the segregated area, likely most are staked for the uranium resources because uranium is the most profitable mineral to extract.

Only a fraction of mining claims are located on breccia pipes, only a fraction of breccia pipes contain significant levels of mineralization, and only a fraction of these mineralized breccia pipes contain economically viable quantities of uranium ore. For this reason, the number of developed mines will be a small fraction of the total number of mining claims in the area.

Why is the focus on uranium?
Uranium has been the primary mineral of interest to miners over the past 30 years in the proposed withdrawal area.

What options were considered in the EIS?

- No withdrawal (which would allow new mining claims to be filed)
- Partial withdrawal of approximately 300,000 acres
- Partial withdrawal of 650,000 acres
- Full withdrawal of approximately 1 million acres.

What is the preferred alternative in the EIS?
Full withdrawal of approximately 1 million acres. This alternative would ensure that all public lands adjacent to Grand Canyon National Park are protected from new mining claims.

What is your response to critics who point to job loss if these lands are withdrawn and mining is stopped?

No one is proposing to stop the development of valid existing mining claims within the proposed withdrawal area. A withdrawal, if that is the ultimate decision, would only prohibit the location of new mining claims. Over the past 20 years, there have been 8 mines developed in the study area. If the preferred alternative is selected, BLM predicts there may be 11 mines over the next 20 years. So it is possible there would still be job increases in the area. If there is no withdrawal, the analysis predicts up to 30 mines over that time period, an unprecedented level of mining in the area.

Our analysis of reasonably foreseeable development shows direct employment resulting from no withdrawal (the "no action" alternative) could lead to an annual average of 295 mining related jobs. With a full withdrawal, there could be 79 jobs annually.

We have heard politicians say that Arizonans stand to lose $30 billion in economic activity if lands are withdrawn? What's your response to that?

We don't know how that number was derived. Even with a full withdrawal, mining in the area is predicted to increase from its current level. The estimated value of the uranium that would be mined over the next 20 years without a withdrawal in place is $3.1 billion. With a full withdrawal, it is $852.6 million. With oil and gas development, operators pay a royalty or percentage of value of the oil and gas to the United States which is then shared with the States. That is not the case with uranium development.

The analysis we have done does not support this allegation.

Why did the economic analysis change from Draft to Final?

As pointed out in public comments, there were errors in the economic analysis that needed to be corrected Further, there appeared to be a difference in effects in counties and communities north of the Grand Canyon versus south, which required a more detailed analysis to evaluate than that conducted in the Draft EIS.

What role can Congress play?
If the Secretary withdraws 5,000 or more acres, Congress has 90 days in which it can overturn the withdrawal. The action to overturn would require a joint resolution of both Houses. The terms of the action are outlined in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, Section 204.

Congress also potentially could enact legislation concerning the withdrawal or the withdrawn lands. It also could use the appropriations process to limit spending on implementing a withdrawal. Those actions likely would be subject to presidential veto.

What are the political positions?
Arizona's senators – both Republicans – oppose withdrawal, as do the Republican members of the Arizona congressional delegation. Arizona's Democratic members of Congress support the withdrawal. Utah Republicans in Congress and the Senate also oppose the withdrawal.

What is the likelihood of a legal challenge?
We anticipate a legal challenge, regardless of what decision the Secretary makes.

BLM NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Department of the Interior • Bureau of Land Management • Arizona State Office • One N. Central Ave. • Phoenix, AZ 85004

For Release: October 26, 2011
Contacts: Dennis Godfrey and Deborah Stevens, (602) 417-9504
Rachel Tueller, (435) 688-3200

BLM Issues Final Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Withdrawal from New Mining Claims near Grand Canyon

St. George, Utah – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) today released the Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for public review. The Final EIS analyzes the potential effects of withdrawing federal lands near the Grand Canyon in Arizona from location and entry under the 1872 Mining Law and identifies a preferred alternative that would withdraw about 1 million acres, subject to valid existing rights.

A withdrawal would prevent individuals and companies from staking new mining claims; however, currently approved operations could continue and new operations could be approved on valid existing mining claims. Uranium, like oil and gas, solar, wind, geothermal and other resources, remains a vital component of a responsible and comprehensive energy plan for the United States. In addition to possible development of any valid existing claims on any lands that are withdrawn, other federal lands in Arizona and other parts of the country remain open to hardrock mining claims, including those for uranium.

"The Grand Canyon is an iconic place for all Americans and visitors from around the world," said BLM Director Bob Abbey. "Uranium remains an important part of our nation's comprehensive energy resources, but it is appropriate to pause, identify what the predicted level of mining and its impacts on the Grand Canyon would be, and decide what level of risk is acceptable to take with this national treasure. The preferred alternative would allow for cautious, continued development with strong oversight that could help us fill critical gaps in our knowledge about water quality and environmental impacts of uranium mining in the area."

In June 2011, based on BLM analysis that began in 2009 and nearly 300,000 comments from the public, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar directed BLM to identify the preferred alternative in the EIS as Alternative B, the Proposed Action, which would withdraw about 1 million acres of federal land in the vicinity of the Grand Canyon for 20 years from the 1872 Mining Law, subject to valid existing rights. The Final EIS estimates that as many as 11 uranium mines could be operational over the next 20 years under the preferred alternative, including the four mines currently approved.

The BLM is the lead agency that, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service, prepared the Final EIS, which will be used to support a final decision by the Secretary of the Interior on the proposed withdrawal. The Final EIS responds to hundreds of thousands of public comments on the Draft EIS

released to the public on Feb. 18, 2011 http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/mining/timeout/deis.html, and discloses the potential impacts that withdrawing the lands from location and entry under the 1872 Mining Law would have on the environment and natural and cultural resources.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act regulations, a notice published by the Environmental Protection Agency in tomorrow's *Federal Register* initiates a 30-day review period after which the Secretary of Interior can make and issue a final decision.

In addition to analyzing the potential impacts of the Proposed Action, the Final EIS has analyzed three other alternatives to the proposed action. In all of the alternatives, any withdrawal would be subject to valid existing rights.

The four alternatives analyzed are:

- Alternative A is the No Action Alternative, under which no withdrawal would occur and mineral exploration and mining would continue throughout the study area in accordance with existing BLM and Forest Service regulations and land use plans.

- Alternative B is the Proposed Action, which is to withdraw approximately 1,006,545 acres of federal lands from location and entry under the 1872 Mining Law for 20 years, while allowing previously approved operations to continue and new operations to be authorized on mining claims with valid existing rights. The federal lands are located in three parcels, two parcels north of the Grand Canyon National Park on BLM Arizona Strip lands and the North Kaibab Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest, and one south of the Grand Canyon on the Tusayan Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest. The proposed action would not affect disposition or development of the lands under the mineral leasing, geothermal leasing, mineral materials, or public land laws.

- Alternative C is to withdraw a reduced acreage within the same three parcels amounting to approximately 648,802 acres of federal lands from location and entry under the 1872 Mining Law for 20 years. As with the Proposed Action, mining could continue at previously-approved mines and new operations could be authorized on mining claims with valid existing rights. This alternative would withdraw the largest contiguous area identified on resource location maps with concentrations of cultural, hydrologic, recreational, visual, and biological resources, which could be adversely affected by locatable mineral exploration and mining. As with the Proposed Action, Alternative C would not prevent disposition or development under the mineral leasing, geothermal leasing, mineral materials, or public land laws.

- Alternative D is to withdraw a further reduced acreage within the same three parcels amounting to 292,086 acres from location and entry under the 1872 Mining Law. As with the Proposed Action, mining could continue at previously-approved mines and new operations could be authorized on mining claims with valid existing rights. This alternative would withdraw the contiguous area identified on resource location maps where there is the highest concentration of overlapping cultural, hydrologic, recreational, visual, and biological resources, which could be adversely affected by locatable mineral exploration and mining. As with the Proposed Action, Alternative D

would not prevent disposition or development under the mineral leasing, geothermal leasing, mineral materials, or public land laws.

Information can be found at http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/mining/timeout.html or by calling (602) 417-9504 or (435) 688-3200.

The BLM manages more land – over 245 million acres – than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about $1 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

- BLM -

From:	Suazo, Raymond M
To:	Tuggle, Benjamin; Uberuaga, Dave; Newman, Corbin; Lyder, Jane; Sogge, Mark K.
Subject:	N AZ Proposed Withdrawal Final EIS - Public Release
Date:	Wednesday, October 26, 2011 1:54:22 PM
Attachments:	GC WITHDRAWAL combined version Oct25 with SOL edits_akf.docx Talking Points Northern Arizona Withdrawal-FEIS-2011-10-11_ch (3).docx

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Executive Steering Committee,

I spoke to several of you today and left messages for those I could not reach regarding the enclosed notice.

This notice is to alert you to the release/availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal. The BLM *Federal Register* Notice of Availability for the FEIS will be published tomorrow (October 27, 2011) and will be available on the Arizona BLM website today (October 26, 2011) at www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/mining/timeout/feis.html. Individual copies have been mailed out and documents will also be available at the BLM office in St. George, UT; the Kaibab National Forest Office in Williams, AZ; and the BLM Arizona State Office in Phoenix, AZ.

As you are aware, in June 2011, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar identified the preferred alternative in the EIS as Alternative B, which would withdraw over a million acres of public land in the vicinity of the Grand Canyon for 20 years. Any withdrawal would be subject to valid existing rights.

Attached you will find a copy of the news release which will go out officially at 11 am this morning. I have also included talking points for your use in responding to public inquiries. Finally, I want to thank each of you for your commitment and participation as Executive Steering Committee Members. Each of you worked closely with Jim Kenna to resolve issues while ensuring transparency and integrity in the project.

Ray Suazo
Acting State Director
BLM Arizona
rmsuazo@blm.gov
(602)417-9500
(602)350-8691 Cell

Northern Arizona Proposed Mineral Withdrawal

Final EIS

Talking Points/Questions & Answers – For Internal Use Only

Who makes the final decision on the withdrawal?
The Secretary of the Interior.

What are his options?

- Withdraw 1 million acres of Federal land in the Arizona Strip District managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Kaibab National Forest managed by the U.S. Forest Service from new mining claims for up to 20 years.
- Withdraw a portion of the lands studied in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) from new mining claims.
- Take no action, leaving the Federal lands open to new mining claims.

When can we expect a decision?
Nov. 28, 2011, is the earliest date that a decision can be announced.
A temporary, six-month emergency withdrawal expires on Jan. 20, 2012, so it is likely a decision will come before that date.

Is the BLM still taking public comments on the EIS?
The FEIS is out for review. The public comment period for the Draft EIS ended on May 4, 2011. The BLM received 296,000 submitted comments, all of which were evaluated. We are not inviting public comments, but they will be accepted and entered into the administrative record, if we receive any.

Would the withdrawal stop mining in the studied areas?
No. The withdrawal would stop new mining claims. Operations with valid existing claims could conduct exploration or extraction operations in the withdrawn area. The EIS estimates that as many as 11 uranium mines could be operational over the next 20 years even if the lands are withdrawn. With no withdrawal, as many as 30 uranium mines could be operational. In either case, mines with surface disturbance of more than 5 acres would have to have an approved plan of operation.

Could the BLM reject all applications for mining even without the withdrawal?
The BLM cannot disapprove exploration or mining activities that meet the requirements of all applicable laws, including the 1872 Mining Law and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

Is uranium the only mineral that would be affected by the mining withdrawal?
All hard rock minerals would be affected. That includes gold, silver, copper, and platinum. It does not include salable minerals such as gravel, nor does it include leasables such as coal, oil, and gas. As of August 11, 2011, there were 3,348 active mining claims within the 1 million acres of the withdrawal area. BLM does not track its active mining claims by hard rock mineral type, until an individual or company provides BLM with a mining plan of operation.

Of the 3,348 active mining claims within the segregated area, likely most are staked for the uranium resources because uranium is the most profitable mineral to extract.

Only a fraction of mining claims are located on breccia pipes, only a fraction of breccia pipes contain significant levels of mineralization, and only a fraction of these mineralized breccia pipes contain economically viable quantities of uranium ore. For this reason, the number of developed mines will be a small fraction of the total number of mining claims in the area.

Why is the focus on uranium?
Uranium has been the primary mineral of interest to miners over the past 30 years in the proposed withdrawal area.

What options were considered in the EIS?

- No withdrawal (which would allow new mining claims to be filed)
- Partial withdrawal of approximately 300,000 acres
- Partial withdrawal of 650,000 acres
- Full withdrawal of approximately 1 million acres.

What is the preferred alternative in the EIS?
Full withdrawal of approximately 1 million acres. This alternative would ensure that all public lands adjacent to Grand Canyon National Park are protected from new mining claims.

What is your response to critics who point to job loss if these lands are withdrawn and mining is stopped?

No one is proposing to stop the development of valid existing mining claims within the proposed withdrawal area. A withdrawal, if that is the ultimate decision, would only prohibit the location of new mining claims. Over the past 20 years, there have been 8 mines developed in the study area. If the preferred alternative is selected, BLM predicts there may be 11 mines over the next 20 years. So it is possible there would still be job increases in the area. If there is no withdrawal, the analysis predicts up to 30 mines over that time period, an unprecedented level of mining in the area.

Our analysis of reasonably foreseeable development shows direct employment resulting from no withdrawal (the "no action" alternative) could lead to an annual average of 295 mining related jobs. With a full withdrawal, there could be 79 jobs annually.

We have heard politicians say that Arizonans stand to lose $30 billion in economic activity if lands are withdrawn? What's your response to that?

We don't know how that number was derived. Even with a full withdrawal, mining in the area is predicted to increase from its current level. The estimated value of the uranium that would be mined over the next 20 years without a withdrawal in place is $3.1 billion. With a full withdrawal, it is $852.6 million. With oil and gas development, operators pay a royalty or percentage of value of the oil and gas to the United States which is then shared with the States. That is not the case with uranium development.

The analysis we have done does not support this allegation.

Why did the economic analysis change from Draft to Final?

As pointed out in public comments, there were errors in the economic analysis that needed to be corrected Further, there appeared to be a difference in effects in counties and communities north of the Grand Canyon versus south, which required a more detailed analysis to evaluate than that conducted in the Draft EIS.

What role can Congress play?
If the Secretary withdraws 5,000 or more acres, Congress has 90 days in which it can overturn the withdrawal. The action to overturn would require a joint resolution of both Houses. The terms of the action are outlined in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, Section 204.

Congress also potentially could enact legislation concerning the withdrawal or the withdrawn lands. It also could use the appropriations process to limit spending on implementing a withdrawal. Those actions likely would be subject to presidential veto.

What are the political positions?
Arizona's senators – both Republicans – oppose withdrawal, as do the Republican members of the Arizona congressional delegation. Arizona's Democratic members of Congress support the withdrawal. Utah Republicans in Congress and the Senate also oppose the withdrawal.

What is the likelihood of a legal challenge?
We anticipate a legal challenge, regardless of what decision the Secretary makes.

BLM NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Department of the Interior • Bureau of Land Management • Arizona State Office • One N. Central Ave. • Phoenix, AZ 85004

For Release: October 26, 2011
Contacts: Dennis Godfrey and Deborah Stevens, (602) 417-9504
Rachel Tueller, (435) 688-3200

BLM Issues Final Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Withdrawal from New Mining Claims near Grand Canyon

St. George, Utah – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) today released the Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for public review. The Final EIS analyzes the potential effects of withdrawing federal lands near the Grand Canyon in Arizona from location and entry under the 1872 Mining Law and identifies a preferred alternative that would withdraw about 1 million acres, subject to valid existing rights.

A withdrawal would prevent individuals and companies from staking new mining claims; however, currently approved operations could continue and new operations could be approved on valid existing mining claims. Uranium, like oil and gas, solar, wind, geothermal and other resources, remains a vital component of a responsible and comprehensive energy plan for the United States. In addition to possible development of any valid existing claims on any lands that are withdrawn, other federal lands in Arizona and other parts of the country remain open to hardrock mining claims, including those for uranium.

"The Grand Canyon is an iconic place for all Americans and visitors from around the world," said BLM Director Bob Abbey. "Uranium remains an important part of our nation's comprehensive energy resources, but it is appropriate to pause, identify what the predicted level of mining and its impacts on the Grand Canyon would be, and decide what level of risk is acceptable to take with this national treasure. The preferred alternative would allow for cautious, continued development with strong oversight that could help us fill critical gaps in our knowledge about water quality and environmental impacts of uranium mining in the area."

In June 2011, based on BLM analysis that began in 2009 and nearly 300,000 comments from the public, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar directed BLM to identify the preferred alternative in the EIS as Alternative B, the Proposed Action, which would withdraw about 1 million acres of federal land in the vicinity of the Grand Canyon for 20 years from the 1872 Mining Law, subject to valid existing rights. The Final EIS estimates that as many as 11 uranium mines could be operational over the next 20 years under the preferred alternative, including the four mines currently approved.

The BLM is the lead agency that, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service, prepared the Final EIS, which will be used to support a final decision by the Secretary of the Interior on the proposed withdrawal. The Final EIS responds to hundreds of thousands of public comments on the Draft EIS

released to the public on Feb. 18, 2011 http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/mining/timeout/deis.html, and discloses the potential impacts that withdrawing the lands from location and entry under the 1872 Mining Law would have on the environment and natural and cultural resources.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act regulations, a notice published by the Environmental Protection Agency in tomorrow's *Federal Register* initiates a 30-day review period after which the Secretary of Interior can make and issue a final decision.

In addition to analyzing the potential impacts of the Proposed Action, the Final EIS has analyzed three other alternatives to the proposed action. In all of the alternatives, any withdrawal would be subject to valid existing rights.

The four alternatives analyzed are:

- Alternative A is the No Action Alternative, under which no withdrawal would occur and mineral exploration and mining would continue throughout the study area in accordance with existing BLM and Forest Service regulations and land use plans.

- Alternative B is the Proposed Action, which is to withdraw approximately 1,006,545 acres of federal lands from location and entry under the 1872 Mining Law for 20 years, while allowing previously approved operations to continue and new operations to be authorized on mining claims with valid existing rights. The federal lands are located in three parcels, two parcels north of the Grand Canyon National Park on BLM Arizona Strip lands and the North Kaibab Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest, and one south of the Grand Canyon on the Tusayan Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest. The proposed action would not affect disposition or development of the lands under the mineral leasing, geothermal leasing, mineral materials, or public land laws.

- Alternative C is to withdraw a reduced acreage within the same three parcels amounting to approximately 648,802 acres of federal lands from location and entry under the 1872 Mining Law for 20 years. As with the Proposed Action, mining could continue at previously-approved mines and new operations could be authorized on mining claims with valid existing rights. This alternative would withdraw the largest contiguous area identified on resource location maps with concentrations of cultural, hydrologic, recreational, visual, and biological resources, which could be adversely affected by locatable mineral exploration and mining. As with the Proposed Action, Alternative C would not prevent disposition or development under the mineral leasing, geothermal leasing, mineral materials, or public land laws.

- Alternative D is to withdraw a further reduced acreage within the same three parcels amounting to 292,086 acres from location and entry under the 1872 Mining Law. As with the Proposed Action, mining could continue at previously-approved mines and new operations could be authorized on mining claims with valid existing rights. This alternative would withdraw the contiguous area identified on resource location maps where there is the highest concentration of overlapping cultural, hydrologic, recreational, visual, and biological resources, which could be adversely affected by locatable mineral exploration and mining. As with the Proposed Action, Alternative D

would not prevent disposition or development under the mineral leasing, geothermal leasing, mineral materials, or public land laws.

Information can be found at http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/mining/timeout.html or by calling (602) 417-9504 or (435) 688-3200.

The BLM manages more land – over 245 million acres – than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about $1 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

- BLM -

From:	Taylor McKinnon
To:	(b) (6) Gould, R W; Oversight
Cc:	Tuggle, Benjamin; Klein, Al; "Brad Bartlett"; "Amy Atwood"; "Anna Frazier"; "Mike Eisenfeld"; "Taylor McKinnon"; "Travis Stills"
Subject:	SIXTY-DAY NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUE
Date:	Tuesday, October 12, 2010 1:36:55 AM
Attachments:	FINAL Navajo Mine Notice of Intent.pdf
Importance:	High

Dear Secretary Salazar, Director Pizarchik and Director Gould,

On behalf of the Center for Biological Diversity, Diné Citizens Against Ruining Our Environment (Diné CARE), San Juan Citizens Alliance and the Energy Minerals Law Center, please find attached a 60-day notice of intent to sue DOI, OSM and FWS for violations of the Endangered Species Act in connection with OSM's authorization of federal permit number NM-0003F for coal mining at the BHP Navajo Mine in northwestern New Mexico. You will receive a copy of this notice by fax and another by mail with an accompanying CD of exhibits. Please contact Brad Bartlett at the Energy Minerals Law Center with questions or clarifications; his contact information is in the notice.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Taylor McKinnon
Center for Biological Diversity
P.O.B. 1178
Flagstaff, AZ 86002-1178
(928) 310-6713
www.biologicaldiversity.org

At the Center for Biological Diversity, we believe that the welfare of human beings is deeply linked to nature — to the existence in our world of a vast diversity of wild plants and animals. Because diversity has intrinsic value, and because its loss impoverishes society, we work to secure a future for all species, great and small, hovering on the brink of extinction. We do so through science, law, and creative media, with a focus on protecting the lands, waters, and climate that species need to survive. We want those who come after us to inherit a world where the wild is still alive.

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CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
DINE CITIZENS AGAINST RUINING OUR ENVIRONMENT
SAN JUAN CITIZENS ALLIANCE

VIA ELECTRONIC and CERTIFIED MAIL: RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

October 11, 2010

Ken Salazar, Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

Rowan W. Gould, Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1849 C Street NW, Room 3012
Washington DC 20240

Joseph Pizarchik, Director
Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement
1951 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20240

RE: SIXTY-DAY NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUE FOR VIOLATIONS OF SECTION 7 AND SECTION 9 OF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT IN CONNECTION WITH THE OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING, RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT'S AUTHORIZATION OF FEDERAL PERMIT NUMBER NM-0003F FOR COAL MINING AT BHP NAVAJO COAL COMPANY'S NAVAJO MINE

Dear Secretary Salazar and Directors Gould and Pizarchik:

By this letter, the undersigned attorneys respectfully notify you that the Center for Biological Diversity ("Center"), Diné Citizens Against Ruining Our Environment ("CARE") and San Juan Citizens Alliance ("Alliance") intend to file a lawsuit in Federal district court for your ongoing violations of sections 7 and 9 of the Endangered Species Act ("ESA" or "Act"), 16 U.S.C. §§ 1536, 1538. The violations alleged herein stem from the Western Region Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement's ("OSM's") failure to insure no jeopardy to threatened and endangered species or destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat, through completion of consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ("FWS"), pursuant to section 7(a)(2) of the ESA and its implementing regulations, 16 U.S.C. § 1536(a)(2), 50 C.F.R. Part 400. In particular, OSM has failed to consult with FWS regarding the effects of federally-authorized coal mining activities at BHP Navajo Coal Company's ("BNCC") Navajo Mine (Federal Permit No. NM-003F) located entirely on Navajo Nation lands in Northwestern, New Mexico.

Species and critical habitats that may be affected directly, indirectly, and/or cumulatively

by these actions include: the endangered Colorado pikeminnow (*Ptychocheilus lucius*) and its designated critical habitat; the endangered razorback sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*) and its designated critical habitat; the endangered southwestern willow flycatcher *(Empidonax traillii extimus*) (flycatcher) and its designated critical habitat; the threatened Mesa Verde cactus (*Sclerocactus mesae-verdae*); the endangered Mancos milkvetch (*Astragalus humillimus*); the endangered Rio Grande silvery minnow (*Hybognathus amarus*) and its designated critical habitat; and, the endangered California condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*)(collectively referred to herein as "Listed Species and Critical Habitats").

This letter is provided pursuant to the sixty-day notice requirement of the citizen suit provision of the ESA, to the extent such notice is deemed necessary by a court. 16 U.S.C.§ 1540(g).

I. INTRODUCTION

The BHP Navajo Mine is located in Fruitland, New Mexico, San Juan County, within the northeastern portion of the Navajo Nation near the San Juan River. The Navajo Mine lease area is divided into five areas (I-V). BHP is currently conducting surface coal mining operations. The mine excavates coal from subbituminous coal beds found within the Fruitland formation formed in Upper Cretaceous sediments. The coal produced at the Navajo Mine is supplied to the adjacent Four Corners Power Plant operated by Arizona Public Service where it is burned to generate electricity. Beginning in 1971, BHP has accepted approximately 1.9 million cubic yard ("mcyd") of Coal Combustion Waste ("CCW") from the Four Corners Power Plant annually for us as minefill. CCW consists of fly ash, scrubber sludge and bottom ash.[1] As of 2000, BHP has permanently disposed 50-55 million tons of CCW in the mine.

[1] A 2008 Toxic Release Inventory ("TRI") Chemical Data Form from BHP Navajo Coal Company and posted on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's website demonstrates that CCW from the power plant contains significant levels of arsenic, mercury, lead and selenium, among others. CCW is permanently dumped into the mine annually for use as "landfill." *See, http://www.epa.gov/cgi-bin/broker?TRI=87416BHPNV16MIL&YEAR=2008&VIEW=TRFA&TRILIB=TRIQ0&sort=_VIEW_&sort_fmt=1&FLD=RELLBY&FLD=TSFDSP&FLD=RE_TOLBY&TAB_RPT=1&_SERVICE=oiaa&_PROGRAM=xp_tri.sasmacr.tristart.macro*

On or about September 7, 2010, OSM authorized the renewal of Federal Permit No NM-0003F for coal mining operations at the Navajo Mine. The life of the permit renewal is five years. *See* U.S. Dep't of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement, *Approval of Permit Renewal for BHP Navajo Coal Company's Navajo Mine* (Sept. 7 2010) ("Renewal Authorization")(Ex. A). Prior to authorization of the permit renewal, OSM did not initiate or complete consultation with FWS pursuant to section 7(a)(2) of the ESA, to consider the effects of mining operations at the Navajo Mine on species listed as threatened or endangered pursuant to the Act.

Renewed mining of coal at the Navajo Mine -- and the resulting transport and combustion of coal and disposal of coal combustion wastes as minefill-- will directly, indirectly, and/or cumulatively affect the Listed Species and Critical Habitats. Accordingly, unless and until formal consultation is initiated and completed satisfactorily in accordance with section 7(a)(2) and its implementing regulations, any renewed mining activities are an unlawful taking of threatened and endangered species and are prohibited by sections 7 and 9 of the ESA. 16 U.S.C. §§ 1536(a)(2), 1538(a)(1)(B). These violations are further discussed below.

II. THE ESA REQUIRES OSM TO ENSURE THAT ITS ISSUANCE OF THE PERMIT WILL NOT JEOPARDIZE THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES OR ADVERSELY MODIFY THEIR CRITICAL HABITAT.

Congress enacted the ESA in 1973 to provide for the conservation of endangered and threatened fish, wildlife, and plants and their natural habitats. 16 U.S.C. § 1531, 1532. To accomplish this purpose, the ESA requires the Secretaries of the Interior and Commerce to determine which species should be added to the list of endangered and threatened species, and to designate "critical habitat" for listed species. *Id*. (citing 16 U.S.C. § 1533(a)). The two secretaries generally share responsibilities under the ESA; thus, the Secretary of the Interior acts through the FWS to implement ESA requirements with respect to terrestrial species, and the Secretary of Commerce, through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Fisheries Service ("NOAA Fisheries"),[2] handles responsibilities for marine species. *Id*. at n.32 (citing 16 U.S.C. 1532(15) (definition of "Secretary"); 50 C.F.R. § 402.01(b); ESA Consultation Regulations, 51 Fed. Reg. 19926, 19926 (June 3, 1986)).

[2] NOAA Fisheries was previously called the National Marine Fisheries Service ("NMFS").

The ESA imposes substantive and procedural obligations on all federal agencies, including OSM, with regard to threatened and endangered species and their critical habitat. *Id*. at 35 (citing 16 U.S.C. §§ 1536(a)(1), (a)(2), 1538(a)(1), (a)(2); 50 C.F.R. § 402.06(a)). Relevant here is section 7(a)(2), which requires that:

> Each federal agency shall, in consultation with and with assistance of the Secretary, insure that any action authorized, funded, or carried out by such agency … is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered species or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of [critical] habitat of such species … .

16 U.S.C. § 1536(a)(2). The definition of agency "action" is "broad and includes 'the granting of licenses, contracts, leases, easements, rights-of-way, [or] *permits*.'" 50 C.F.R. § 402.02 (emphasis added). Thus, "section 7(a)(2) imposes a substantive duty on federal agencies to ensure that none of their actions is likely to jeopardize listed species or destroy or adversely modify the critical habitat of such species." *Id*. (citing 51 Fed. Reg. at 19926).

The ESA's implementing regulations set forth a specific process, fulfillment of which is the only means by which an action agency ensures that its affirmative duties under section 7(a)(2) of the ESA are satisfied. 50 C.F.R. § 402.14(a); *Sierra Club v. Babbitt*, 65 F.3d 1502, 1504-05 (9th Cir. 1995). By this process, each federal agency must review its "actions" at "the earliest possible time" to determine whether any action "may affect" listed species or critical habitat in the "action area." 50 C.F.R. § 402.14. The "action area" is defined to mean all areas that would be "affected directly or indirectly by the Federal action and not merely the immediate area involved in the action." 50 C.F.R. § 402.02. The term "may affect" is broadly construed by FWS to include "[a]ny possible effect, whether beneficial, benign, adverse, or of an undetermined character," and is thus easily triggered. 51 Fed. Reg. at 19926. If a "may affect" determination is made, "consultation" is required.

Consultation is a process between the federal agency proposing to take an action (the "action agency")—here, OSM—and, for activities affecting terrestrial species, FWS. "Formal consultation" commences with the action agency's written request for consultation and concludes with FWS's issuance of a "biological opinion" ("BiOp"). 50 C.F.R. § 402.02. The BiOp issued at the conclusion of formal consultation "states the opinion" of FWS as to whether the federal action is "likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species" or "result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat." 16 U.S.C. § 1536(c)(1); 50 C.F.R. § 402.12(c).

Prior to commencing formal consultation, the action agency may prepare a "biological assessment" ("BA") to "evaluate the potential effects of the action on listed and proposed species and designated and proposed critical habitat" and "determine whether any such species or habitat are likely to be adversely affected by the action." 50 C.F.R. § 402.12(a). While the action agency is required to use a BA in determining whether to initiate formal consultation, FWS may use the results of a BA in determining whether to request the action agency to initiate formal consultation or in formulating a BiOp. 50 C.F.R. §§ 402.12(k)(1), (2). If a BA concludes that the action is "not likely to adversely affect" a listed species, and FWS concurs in writing that is the end of the "informal consultation" process. 50 C.F.R. § 402.13.

III. OSM HAS FAILED TO SATISFY ITS DUTIES PURSUANT TO SECTION 7(A)(2) OF THE ESA.

A. Threatened and Endangered Species Will Be Impacted

Threatened and endangered species are known to occur within the "action area" of the Navajo Mine and "may" be affected directly, indirectly, and/or cumulatively by the activities authorized by OSM's Navajo Mine permit renewal and its resulting coal mining, transportation and combustion at Four Corners Power Plant and permanent disposal as CCW minefill. At a minimum, such species include the Listed Species and Critical Habitat set forth above. *See, e.g.*, U.S. Dep't of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, *Draft Biological Opinion for the Desert Rock Energy Project, U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, Gallup, New Mexico* (Oct. 2009) ("Desert Rock BO")(Ex. B); *see also* 50 C.F.R. § 402.02 (defining "indirect effects" as "those that are caused by the proposed action and are later in time, but still are reasonably certain to occur").

For example, mercury pollution from the disposal of CCW at the Navajo Mine and combustion of coal from the Navajo Mine at Four Corners Power Plant will indirectly and cumulatively impact endangered Colorado pikeminnow, the razorback sucker and their critical habitat. Both fish would be exposed to mercury emissions from the power plant(s) through surface and groundwater contamination and ambient air exposure, deposition, and runoff into aquatic habitats, and subsequent bioaccumulation through the food chain. *See e.g.* Desert Rock BO at 120. Upon entering the San Juan River ecosystem, microorganisms convert mercury to methylmercury, a highly toxic form of mercury. *Id*. Because methylmercury is stable and

accumulates through the food chain, the highest mercury concentrations are found in top predators, such as the Colorado pikeminnow, causing reproductive impairment, behavioral changes, and brain damage. *Id.* Using a threshold for adverse effects of 0.2 mg/kg WW, 64 percent of Colorado pikeminnow experience reproductive impairment due to mercury presently. *Id.* By 2020, the Desert Rock BO finds that mercury deposition in the San Juan River basin is expected to increase by 35.4 percent without or 35.5 percent with the construction of the proposed Desert Rock Energy Project. *Id.*[3] For this reason, FWS's draft biological opinion predicts that 72 percent of Colorado pikeminnow in the San Juan River basin will experience mercury-induced reproductive impairment by 2020—which "is likely *to jeopardize* the continued existence of the Colorado pikeminnow." *Id.* at 120 (emphasis added).

The Desert Rock BO and jeopardy opinion is based on a conservative estimate of environmental release and exposure to mercury. Among other things, the Desert Rock BO does not evaluate or consider the significant contribution of mercury from forty-years of CCW disposal at the Navajo Mine. According to EPA's TRI, which provides BHP reported data from 2000-2007, thousands of pounds of mercury have been disposed of in the Navajo Mine annually as "minefill."[4] None of the CCW is treated prior to disposal and BHP does not use a liner system or any other control mechanism to prevent saturation and migration of the mercury or other constituents into surface or ground waters which flow directly into the San Juan River. OSM's permitting decision does not evaluate the hydrological impacts of BHP's nearly half-century of permanent disposal of over a half-billion tons of CCW at the mine and contribution to mercury cycling in the San Juan environment.

In sum, the effects of OSM's issuance of the Navajo Mine permit which include, but are not limited to, mercury migration and deposition in the San Juan River, "may affect" the survival and recovery of the endangered southwestern Colorado pikeminnow and other threatened and endangered species.

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[3] By continuing to combust coal from the Navajo Mine, the Four Corners Power Plant emits, and will continue to emit, 600 pounds of mercury annually and its annual deposition of mercury into the San Juan River basin is predicted to remain unchanged through 2020. Desert Rock BO at Appendix A – Figure 1 (Ex. C).

[4] http://www.epa.gov/cgi-bin/broker?view=YearlyChartFromTrends&tab_rpt=1&TRI=87416BHPNV16MIL&fld=E5&grf_fld=E5&trilib=TRIQ0&Data=TRI&BYear=2000&EYear=2007&state=ALL%20STATES&county=ALL%20COUNTIES&industry=&chemical=N458&_service=oiaa&_program=xp_tri.sasmacr.tristart.macro

B. OSM Failed to Consult With FWS

By its own admission OSM failed to undertake Section 7 consultation for its authorization of the Navajo Mine permit renewal. The agency states:

> As required in the regulations at 30 CFR 773.6(3) notice was sent to local government agencies and to all Federal and State agencies with an interest in the proposed action. The Fish and Wildlife Service was notified of the renewal and did not respond to our request for comments. See Tab 7. A Section 7 consultation is not required for the permit renewal because one was done as part of the approval of the 2005 significant revision—Proposal to Mine Area IV North.

Response to San Juan Citizens Alliance Comments, Navajo Mine Permit Renewal, OSM ID No. 9/08/19-03 (Aug. 11, 2009) at 5 (Ex. C). In addition, although Tab 7 includes copies of public notices of BHP's application for Navajo Mine permit renewal published in two regional newspapers, it includes no written request from OSM, in this case the action agency, to FWS to commence "Formal consultation" as is required by 50 C.F.R. § 402.02. *See* Tab 7: Notifications, Navajo Mine Permit Renewal Decision Document (Ex. D).

OSM's determination that Section 7 consultation was not required for its authorization of the Navajo Mine permit renewal is unlawful. As set forth above, the ESA requires all federal agencies to ensure that their actions—including the issuance of permits—do not jeopardize listed species or destroy or adversely modify critical habitat. Further, OSM was a cooperating agency on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement ("DEIS") for the proposed Desert Rock Energy Project and therefore, upon information and belief, was either aware of, discussed or directly reviewed the Desert Rock BO prior to issuance of OSM's Renewal Authorization. DEIS at 6-9; *accord* Desert Rock BO at 10 (including Navajo Mine in action area).

OSM's determination that no consultation was required is further undermined by the fact that OSM failed disclose (or provide to the public or any agency) any existing, draft or final permit for the Navajo Mine. *See* Comment Response Document at 12 (Ex. E). The limited availability and absence of circulation of any permitting at the draft permit stage (including information necessary for ESA consultation) prevented FWS from being able to meaningfully understand and participate in the consultation process.

In sum, the indirect and cumulative effects of coal mining at the Navajo Mine pursuant to Federal Permit Number NM-0003F may affect numerous threatened and endangered species and their critical habitat located in the action area. When OSM authorized the renewal of Federal

Permit Number NM-0003F, it failed to commence or complete consultation with FWS pursuant to Section 7 of the ESA, 16 U.S.C. § 1536(a)(2) to ensure that coal mining at Navajo Mine would not jeopardize the continued existence of threatened and endangered species or result in the adverse modification of their critical habitats. OSM therefore violated and remains in violation of Section 7 of the ESA, 16 U.S.C. § 1536(a)(2).

V. VIOLATIONS OF 16 U.S.C. § 1538

The ESA prohibits any "person" from "taking" threatened and endangered species. 16 U.S.C. § 1538; 50 C.F.R. § 17.31. "Take" is defined to mean to "harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or attempt to engage in such conduct." *Id.* § 1532(19). FWS has defined "harm" to include "significant habitat modification or degradation which actually kills or injures fish or wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including breeding, spawning, rearing, migrating, feeding or sheltering." 50 C.F.R. § 222.102. The ESA's prohibition of the take of listed species is subject only to certain limited exemptions, including through FWS's development of an "incidental take statement" in a biological opinion and/or issuance of an "incidental take permit" pursuant to Section 10 of the ESA. 16 U.S.C. § 1539(a)(1)(A).

Here, because OSM failed to complete consultation as required by the Section 7 of the ESA in its authorization of the Navajo Mine permit, and because coal mining, transportation and combustion resulting from OSM's authorization of the Navajo Mine permit renewal will take threatened and endangered species—including, but not limited to, by significant modification or degradation of species habitat and by injury of listed species' reproductive capacity—OSM's Renewal Authorization constitutes an ongoing unlawful "take" under section 9 of the ESA.

V. CONCLUSION

If you do not act within 60 days to correct these violations of the ESA, the Center, Diné CAR and the Alliance will pursue litigation in federal court against the agencies and officials named in this letter. We will seek injunctive and declaratory relief, and legal fees and costs regarding these violations. If you have any questions, wish to meet to discuss this matter, or feel this notice is in error, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Brad A. Bartlett, CO Atty #32816
Travis Stills, CO Atty #27509
Energy Minerals Law Center
1911 Main Avenue, Suite 238
Durango, Colorado 81301
Email: brad.bartlett@frontier.net
Email: stills@frontier.net
Phone: (970)247-9334

Taylor McKinnon, Public Lands Campaigns Director
Center for Biological Diversity
P.O.B. 1178
Flagstaff, AZ 86002-1178
Email: tmckinnon@biologicaldiversity.org
Phone: (928) 310-6713

Copy: Al Klein, Western Regional Director, OSM
Rick Holbrook, Chief Program Support Division, Western Region OSM
Brenda Steele, Hydrologist, Western Region OSM

EXHIBIT LIST

Ex. A U.S. Dep't of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement, *Approval of Permit Renewal for BHP Navajo Coal Company's Navajo Mine* (Sept. 7 2010)("Renewal Authorization")

Ex. B U.S. Dep't of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, *Draft Biological Opinion for the Desert Rock Energy Project, U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, Gallup, New Mexico* (Oct. 2009)("Desert Rock BO")

Ex. C Desert Rock BO at Appendix A - Figure 1

Ex. D Response to San Juan Citizens Alliance Comments, Navajo Mine Permit Renewal, OSM ID No. 9/08/19-03 (Aug. 11, 2009)

Ex. E Notifications, Navajo Mine Permit Renewal Decision Document

Ex. F Comment Response Document

From: Uberuaga, Dave
To: Hahn, Martha G.; Balsom, Janet R.
Cc: Lyder, Jane
Subject: Re: N AZ Proposed Withdrawal Final EIS - Public Release
Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2011 3:18:44 PM

Jane, Martha & Jan,
Thank you so much for your leadership and on going commitment to help drive this most significant issue to a very positive outcome. Your reviews were timely and most professional in every way. I appreciate all the guidance you provided me during the peak of the final EIS.
Thank You,
Dave

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 26, 2011, at 10:13 AM, Jan_Balsom@nps.gov wrote:

>
>
>
>
> fyi
>
> **********
>
> Janet R. Balsom, Deputy Chief
> Science and Resource Management
> Grand Canyon National Park
> P.O. Box 129
> Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023
> (928) 638-7758 (office)
> (928) 606-4406 (cell)
> (928) 638-7755 (fax)
> jan_balsom@nps.gov
> ----- Forwarded by Jan Balsom/GRCA/NPS on 10/26/2011 10:10 AM -----
>
> "Horyza,
> Christopher L"
> <choryza@blm.gov> To
> (b) (6)
> 10/26/2011 10:05
> AM "alan.gardner@washco.utah.gov"
> <alan.gardner@washco.utah.gov>,
> "arogers@azgfd.gov"
> <arogers@azgfd.gov>, "Balsom, Janet
> R." <Jan_Balsom@nps.gov>,
> "bbadams@sanjuancounty.org"
> <bbadams@sanjuancounty.org>,
> "ccoyle@swca.com"
> <ccoyle@swca.com>, "Christian,
> Lorraine M" <lmchrist@blm.gov>,
> "cindy.levesque@co.mohave.az.us"
> <cindy.levesque@co.mohave.az.us>,
> (b) (6)
>
> "cullin.pattillo@co.mohave.az.us"
> <cullin.pattillo@co.mohave.az.us>,
> "Hubbs, Dawn"

(b) (6)
> Dirk
> Clayson (b) (6)
> "Florence, Scott R"
> <S1Floren@blm.gov>, Fredonia Town
> Manager <townmngr@fredonia.net>,
> "gary.watson@co.mohave.az.us"
> <gary.watson@co.mohave.az.us>,
> "Gatto, Angela" <agatto@fs.fed.us>,
> "ghomer@kaibabpaiute-nsn.gov"
> <ghomer@kaibabpaiute-nsn.gov>,
> "Hahn, Martha G."
> <Martha_Hahn@nps.gov>, "Hoffmann,
> John P" <jphoffma@usgs.gov>,
> "Horyza, Christopher L"
> <choryza@blm.gov>,
(b) (6)
>
>
> "jdixon@land.az.gov"
> <jdixon@land.az.gov>,
(b) (6)
>
>
> "jon.spencer@azgs.az.gov"
> <jon.spencer@azgs.az.gov>, Justin
> Fischer
> <jfischer@fivecounty.utah.gov>,
(b) (6)
>
>
> "lee.allison@azgs.az.gov"
> <lee.allison@azgs.az.gov>, Leeland
> Pollock
(b) (6)
>
(b) (6)
>
> Manuel
> Savala
> <msavala@kaibabpaiute-nsn.gov>,
> Matt Brown (b) (6)
> "Bungart, Peter"
> <pbungart@circaculture.com>,
> "rmbailey@sanjuancounty.org"
> <rmbailey@sanjuancounty.org>,
> "ronw@washco.state.ut.us"
> <ronw@washco.state.ut.us>,
> "rsieg@azgfd.gov"
> <rsieg@azgfd.gov>, "Schuppert, Liz
> M" <lschuppert@fs.fed.us>, brsmith
> <brenda_smith@fws.gov>, "Sogge,
> Mark K" <mark_sogge@usgs.gov>, Sue
> Pratt <spratt@coconino.az.gov>,
> Travis Lingenfelter
> <Travis.Lingenfelter@co.mohave.az.u
> s>, "Williams, Mike R"
> <mrwilliams01@fs.fed.us>,
> "Wooldridge, Brian"
> <brian_wooldridge@fws.gov>,
> "Spangle, Steve"
> <steve_spangle@fws.gov>
> cc
>
> Subject
> N AZ Proposed Withdrawal Final EIS

> - Public Release
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
> This notice is to alert you to the release/availability of the Final
> Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Northern Arizona Proposed
> Withdrawal. The BLM Federal Register Notice of Availability for the FEIS
> will be published tomorrow (October 27, 2011) and will be available on the
> Arizona BLM website today (October 26, 2011) at
> www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/mining/timeout/feis.html. Individual copies have
> been mailed out and documents will also be available at the BLM office in
> St. George, UT; the Kaibab National Forest Office in Williams, AZ; and the
> BLM Arizona State Office in Phoenix, AZ.
>
> In June 2011, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar identified the
> preferred alternative in the EIS as Alternative B, which would withdraw
> over a million acres of public land in the vicinity of the Grand Canyon for
> 20 years. Any withdrawal would be subject to valid existing rights.
>
> Chris
>
> Chris Horyza
> Planning and Environmental Coordinator
> BLM, Arizona State Office
> Phone: 602-417-9446
> Fax: 602-417-9454
>
>

From:	Wheeler, Richard W
To:	Boling, Ted A
Cc:	Lin, Janet H; Baca, Sylvia
Subject:	RE: Meeting Request With Tribal Leaders
Date:	Wednesday, March 30, 2011 2:03:12 PM

I agree, let me know who will attend from BLM and I will add them to the invite.

Thanks!

-----Original Message-----
From: Boling, Ted A
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2011 1:57 PM
To: Wheeler, Richard W
Cc: Lin, Janet H.; Baca, Sylvia
Subject: RE: Meeting Request With Tribal Leaders

Richard - someone from BLM should be at this meeting, as it is a BLM action that is pending.
I'm cc'g Janet Lin, who is familiar with the Grand Canyon withdrawal.

-----Original Message-----
From: Wheeler, Richard W
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2011 9:39 AM
To: Boling, Ted A
Subject: FW: Meeting Request With Tribal Leaders

Good morning, Ted:

Could you join this meeting on April 5 at 11:00 AM? If not, what times look good for you on April 4 or 5th?

Thanks!

-----Original Message-----
From: Shafroth, William
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2011 9:16 AM
To: Wheeler, Richard W
Subject: Re: Meeting Request With Tribal Leaders

Ok

----- Original Message -----
From: Wheeler, Richard W
To: Shafroth, William
Sent: Tue Mar 29 08:53:17 2011
Subject: FW: Meeting Request With Tribal Leaders

Do you still want to meet with them? Roger Clark called yesterday to ask the status of his this request.

-----Original Message-----
From: Lyder, Jane
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2011 6:38 PM
To: Wheeler, Richard W
Subject: RE: Meeting Request With Tribal Leaders

I think Will should take it. And if Ted Boling or Ned Farquahar is available that would be great too.

_____
From: Wheeler, Richard W

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2011 10:37 AM
To: Lyder, Jane
Subject: RE: Meeting Request With Tribal Leaders

Roger Clark just called to arrange this meeting. Melissa asked me to check with you to see if Will should still take this meeting, if so, should Jon Jarvis be involved?

From: Lyder, Jane
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2011 4:02 PM
To: Koenigsberg, Melissa; Wheeler, Richard W
Subject: Re: Meeting Request With Tribal Leaders

I asked Will yesterday to please take the meeting.
Jane Lyder
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks
Department of the Interior

_____
From: Koenigsberg, Melissa
To: Wheeler, Richard W
Cc: Lyder, Jane
Sent: Thu Mar 17 09:23:22 2011
Subject: RE: Meeting Request With Tribal Leaders
Jane is copied on the request. I want to get her advice regarding this meeting. It would need to be coordinated with NPS.

From: Wheeler, Richard W
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2011 9:19 AM
To: Koenigsberg, Melissa
Subject: FW: Meeting Request With Tribal Leaders

Should Will take this meeting?

From: Scheduling SIO
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2011 9:09 AM
To: Wheeler, Richard W
Subject: FW: Meeting Request With Tribal Leaders

From: roger clark [mailto:rclark@grandcanyontrust.org]
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2011 8:01 PM
To: Shafroth, William
Cc: Lyder, Jane; Jarvis, Jon; Scheduling SIO; Adams, Gail A
Subject: Meeting Request With Tribal Leaders

Dear Assistant Secretary Shafroth:

Havasupai, Hualapai, Kaibab-Paiute, Navajo, and Hopi leaders are scheduling a trip to Washington, D.C. during the week of April 4, 2011 to discuss with Department of the Interior officials their support for Secretary Salazar's proposed 20-year ban on new mining claims on more than a million acres of public lands surrounding the Grand Canyon. The Grand Canyon Trust is assisting in organizing and facilitating the trip.

The tribal representatives would like to schedule a time with you to discuss specific concerns about uranium mining. We would also like to request an opportunity to meet briefly with Secretary Salazar and to hand deliver tribal comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed withdrawal.

We can arrange our schedule to meet with you anytime during the afternoon of Monday, April 4, or all day Tuesday or Wednesday.

Confirmed tribal representatives:
Edmund Tilousi, Havasupai Vice Chairman
Loretta Jackson, Hualapai Cultural Preservation Director
Roland Maldonado, Kaibab-Paiute representative

Pending confirmation:
Herman Honanie, Hopi Vice Chairman
Javier Ramos, Navajo representative

We are also scheduling meetings with other adminstration officials and members of Congress during our visit, but wanted to confirm our meeting with you as soon as possible before scheduling other meetings.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,
Roger Clark
Roger Clark
Air & Energy Program Director
(928) 774-7488
grandcanyontrust.org<http://grandcanyontrust.org/>

From:	Wheeler, Richard W
To:	Boling, Ted A
Cc:	Lin, Janet H; Baca, Sylvia
Subject:	RE: Meeting Request With Tribal Leaders
Date:	Monday, April 04, 2011 2:11:05 PM

I think we should be OK, Marcilynn is going to attend.

-----Original Message-----
From: Boling, Ted A
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2011 2:10 PM
To: Wheeler, Richard W
Cc: Lin, Janet H.; Baca, Sylvia
Subject: RE: Meeting Request With Tribal Leaders

Richard - I now have a conflicting meeting with SOL.
Sylvia Baca is out this week, so we don't have anyone in ASLM who can cover this.
Have you confirmed that BLM will be represented?

-----Original Message-----
From: Wheeler, Richard W
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2011 2:03 PM
To: Boling, Ted A
Cc: Lin, Janet H.; Baca, Sylvia
Subject: RE: Meeting Request With Tribal Leaders

I agree, let me know who will attend from BLM and I will add them to the invite.

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Jane Lyder
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks
Department of the Interior

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Cc: Lyder, Jane
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To: Koenigsberg, Melissa
Subject: FW: Meeting Request With Tribal Leaders

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To: Wheeler, Richard W
Subject: FW: Meeting Request With Tribal Leaders

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To: Shafroth, William
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Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,
Roger Clark
Roger Clark
Air & Energy Program Director
(928) 774-7488
grandcanyontrust.org<http://grandcanyontrust.org/>

From: Whitlock, Jenna
To: Baca, Sylvia
Cc: Davis, Vermell
Subject: Re: FW: Pending action items
Date: Friday, November 05, 2010 12:28:51 PM

I asked Janet Lin for this info for our Major Projects update -- she told me that the decision to release of the DEIS is pending at the Department.

At this week's Director's meeting Abbey said that David Hayes requested a third-party economic analysis with a 30-day turn around, which would of course delay the DEIS. But Janet couldn't confirm that.

I'll pop my head in and see if you need more info. j

Jenna Whitlock
Office of the Assistant Secretary
Land and Minerals Management
US Department of the Interior
(202) 208-5444 desk, (202) 510-6816 cell, (202) 208-6243 fax

"Baca, Sylvia"
<Sylvia_Baca@ios.
doi.gov>
11/05/2010 12:23
PM

To
"Whitlock, Jenna"
<Jenna_Whitlock@blm.gov>, "Davis,
Vermell"
<Vermell_Davis@ios.doi.gov>

cc

Subject
FW: Pending action items

I need a date for items below ASAP

Grand canyon

OSM Oversight Directive

Sylvia V. Baca
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
US Department of Interior

From: Farquhar, Ned
Sent: Friday, November 05, 2010 10:15 AM
To: Lane, Kenneth; Abbey, Robert V; Bromwich, Michael R; Haze, Pam K;

Pizarchik, Joseph G; Belin, Letty; Davis, Laura; Black, Steve
Cc: Falsey, William D; Schwartz, Melissa; Baca, Sylvia; Lewis, Wilma
Subject: RE: Pending action items

Ken – Adding Wilma and Sylvia to your distrib list – Sylvia covers Grand Canyon and the oversight issue in our office.

Interior Approps energy report - (b) (5)

Onshore royalty rate - Unless you are interested in the nitty-gritty of the onshore royalty rate reform cost-benefit analysis, I think the onshore royalty rate reform item could be de-listed. It's in the reg-grinding process now.

OCS - I think BOEMRE is keeping you up to date on the NTL.

From: Lane, Kenneth
Sent: Friday, November 05, 2010 9:54 AM
To: Abbey, Robert V; Bromwich, Michael R; Haze, Pam K; Farquhar, Ned; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Belin, Letty; Davis, Laura
Cc: Falsey, William D; Schwartz, Melissa
Subject: Pending action items

Hello all, just trying to get an update on the status of these pending action items

Protecting America's Treasured Landscapes & Wildlife
Action Date

1. Grand Canyon Area Lands Withdrawal (Uranium Mining)
   - Draft EIS being finalized for release
   November

Action Date

Developing Renewable Energy & Oversight of
Action Date
Energy Production

1. OCS Development
   - NTL re CEO certification requirement & containment enforceability mechanism being developed for issuance--

(T) Week of November 2
to be followed by interim final rule incorporating such--
(T) By end of November

2. Interior Appropriations Report
   · OMB promises to clear report
   Fri, October 29

3. Onshore Royalty Rate Reform
   · Cost-benefit and economic impact analysis completion

4. OSM Reissued and Revised Oversight Directive
   · OSM to release for public review and comment a revised oversight November
   directive that clarifies procedures for addressing permit defects, among
   other things. (b) (5)

Empowering Native Americans, Alaska Natives & Island Communities
Action Date

1. Indian Water Rights
   · DOI Indian water rights team preparing draft letter of support for White
   Mtn Apache Tribe water settlement legislation. (b) (5)

Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

From:	Whitlock, Jenna
To:	Baca, Sylvia
Cc:	Rees, Gareth C
Subject:	Re: FW: Pending action items
Date:	Friday, November 05, 2010 12:46:50 PM

Janet confirmed that we do not have a tentative date for release of the Draft EIS. I'd suggest this:

Protecting America's Treasured Landscapes & Wildlife
Action Date

1. Grand Canyon Area Lands Withdrawal (Uranium Mining)
   - Draft EIS being finalized for release
   Pending Decision from Department

Jenna Whitlock
Office of the Assistant Secretary
Land and Minerals Management
US Department of the Interior
(202) 208-5444 desk, (202) 510-6816 cell, (202) 208-6243 fax

"Baca, Sylvia" <Sylvia_Baca@ios.doi.gov>
11/05/2010 12:23 PM

To
"Whitlock, Jenna" <Jenna_Whitlock@blm.gov>, "Davis, Vermell" <Vermell_Davis@ios.doi.gov>

cc

Subject
FW: Pending action items

I need a date for items below ASAP

Grand canyon

OSM Oversight Directive

Sylvia V. Baca
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land & Minerals Management
US Department of Interior

From: Farquhar, Ned

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Cc: Falsey, William D; Schwartz, Melissa; Baca, Sylvia; Lewis, Wilma
Subject: RE: Pending action items

Ken – Adding Wilma and Sylvia to your distrib list – Sylvia covers Grand Canyon and the oversight issue in our office.

Interior Approps energy report - (b) (5)

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   - DOI Indian water rights team preparing draft letter of support for White
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Ken Lane
Senior Advisor
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Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Room 6142
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-208-7351 phone
202-273-3501 fax

From: Mail Delivery System
To: prvs=145d369a1=DOI_Updates@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Mail delivery failed: returning message to sender
Date: Monday, June 20, 2011 2:34:48 PM

This message was created automatically by mail delivery software.

A message that you sent could not be delivered to one or more of its
recipients. This is a permanent error. The following address(es) failed:

  msbianca@sneej.org
    mailbox is full: retry timeout exceeded

------ This is a copy of the message, including all the headers. ------
------ The body of the message is 106860 characters long; only the first
------ 106496 or so are included here.


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        (Exim 4.69)
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        for msbianca@sneej.org; Mon, 20 Jun 2011 13:34:43 -0500
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Thread-Topic: Secretary Salazar's Remarks from Mather Point at the Rim of
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June 20, 2011
Contact: Kate Kelly (202) 208-6416
Celia Boddington (202) 208-6913

Secretary Salazar's Remarks from Mather Point at the Rim of the Grand Canyo=
n

MATHER POINT, GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK - In remarks regarding the potent=
ial withdrawal of certain federal lands near the Grand Canyon from new mini=
ng claims, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar today said that management=
 of the Grand Canyon area must be guided by "caution, wisdom, and science,"=
 so as to protect the World Heritage Site, tribal interests, drinking water=
 supplies, and the tourism economy that the area's natural resources suppor=
t.

In his remarks, provided below, Secretary Salazar stated that he will take =
action to prevent the opening of one million acres of public and National F=
orest System lands surrounding the Grand Canyon to new uranium mining claim=
s while the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) completes a final Environmental=
 Impact Statement that evaluates a preferred alternative of a 20 year miner=
al withdrawal on those same lands.

Secretary Salazar was joined at the Mather Point Amphitheater in Grand Cany=
on National Park by BLM Director Bob Abbey, National Park Service Director =
Jon Jarvis, and US Geological Survey Director Marcia McNutt.

A fact sheet on today's announcement can be found here.<http://www.doi.gov/=
news/pressreleases/loader.cfm?csModule=3Dsecurity/getfile&pageid=3D2503=
97>

Secretary Salazar's remarks as prepared for delivery are below.

Remarks as Prepared for Delivery
Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar
South Rim of the Grand Canyon, Arizona
June 20, 2011

Good morning, everyone.

One hundred and forty-two years ago, John Wesley Powell and his crew became=
 the first explorers ever known to successfully steer their way through the=
 rocks and gorges, the rapids and whirlpools, of America's greatest natural=
 wonder: the Grand Canyon.

Powell came here to read the story of our planet in the layers of the canyo=
n walls. He came to study the forces that shaped this land, pebble after p=
ebble, flood after flood, over 2 billion years.

To be here - for John Wesley Powell or for any of us - is to be overwhelmed=
 and humbled by the scale of geologic time. The minutes, hours, and days b=
y which we measure our lives are hardly an instant in the life of these can=
yons.

Yet, all of us - by the decisions we make in our short time here - can alte=
r the grandeur of this place.

Our ancestors understood this. Time and again, people like John Wesley Pow=
ell, Theodore Roosevelt, and Stephen Mather (for which this point is named)=
, helped us choose the protection of the ancient over the pressures of the =
now.

As Teddy Roosevelt famously implored from this very place: "Leave it as it =
is. You cannot improve on it. The ages have been at work on it, and man can=
 only mar it."

That courage... that wisdom... that patience... is why we have Grand Canyon=
 National Park, iconic places like Yosemite and Yellowstone, and wild and u=
ntrammeled forests and public lands for all Americans to enjoy and explore.

Our ancestors could not have known that one day the Grand Canyon would attr=
act more than 4 million visitors a year. That hunting, fishing, tourism, a=
nd outdoor recreation would generate an estimated $3.5 billion in economic =
activity in this area. Or that millions of Americans living in cities like=
 Phoenix and Los Angeles would rely on this river and this canyon for clean=
, healthy drinking water.

And many Tribes in the area see their history and culture woven throughout =
the Grand Canyon's landscape.

Like our ancestors, we do not know how future Americans will enjoy, experie=
nce, and benefit from this place. And that's one of the many reasons why w=
isdom, caution, and science should guide our protection of the Grand Canyon=
.

In this moment, we face a choice that could profoundly affect the Grand Can=
yon in ways we do not yet understand.

Some of the lands near the Grand Canyon contain uranium resources that have=
 helped meet our energy needs. Over the past 20 years, eight uranium mines=
 have operated in the area and one study has shown that a possible addition=
al eight to eleven mines might be developed in the area.

The question for us, though, is not whether to stop cautious and moderate u=
ranium development, but whether to allow further expansion of uranium minin=
g in the area.

The Bureau of Land Management, under the leadership of Director Bob Abbey, =
has been carefully studying this question since July, 2009, when I initiate=
d a two-year closure of the area to new uranium mining claims.

BLM, in coordination with other agencies, the States, Counties, Tribes, and=
 other partners published a draft environmental impact statement that exami=
ned whether to implement a twenty year mineral withdrawal, subject to valid=
 existing rights, for certain areas around the Grand Canyon.

The options they considered were no withdrawal (which would allow new hard =
rock mining claims to be filed), a partial withdrawal of approximately 300,=
000 acres, a partial withdrawal of 650,000 acres, and a full withdrawal of =
approximately 1 million acres.

The BLM received nearly 300,000 comments on this draft environmental impact=
 statement. The time has now come to respond to those comments and identif=
y a "preferred alternative" for a final environmental impact statement that=

the agency will complete by this fall.

Based on the analysis that has been done and the public comments that have =
been received, in particular - many of the water quality concerns raised b=
y downstream water users, I am directing two steps today.

First, I am ordering a temporary emergency withdrawal - through December 20=
, 2011 - of the full one million acres we are studying for the potential lo=
ng-term withdrawal, subject to valid existing rights. This emergency six-mo=
nth withdrawal will ensure that no new mining claims can be filed after the=
current two-year segregation expires on July 20th.

Second, based on the input of BLM Director Bob Abbey, National Park Service=
Director Jon Jarvis, USGS Director Marcia McNutt, and the United States Fo=
rest Service Chief Tom Tidwell, I am directing the BLM to identify the full=
one million acre uranium withdrawal as the preferred alternative in the fi=
nal EIS.

This alternative, if ultimately selected, would ensure that all public land=
s adjacent to Grand Canyon National Park are protected from new hard rock m=
ining claims, all of which are in the watershed of the Grand Canyon.

This remains an ongoing process. Based on this direction, BLM will complet=
e the environmental analysis of the preferred alternative and other alterna=
tives and publish a final environmental impact statement by fall 2011. I =
will then be ready to make a final decision on the potential 20-year minera=
l withdrawal.

Finally, before I turn it over to Bob, I want to make a couple of things cl=
ear.

First, I know some critics will falsely claim that with a full one-million =
acre withdrawal from new hard rock mining claims, we would somehow be denyi=
ng all access to uranium resources.

That, of course, is not true. Uranium, like oil and gas, solar, wind, geot=
hermal, and other sources, remains a vital component of a responsible and c=
omprehensive energy strategy. We will continue to develop uranium in north=
ern Arizona, Wyoming and other places across the country.

It is worth stating again that we believe there are likely a number of vali=
d existing rights in the proposed withdrawal area even if the preferred alt=
ernative is ultimately selected as the final decision. We expect continued=
development of those claims and the establishment of new mines over the ne=
xt twenty years.

In fact, cautious development with strong oversight could help us answer cr=
itical questions about water quality and environmental impacts of uranium m=
ining in the area. This science, derived from experience, would help other=
s decide what actions are necessary to protect the Grand Canyon.

Second, as we move through the final analysis toward a decision, let us all=
be reminded of what these canyons can teach us.

It is what John Wesley Powell and his crew experienced here as they risked =
their lives more than a century ago.

And it's what families sense when they stand on this rim: that our lives a=
re fleeting instants when measured against the geologic time and forces tha=
t forged this canyon.

But our decisions - our actions - can alter billions of years of history in=
 all its wonder and glory.

Let us be cautious. Let us be patient. Let us be humble.

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tyle=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"'>The Bureau =
of Land Management, under the leadership of Director Bob Abbey, has been ca=
refully studying this question since July, 2009, when I initiated a two-yea=
r closure of the area to new uranium mining claims. <o:p></o:p></span=
> <span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-famil=
y:"Times New Roman","serif"'><o:p> </o:p> <p class=3DMso=
Normal><span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","se=
rif"'>BLM, in coordination with other agencies, the States, Counties, Tribe=
s, and other partners published a draft environmental impact statement that=
 examined whether to implement a twenty year mineral withdrawal, subject to=
 valid existing rights, for certain areas around the Grand Canyon. <o=
:p></o:p> <span style=3D'font-size:12=
.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"'><o:p> </o:p></p=
> <span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times=
 New Roman","serif"'>The options they considered were no withdrawal (which =

would allow new hard rock mining claims to be filed), a partial withdrawal =
of approximately 300,000 acres, a partial withdrawal of 650,000 acres, and =
a full withdrawal of approximately 1 million acres.<o:p></o:p></=
p> <span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Time=
s New Roman","serif"'><o:p> </o:p> =
<span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"'>T=
he BLM received nearly 300,000 comments on this draft environmental impact =
statement. The time has now come to respond to those comments and ide=
ntify a "preferred alternative" for a final environmental impact =
statement that the agency will complete by this fall. <o:p></o:p></sp=
an> <span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-fam=
ily:"Times New Roman","serif"'><o:p> </o:p> <p class=3DM=
soNormal><span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","=
serif"'>Based on the analysis that has been done and the public comments th=
at have been received, in particular - many of the water quality conc=
erns raised by downstream water users, I am directing two steps today.<o:p>=
</o:p> <span style=3D'font-size:12.0p=
t;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"'><o:p> </o:p> <p=
 class=3DMsoNormal><span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times Ne=
w Roman","serif"'>First, I am ordering a temporary emergency withdrawal - t=
hrough December 20, 2011 - of the full one million acres we are studying fo=
r the potential long-term withdrawal, subject to valid existing rights. Thi=
s emergency six-month withdrawal will ensure that no new mining claims can =
be filed after the current two-year segregation expires on July 20th.<o:p><=
/o:p> <span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt=
;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"'><o:p> </o:p> <p =
class=3DMsoNormal><span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New=
 Roman","serif"'>Second, based on the input of BLM Director Bob Abbey, Nati=
onal Park Service Director Jon Jarvis, USGS Director Marcia McNutt, and the=
 United States Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell, I am directing the BLM to =
identify the full one million acre uranium withdrawal as the preferred alte=
rnative in the final EIS. <o:p></o:p> <p class=3DMsoNor=
mal><span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif=
"'><o:p> </o:p> <span style=3D'f=
ont-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"'>This alternative, if=
 ultimately selected, would ensure that all public lands adjacent to Grand =
Canyon National Park are protected from new hard rock mining claims, all of=
 which are in the watershed of the Grand Canyon.<o:p></o:p> <=
p class=3DMsoNormal><span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times N=
ew Roman","serif"'><o:p> </o:p> =
<span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"'>This=
 remains an ongoing process. Based on this direction, BLM will comple=
te the environmental analysis of the preferred alternative and other altern=
atives and publish a final environmental impact statement by fall 2011.&nbs=
p; I will then be ready to make a final decision on the potential 20-=
year mineral withdrawal.<o:p></o:p> <=
span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"'><o:p>=
 </o:p> <span style=3D'font-size=
:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"'>Finally, before I turn it ov=
er to Bob, I want to make a couple of things clear.<o:p></o:p></=
p> <span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Time=
s New Roman","serif"'><o:p> </o:p> =
<span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"'>F=
irst, I know some critics will falsely claim that with a full one-million a=
cre withdrawal from new hard rock mining claims, we would somehow be denyin=
g all access to uranium resources. <o:p></o:p> <p class=
=3DMsoNormal><span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roma=
n","serif"'><o:p> </o:p> <span s=
tyle=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"'>That, of co=
urse, is not true. Uranium, like oil and gas, solar, wind, geothermal=

, and other sources, remains a vital component of a responsible and compreh=
ensive energy strategy. We will continue to develop uranium in northe=
rn Arizona, Wyoming and other places across the country.<o:p></o:p><=
/i> <span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:=
"Times New Roman","serif"'><o:p> </o:p> <p class=3DMsoNo=
rmal><span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","seri=
f"'>It is worth stating again that we believe there are likely a number of =
valid existing rights in the proposed withdrawal area even if the preferred=
 alternative is ultimately selected as the final decision. We expect =
continued development of those claims and the establishment of new mines ov=
er the next twenty years. <o:p></o:p> <p class=3DMsoNor=
mal><span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif=
"'><o:p> </o:p> <span style=3D'f=
ont-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"'>In fact, cautious de=
velopment with strong oversight could help us answer critical questions abo=
ut water quality and environmental impacts of uranium mining in the area.&n=
bsp; This science, derived from experience, would help others decide what a=
ctions are necessary to protect the Grand Canyon.<o:p></o:p></p=
> <span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times =
New Roman","serif"'><o:p> </o:p> <i=
><span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"'>Sec=
ond, as we move through the final analysis toward a decision, let us all be=
 reminded of what these canyons can teach us. <o:p></o:p><=
/p> <span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Tim=
es New Roman","serif"'><o:p> </o:p> <p class=3DMsoNormal=
><span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"'>=
It is what John Wesley Powell and his crew experienced here as they risked =
their lives more than a century ago. <o:p></o:p> <p cla=
ss=3DMsoNormal><span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Ro=
man","serif"'><o:p> </o:p> <span=
 style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"'>And it's =
what families sense when they stand on this rim: that our lives are f=
leeting instants when measured against the geologic time and forces that fo=
rged this canyon. <o:p></o:p> <=
span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"'><o:p>=
 </o:p> <span style=3D'font-size=
:12.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"'>But our decisions - our acti=
ons - can alter billions of years of history in all its wonder and glory.<o=
:p></o:p> <span style=3D'font-size:12=
.0pt;font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"'><o:p> </o:p></p=
> <span style=3D'font-size:12.0pt;font-family:"Times=
 New Roman","serif"'>Let us be cautious. Let us be patient. Let=
 us be humble. <o:p></o:p> <o:p> </=
o:p> </body></html>=

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From:	Florence, Scott
To:	Lin, Janet H
Cc:	Moody, Aaron; Simon, Benjamin M; Horyza, Christopher L; Kenna, James G; Hawbecker, Karen; Nedd, Michael D; Leverette, Mitchell
Subject:	Re: Information memorandum - your assistance!
Date:	Wednesday, February 02, 2011 5:04:49 PM

Chris and I both looked at it and this version looks fine.

----- Original Message -----
From: Janet H Lin
Sent: 02/02/2011 04:37 PM EST
To: Janet Lin
Cc: Aaron.Moody@exchange.sol.doi.gov; Benjamin_Simon@ios.doi.gov; Chris Horyza; Jim Kenna; KAREN.HAWBECKER@exchange.sol.doi.gov; Mike Nedd; Mitchell Leverette; Scott Florence
Subject: Re: Information memorandum - your assistance!
Thanks for your input. Did some rearranging and hopefully, captured your comments. Jim, Chris, or Scott - can you take one more read. I will keep moving this forward, but let me know if anything is incorrect!

[attachment "Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal of Lands Outside Grand Canyon (BLM draft, 2-2-11).docx" deleted by Scott R Florence/ASFO/AZ/BLM/DOI]

- Janet

_____
Janet H. Lin
Chief of Staff, Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
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(202) 208-3801
(202) 208-5242 (f)

Janet H Lin/WO/BLM/DOI 02/02/2011 11:26 AM	To Jim Kenna/AZSO/AZ/BLM/DOI, Mike Nedd/WO/BLM/DOI, Mitchell Leverette/WO/BLM/DOI, Chris Horyza, Scott Florence, Aaron moody, karen hawbecker, Benjamin Simon cc Subject Information memorandum - your assistance!

Hi folks -

We have a quick turnaround request for an information memorandum. I went ahead and drafted something - since this is one mof many information memorandums we have provided, (b) (5) Do you mind reviewing and verifying the information? (b) (5) I appreciate it very much. Thanks.

[attachment "Northern Arizona Withdrawal (circulated - draft 2-1-11).docx" deleted by Janet H Lin/WO/BLM/DOI]

- Janet

Janet H. Lin
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Washington, DC 20240
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From:	Haze, Pam K
To:	Farquhar, Ned; Lane, Kenneth; Bromwich, Michael R; Abbey, Robert V; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Belin, Letty; Davis, Laura; Black, Steve
Cc:	Falsey, William D; Schwartz, Melissa; Baca, Sylvia; Lewis, Wilma
Subject:	RE: Pending action items
Date:	Friday, November 05, 2010 10:26:44 AM

More on Interior Appropriations Report – we'll have the final set of comments today (hopefully mid-afternoon). Assuming the comments are incorporated and a few updates/corrections are made, OMB should be able to clear it quickly.

From: Farquhar, Ned
Sent: Friday, November 05, 2010 10:15 AM
To: Lane, Kenneth; Abbey, Robert V; Bromwich, Michael R; Haze, Pam K; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Belin, Letty; Davis, Laura; Black, Steve
Cc: Falsey, William D; Schwartz, Melissa; Baca, Sylvia; Lewis, Wilma
Subject: RE: Pending action items

Ken – Adding Wilma and Sylvia to your distrib list – Sylvia covers Grand Canyon and the oversight issue in our office.

Interior Approps energy report - (b) (5)

Onshore royalty rate - Unless you are interested in the nitty-gritty of the onshore royalty rate reform cost-benefit analysis, I think the onshore royalty rate reform item could be de-listed. It's in the reg-grinding process now.

OCS - I think BOEMRE is keeping you up to date on the NTL.

From: Lane, Kenneth
Sent: Friday, November 05, 2010 9:54 AM
To: Abbey, Robert V; Bromwich, Michael R; Haze, Pam K; Farquhar, Ned; Pizarchik, Joseph G; Belin, Letty; Davis, Laura
Cc: Falsey, William D; Schwartz, Melissa
Subject: Pending action items

Hello all, just trying to get an update on the status of these pending action items

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-

Protecting America's Treasured Landscapes & Wildlife **Action Date**

1. ***Grand Canyon Area Lands Withdrawal (Uranium Mining)***
   - Draft EIS being finalized for release — November

Action Date

-

Developing Renewable Energy & Oversight of Energy Production **Action Date**

1. ***OCS Development***
   - NTL re CEO certification requirement & containment enforceability mechanism being developed for issuance-- — (T) Week of November 2
     to be followed by interim final rule incorporating such-- — (T) By end of November
2. ***Interior Appropriations Report***
   - OMB promises to clear report — Fri, October 29
3. ***Onshore Royalty Rate Reform***
   - Cost-benefit and economic impact analysis completion
4. ***OSM Reissued and Revised Oversight Directive***
   - OSM to release for public review and comment a revised oversight directive that clarifies procedures for addressing permit defects, among other things. (b) (5) — November

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Empowering Native Americans, Alaska Natives & Island Communities **Action Date**

-

1. ***Indian Water Rights***
   - DOI Indian water rights team preparing draft letter of support for White Mtn Apache Tribe water settlement legislation. (b) (5)

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