

From: [Bulletin Intelligence](#)
To: Interior@BulletinIntelligence.com
Subject: U.S. Department of the Interior News Briefing for Tuesday, May 10, 2016
Date: Tuesday, May 10, 2016 5:01:05 AM

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NEWS BRIEFING

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DOI in the News:

DOZENS TESTIFY IN SUPPORT OF MAKING STONEWALL INN FIRST LGBT NATIONAL

MONUMENT. The [New York Times](#) (5/9, Remnick, Subscription Publication, 14.18M) reports that “dozens of people...testified at Public School 41 in the West Village on Monday evening in support of a proposal to create the first national monument to the gay rights movement, anchored by the Stonewall Inn and neighboring Christopher Park.” According to the article, “the meeting on Monday, attended by a host of local politicians and led by Representative Jerrold Nadler of Manhattan; Sally Jewell, the United States secretary of the interior; and Jonathan B. Jarvis, the National Park Service director, was the latest step in a growing effort to recognize the area as a national monument.” The article notes that “although the White House would not confirm its support, several officials last night expressed confidence that the president would follow through, and some even thanked him prematurely for his support.”

Additional coverage was provided by [CNN](#) (5/9, Hetter, 2.4M), the [Washington Blade](#) (5/9, 89K), the [New York Daily News](#) (5/10, Crane-Newman, 3.76M), the [Windy City Times](#) (5/9, 54K), [New Now Next](#) (5/9, 83K), [GOPUSA](#) (5/9, 9K), [Edge Media Network](#) (5/9), [WABC-TV New York \(NY\)](#) New York (5/9, 261K), [KDLG-AM Dillingham \(AK\)](#) Dillingham, AK (5/9), [KTXL-TV Sacramento \(CA\)](#) Sacramento, CA (5/9, 83K), [WTKR-TV Norfolk \(VA\)](#) Norfolk, VA (5/9, 31K), [KTVZ-TV Bend \(OR\)](#) Bend, OR (5/9, 32K), [WGAL-TV Lancaster \(PA\)](#) Lancaster, PA (5/9, 107K), [WNYC-FM New York \(NY\)](#) New York (5/9, 58K), [WABC-TV New York](#) (5/9, 261K), [WBUR-FM Boston](#) (5/9, 105K), [KNPR-FM Las Vegas](#) (5/9, 1K), [KOBP-FM Portland, OR](#) (5/9), [KUOW-FM Seattle](#) (5/9, 15K), [KXJZ-FM Sacramento, CA](#) (5/9, 6K), [WUWM-FM Milwaukee](#) (5/9, 3K), [KUT-FM Austin, TX](#) (5/9, 5K), [WHYY-FM Philadelphia](#) (5/9, 22K), [WDDE-FM Dover, DE](#) (5/9), [WBFO-FM Buffalo, NY](#) (5/9, 4K), [WUNC-FM Chapel Hill, NC](#) (5/9, 9K), [WBUR-FM Boston](#) (5/9, 105K), [WAMU-FM Washington](#) (5/9, 29K), [WYPR-FM Baltimore](#) (5/9, 3K), and [WESA-FM Pittsburgh](#) (5/9, 3K).

OBAMA SIGNS LAW MAKING NORTH AMERICAN BISON NATIONAL MAMMAL. [Politico](#) (5/9, Gass, 1.93M) reports President Obama signed the National Bison Legacy Act into law Monday, making the North American bison the country's official national mammal following a lobbying campaign from a “varied coalition of conservationists, tribal groups and ranchers.” Contrary to rumors, the bald eagle has not “lost its status” as a national symbol. The [New York Times](#) (5/9, Harris, Subscription Publication, 14.18M) similarly reports that the bald eagle remains the national animal, but “at long last, the nation now has an official mammal.”

The [E&E](#) (5/9) notes that “bison primarily eat grasses, weeds and leafy plants – typically foraging for nine to 11 hours a day, according to an Interior Department blog post celebrating the bill signing.”

Additional coverage was provided by [The Hill](#) (5/9, Byrnes, 884K), the [Minneapolis \(MN\) Star Tribune](#) (5/9, 1.3M), the [Washington \(DC\) Times](#) (5/9, Freking, 269K), the [Los Angeles \(CA\) Times](#) (5/9, Press, 4.12M), the [New York Post](#) (5/9, 3.35M), [CBS News](#) (5/9, 3.67M), [ABC News](#) (5/9, 4.15M), [PBS NewsHour](#) (5/9, 209K), [Reuters](#) (5/9, Zuckerman), [USA Today](#) (5/9, 6.31M), [USA Today](#) (5/9, 6.31M), the [Native American Times](#) (5/9, 337), the [Albuquerque \(NM\) Journal](#) (5/9, 268K), the [Fresno \(CA\) Bee](#) (5/9, 274K), [Newsweek](#) (5/9, 751K), [The Atlantic](#) (5/9, 2.83M), the [Huffington Post](#) (5/9, 367K), [DC Patch](#) (5/9), [WBAL-AM Baltimore \(MD\)](#) Baltimore (5/9, 12K), and [WRC-TV Washington \(DC\)](#) Washington (5/9, 507K).

SECRETARY JEWELL SAYS “KEEP IT IN THE GROUND” MOVEMENT IS “NAÏVE”. [Politico Pro](#) (5/9) reports that last Thursday, Interior Secretary Sally Jewell said that “the nation is ‘waking up’ to the impact of climate change and how ‘we will transition ourselves from a fossil fuel-dependent economy to an economy where we are not as dependent.’” However, then she said it would “take a very long time before we can wean ourselves from fossil fuels, so I think that to keep it in the ground is naïve, to say we could shift to 100 percent renewables is naïve. ... We really have to have a blend over time, and a transition over time, that recognizes the real complexity of what we’re dealing with.”

Additional coverage was provided by [Bloomberg Government](#) (5/9, 1K), [Natural Gas Intelligence](#) (5/9, Subscription Publication), [Upstream Online](#) (5/10, 20K), [Common Dreams](#) (5/8, 34K), and [Planetizen](#) (5/9, 1K).

Secretary Jewell Asked To Revoke Oklahoma Oil, Gas Leases. The [Center for Biological Diversity](#) (5/9) says it requested that the BLM “pull 11 public fossil fuel leases sold last month in Oklahoma and Kansas over concerns that fracking and underground injection of oil wastewater could increase the risk of earthquakes in these areas, threatening the physical safety and homes of tens of thousands of residents.” In the letter to Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, the group “called on the BLM to withdraw the leases, covering more than 2,300 acres of federal oil and gas reserves in Oklahoma and Kansas, that were auctioned off April 20 in Santa Fe, N.M.”

Additional coverage was provided by [ENews Park Forest](#) (5/9, 2K).

SECRETARY JEWELL SEES PROGRESS IN COLORADO RIVER TALKS. [Water Education](#) (5/9) reports that Interior Secretary Sally Jewell said the United States and Mexico are “making important progress in talks on a new accord to share water from the Colorado River, which is badly overlapped and approaching critical shortage levels.”

INTERIOR RELEASES ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE STRATEGIC PLAN. [Greenwire](#) (5/9, Subscription Publication) reports that the Interior Department has “released a five-year environmental justice proposal with a renewed commitment to ensuring minority and low-income communities do not suffer disproportionately from environmental impacts.” The 2016-2020 draft Environmental Justice Strategic Plan has been “updated from the 2012-2017 version to increase collaboration between agencies and create more participation opportunities for minority, low-income, American Indian and Alaska Native communities, and tribal governments.” Kris Sarri, Interior’s principal deputy assistant secretary for policy, management and budget, said in a statement, “As custodian of the Nation’s natural resources and heritage, it is vitally important that our management of these resources is done in a manner that is equitable, accessible, and inclusive of all populations. I encourage the public to review and comment on this plan and look forward to continuing the work with communities to achieve environmental justice for all Americans.”

HOUSE MAY NOT TAKE ACTION ON PRO-SPORTSMEN ENERGY BILL. [Field & Stream](#) (5/9, Marshall, 8.16M) reports in its “The Conservationist” blog on an energy bill that Field & Stream says has “bi-partisan support” in the Senate, but may not be acted upon by the House of Representatives. The proposed bill addresses the consideration of wildlife and recreation in the development of energy resources, and includes provisions for royalty payments to support fish and wildlife habitat restoration. Backcountry Hunters and Anglers head Land Tawney is quoted urging support for the bill. Tawney said, “Get in touch with House members and tell them the American people, and sportsmen in particular, won’t take this delaying any more...These are issues we care about, things we need done now.”

CNN: CONGRESS, FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY WOULD HINDER TRUMP WALL PLAN. [CNN](#) (5/9, Moody, 2.4M) discusses Donald Trump's proposal to build a wall along the length of the US southern border, saying, "The red tape alone will be like nothing Trump – master builder he may be – has ever faced." CNN says that Congressional support would be difficult to secure, particularly in the Senate, "where Democrats are almost guaranteed to stage a filibuster." CNN adds, "Assuming a wall bill passes both chambers and Trump signs it, which will be no small feat, he will then have to face the federal bureaucracy," including CBP, FEMA, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Department of Labor, among others. CNN concludes, "As anyone who's ever worked with the federal government will tell you, it won't be so easy."

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: SECRETARY JEWELL ATTENDS CELEBRATION OF THREE NEW NATIONAL MONUMENTS IN CALIFORNIA. Additional coverage of the celebration of the three new national monuments in California was provided by [NVS24](#) (5/8).

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: SECRETARY JEWELL ANNOUNCES GRANTS APPROVED BY MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION COMMISSION. Additional coverage of the grants approved by the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission was provided by [KUIK](#) (5/9).

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE OF SEWALL-BELMONT HOUSE DESIGNATION. Additional coverage of the designation of the Sewall-Belmont House as a national monument was provided by the [Independent UK](#) (5/9, Revesz, 1.15M).

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE OF KLAMATH DAM REMOVAL AGREEMENT. Additional coverage of the Klamath River dam removal agreement was provided by [Water Education Foundation](#) (5/6).

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: STUDY TO REVIEW OUTDOOR RECREATION ECONOMY. Additional coverage that Interior Secretary Sally Jewell last month announced "plans to study the impact that outdoor recreation has on the nation's economy" was provided by the [Bend \(OR\) Bulletin](#) (5/10, 98K).

LWCF REAUTHORIZATION CALLED A "HOLLOW VICTORY". For the "Congress" blog of [The Hill](#) (5/9, Hartl, Snape, 884K), Brett Hartl, the endangered species policy director at the Center for Biological Diversity, and William Snape, the Director of Adjunct Faculty Development and Fellow in Environmental Law at the Washington College of Law at American University, write that "the reauthorization of the LWCF is a nearly meaningless procedural victory in comparison to the significant number of negative, substantive policy concessions" that Sen. Lisa Murkowski and "her industry-aligned allies have secured that will harm the environment and exacerbate the climate crisis." They provide "some inconvenient truths that explain why a permanent reauthorization of the LWCF is such a hollow 'victory' compared to what was traded away." They conclude that "the failure to address the more harmful provisions will result in a hollow victory for U.S. lands, water, and wildlife."

MONTANA SENATORS THANKED FOR SUPPORT OF LWCF. In a letter to the [Helena \(MT\) Independent Record](#) (5/9, 38K), Angie Grove thanks Montana's U.S. Sens. Steve Daines and Jon Tester "for working together to keep U.S. Forest Service trail funds working in Montana and for passing a Senate bill to permanently reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund." According to Grove, the LWCF has "served Montana communities – large and small – for decades, helping to fund baseball and soccer fields, public swimming pools, parks, wildlife habitat and to protect access to public lands and waters."

REPPENHAGEN: BISHOP TRYING TO HIJACK FY17 NDAA WITH GREATER SAGE GROUSE BILL. In a post in [The Hill's](#) (5/9, Reppenhagen, 884K) Congress Blog, Garrett Reppenhagen reports Utah state Rep. Rob Bishop introduced the "Greater Sage Grouse Protection and Recovery Act of 2016" to the FY17 NDAA, and says the bill "actively undermines one of America's greatest conservation achievements," that would "all but assure that the bird would warrant a listing under the ESA." Reppenhagen says "Rep. Bishop needs to step aside and allow the sage-grouse plans to be fully implemented," saying Bishop is playing "political games with the NDAA."

[Empowering Native American Communities:](#)

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: CITY OF ESPAÑOLA, NEW MEXICO ACCUSED OF TRESPASSING ON SANTA CLARA PUEBLO. Additional coverage that the United States says in a federal complaint that “Española, New Mexico’s sewer lines have been trespassing on Pueblo Indians’ land for 20 years and the city must pay the tribe or pull the lines out” was provided by [Courthouse News](#) (5/9, 7K).

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: SPORT FISHERMEN PROTEST SWINOMISH TRIBAL FISHERY.

Additional coverage that “a small band of recreational anglers gathered on the Rainbow Bridge over the Swinomish Channel to protest the Swinomish tribe’s plans for 25 boats to conduct three separate gillnet fisheries for chinook in Skagit Bay” was provided by the [Peninsula \(WA\) Daily News](#) (5/5, 41K).

Tackling America’s Water Challenges:

LAWMAKERS DEMAND AUDIT OF PROPOSED DELTA TUNNELS PROJECT. The [Central Valley \(CA\) Business Times](#) (5/9, 206) reports that “two lawmakers representing the California Delta region in Sacramento are demanding a state audit of Gov. Edmund Brown Jr.’s proposed \$68 billion Delta water tunnels scheme.” Assemblywoman Susan Talamantes Eggman said, “There are still too many unanswered questions about how the Twin Tunnels are to be funded and who is going to pay for them. With a federal investigation pending into whether billions of dollars meant for other purposes have already been misused, it is time for us to demand a higher level of scrutiny and public accountability for this project.” Sen. Lois Wolk said, “Currently the proposed Delta tunnels project has no financing plan for its construction, operation or maintenance. Proponents of the project claim that the beneficiary will pay, yet the ability and willingness of the contractors to pay is in serious question. Hundreds of millions of dollars have already been spent to conduct preliminary environmental review and engineering studies. Any further investment should be made with the utmost transparency to ensure that taxpayers are not paying the bill.”

Additional coverage was provided by the [Fairfield \(CA\) Daily Republic](#) (5/10, 53K).

CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR MAKES EMERGENCY DROUGHT RULES PERMANENT. The [New York Times](#) (5/9, Lovett, Subscription Publication, 14.18M) reports California Gov. Jerry Brown signed an executive order Monday to make emergency drought regulations permanent and to require urban water suppliers to “report their water use to the state each month.” The State Water Resources Control Board has proposed allowing each water district to present its own conservation plans “based on what its water supplies would be if the drought continued for three more years,” which will then be reviewed by the state. While the percentage of California that remains in drought is down to 90 percent from 97 percent two months ago, Brown “suggested that the drought may never entirely end, and that the state needed to adapt to life with less water.”

Securing America’s Energy Future:

Renewable Energy:

MOHAVE COUNTY, BIA COULD ENTER AGREEMENT ON SOLAR PROJECT. The [Mohave Valley \(AZ\) Daily News](#) (5/10, 23K) reports that the Mohave County Board of Supervisors will “discuss an agreement with the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs for a large solar project on Fort Mojave tribal land.” At Monday’s meeting, the county supervisors were scheduled to “discuss entering into an agreement as a cooperating agency with the BIA to create an Environmental Impact Statement for a proposed solar project on Fort Mojave tribal land.” According to county Development Services Director Nick Hont, “the project would use photovoltaic solar panels to generate up to 332 megawatts of electricity.”

CALIFORNIA STATE REP. COOK CRITICAL OF NEW MONUMENTS, DRECP. The [Victorville \(CA\) Daily Press](#) (5/7, Day, 43K) reported on California state Rep. Paul Cook, who spoke at a monthly development association meeting on topics such as Al-Qaeda, ISIS, and the Desert Renewable Energy Act. Cook expressed disappointment with Obama’s creation of three new national monuments, because he said that the move would lead to trail and road closures. Cook also spoke in opposition of parts of the

Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP), saying “I know why they want it here. It’s close to the (SCE) transmission lines.”

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: OBAMA ADMINISTRATION REVISING WIND-ENERGY RULE. Additional coverage that the Obama Administration is “revising a federal rule allowing wind-energy companies to operate high-speed turbines for up to 30 years” was provided by [OneNewsNow](#) (5/6, 4K), the [Chattanooga \(TN\) Times Free Press](#) (5/10, 188K), [North American Windpower](#) (5/9, 43K), [JD Supra](#) (5/9, 3K), and [JD Supra](#) (5/9, 3K).

Onshore Energy Development:

USGS FINDS EVIDENCE OF INJECTED WASTEWATER IN WEST VIRGINIA STREAM. [Natural Gas Intelligence](#) (5/9, Shelor, Subscription Publication) reports a study conducted by U.S. Geological Survey, University of Missouri and Duke University revealed “traces of oil and gas wastewater in surface waters near an injection well in Fayette County, WV.” USGS scientist Denise Akob said, “Our results demonstrate that activities at disposal facilities can potentially impact the quality of adjacent surface waters,” although the studies did not determine how oil and gas wastewater entered the stream.

Additional coverage was provided by [Politico Pro](#) (5/9, Subscription Publication).

BIA WANTS OSAGE DRILLERS’ LAWSUIT TO BE TOSSED. [Law360](#) (5/9, 41K) reports that the BIA “again urged an Oklahoma federal judge to give the agency a quick win over a group of Osage County oil and gas companies that contend the bureau’s environmental requirements are arbitrary, blasting the complaint as ‘vague.’” According to the article, “two weeks after the Osage Producers Association asked U.S. District Judge Gregory K. Frizzell to keep its lawsuit alive, the government contended that the 160-company trade group is still arguing against the administrative process, not concrete, reviewable bureau decisions.”

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: INTERIOR PANEL OVERTURNS BLM’S APPROVAL FOR COAL LEASE IN COLORADO. Additional coverage that “a U.S. Department of the Interior administrative panel on Friday vacated a Bureau of Land Management Colorado field office’s approval of Bowie Resource Partners LLC’s proposed coal mine expansion, finding that the manager had no authority to give the lease a green light,” was provided by [Law360](#) (5/9, 41K).

LAW PROFESSOR: REGULATORS TO BLAME FOR NOT ENSURING COAL COMPANIES CAN BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR CLEANUP. In an op-ed in the [Conversation \(UK\)](#) (5/9, 5K), law professor Patrick McGinley writes on the bankruptcies of major coal mining companies in the United States, and says “there is a real chance that taxpayer-funded billion-dollar bailouts will be necessary to cover their cleanup costs.” McGinley reports “Congress passed the Surface Mining Control & Reclamation Act (SMCRA) in 1977 to prevent such a scenario,” and accuses state and federal regulators for failing to ensure companies “have enforceable financial guarantees in place.” McGinley discusses the various options and mechanisms available to states to ensure companies meet their cleanup obligations, and puts blame on regulators who, “Against the backdrop of a century of coal company bankruptcies and attendant environmental damage...ignored a looming coal market collapse with a wink and a nod.”

Offshore Energy Development:

BOEM WEIGHS COMMENTS FOR OFFSHORE LEASING PLAN. [Bloomberg BNA](#) (5/9, Kovski, 13K) reports that “the focus of argument during the next five-year program of offshore oil and gas leasing has shifted to the Arctic from the Atlantic, as reflected in comments filed on a draft environmental impact statement for the plan.” Environmental activists urged the BOEM “to take leasing in the Beaufort and Chukchi seas out of the 2017–2022 leasing program and argued the draft environmental impact statement did not sufficiently weigh climate change risks.” On the other hand, “industry groups told BOEM that rather than narrow the options, it should consider more of them, including analysis of more alternatives within the draft environmental impact statement analysis.”

SHELL RELINQUISHES ALL BUT ONE CHUKCHI SEA LEASE. [Alaska Dispatch News](#) (5/9, Rosen,

214K) reports that “Royal Dutch Shell has decided to give up all but one of its federal offshore leases in the Chukchi Sea, bringing what appears to be an anticlimactic end to its multibillion-dollar effort to turn those icy Arctic waters off northwestern Alaska into a new oil-producing frontier.” Company spokesman Curtis Smith said Monday, “After extensive consideration and evaluation, we have made the decision to relinquish all but one of our federal offshore leases in Alaska’s Chukchi Sea. This action is consistent with our earlier decision not to explore offshore Alaska for the foreseeable future.”

Additional coverage was provided by [Bloomberg News](#) (5/10, Dlouhy, 2.07M) and [Bloomberg Business](#) (5/10, 2.07M).

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: BSEE DIRECTOR SALERNO DISCUSSES SAFETY CULTURE, REGULATIONS AT OFFSHORE TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE. Additional coverage of the Offshore Technology Conference was provided by [Offshore Magazine](#) (5/9, 129K).

America’s Great Outdoors:

Bureau of Land Management:

HOUSE PANEL TO HOLD HEARING ON BLM PLANNING OVERHAUL. [E&E Daily](#) (5/9, Subscription Publication) reports that a BLM “bid to overhaul how it manages about 250 million acres of Western lands will take the spotlight Thursday at a hearing before a House Natural Resources panel.” The Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations will “hear the views of state and county officials on how BLM’s proposal will affect their ability to influence agency decisions on land uses like grazing, energy development and recreation.” The BLM in February “unveiled a proposed rule to amend the regulations governing how agency resource management plans (RMPs) are developed, amended and revised.”

Additional coverage was provided by [The Hill](#) (5/9, Cama, 884K).

NEVADA RANCHER BUNDY SUING OBAMA. In its “Blog Briefing Room” blog, [The Hill](#) (5/9, Hagen, 884K) reports that “Cliven Bundy, the Nevada rancher who led an armed standoff over grazing fees on federal lands, is suing President Obama and Nevada officials in hopes of getting charges against him dismissed.” Bundy’s attorney will “file the complaint Tuesday against Obama; Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.); his son, former Clark County Commission Chairman Rory Reid and U.S. District Court Judge Gloria Navarro.” The complaint claims that “they violated several of his constitutional rights and also asks the court to dismiss his indictment and release him from solitary confinement.”

GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY HELD FOR SHOOTING RANGE IN UTAH. The [Provo \(UT\) Daily Herald](#) (5/9, 110K) reports that “Utah County officials hope a new county shooting range will improve safety, reduce littering and protect rock art in the Lake Mountain area.” The range will be built “on the west side of Utah Lake off Soldier Pass Road on 160 acres transferred to the county from the Bureau of Land Management in March.” A groundbreaking ceremony was held Monday and “representatives from Utah County, BLM, SITLA, Division of Wildlife Resources and nearby cities were all present to show support for the future facility, which is intended to give people a safer avenue for recreational shooting.”

Additional coverage was provided by [KSL-TV Salt Lake City \(UT\)](#) Salt Lake City (5/9, 489K).

BLM TO HOLD ADOPTION EVENT IN RIVERTON FOR WILD HORSES AND BURROS. The [AP](#) (5/9, 64K) reports that the BLM is “planning an adoption event in Riverton for wild horses and burros.” The Wyoming Honor Farm will “host the first of two adoption events this year on May 21.” According to the article, “about 30 halter and saddle-started horses and three burros will be available for adoption. Interested adopters can see the animals on May 20 before the event.”

Additional coverage was provided by the [Franklin \(IN\) Daily Journal](#) (5/9, 51K), the [Billings \(MT\) Gazette](#) (5/9, 195K), the [Casper \(WY\) Star-Tribune](#) (5/9, 104K), and the [Washington \(DC\) Times](#) (5/9, 269K).

NEW ELEPHANT SEAL COLONY ESTABLISHED ALONG HUMBOLDT COUNTY’S LOST COAST

TRAIL. The [Lost Coast Outpost \(CA\)](#) (5/9, Briseno) published a video of a new elephant seal colony along Humboldt County's Lost Coast Trail, and quotes Humboldt State professor of Zoology Dawn Goley, who said "We have been working with the Bureau of Land Management, who manage the wilderness area, to help visitors understand how to protect the seals and themselves and to appreciate the significance of this newly established colony. ...Elephant seals may seem docile, but they can be aggressive and move surprisingly quickly." Goley also credited the BLM, saying "By managing this undisturbed coastline and by educating those hikers who pass along the coast, the BLM has helped to make this wilderness area an inviting place for elephant seals to colonize."

BLM'S "RESPECT AND PROTECT" PETROGLYPH CONSERVATION CAMPAIGN SEEKS

VOLUNTEERS. The [St. George \(UT\) News](#) (5/9, Applegate, 3K) reports the BLM and Tread Lightly's "Respect and Protect" campaign to preserve archaeological and paleontological resources is looking for volunteers. The campaign is designed "to raise public awareness, prevent vandalism and promote cultural resource stewardship through education and outreach." BLM Director Neil Kornze is quoted saying, "When people remove ancient artifacts from the public lands, we all lose. ...If each one of us acts as a steward, we can 'respect and protect' these historical treasures and preserve them for future generations." The St. George News also reports on a volunteer call from the Southwest Utah National Conservation Lands Friends Group (SUNCLF), and on a standing call for information leading to prosecution of petroglyph vandals by Friends of Cedar Mesa and BLM.

ARIZONA GOV. DUCEY VETOES BILLS CHANGING RURAL WATER SUPPLY RULES. The [AP](#) (5/9, Christie, Van Velzer, 269K) reports that Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey on Monday "vetoed a pair of bills that would have eased requirements for developers in two rural counties to show there's enough water to supply new homes." Ducey's "veto stamp came shortly after he said at an unrelated school event that he wasn't going to allow legislation that undermines the state's 1980 groundwater management act to become law." In a statement after the veto, Ducey said "ensuring the certainty of water supplies is one of his top priorities."

Additional coverage was provided by the [Arizona Capitol Times](#) (5/9, 599).

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON PROPOSED ARIZONA POWER GRID IMPROVEMENTS ENDS.

[KJZZ-FM](#) Phoenix (5/9, 8K) reports that Monday was "the last day for public comment on the latest push to improve Arizona's power grid." According to the article, "the proposed project, which stretches mostly across federal lands, has encountered considerable resistance." Joe Incardine, who is managing the proposed "Ten West Link" for the BLM, said, "Native American tribes are very concerned, especially the Colorado River Indian tribes. They have a reservation very close to the proposed action." Incardine added that "a variety of other complaints have come in as well, ranging from concerns over the impact on wildlife, to the Department of Defense worried about its encroaching on the Yuma proving grounds, to ATV users upset that their paths may be cut off."

BLM CODY FIELD OFFICE TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING ON MAY 19. The [Cody \(WY\) Enterprise](#) (5/9, 20K) reports that the BLM Cody Field Office will "host an additional open house May 19 in Cody to discuss implementation of the approved Cody Resource Management Plan." Cody Field Manager Delissa Minnick said, "We're hosting another open house because we want to ensure we are hearing from people what they think our implementation priorities should be. There will be future opportunities for participation in the implementation process, but this is a critical first step."

Fish and Wildlife Service:

FWS DIRECTOR DAN ASHE: CONSUMER CHOICES MATTER IN SAVING ELEPHANTS FROM

IVORY POACHERS. In a [Huffington Post](#) (5/9, Ashe, 367K) op-ed, US FWS director Dan Ashe reports the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) announced winners in a worldwide design competition "to raise awareness of the ongoing global poaching and wildlife trafficking crisis." The winning designs will use crushed ivory from wildlife trafficking seizures to create exhibits at different AZA institutions to raise awareness of poaching. Ashe writes on the burning of 105 tons of ivory by Kenyan government officials, and says "Kenya has joined the United States and other countries working to destroy demand for ivory and other 'products' derived from the slaughter of imperiled wildlife,"

and also “under the President’s National Strategy to Combat Wildlife Trafficking, we’re making real progress.” Ashe says, “Most important, we’re seeing a growing understanding among ordinary people that their choices as consumers matter.”

FWS ANNOUNCES IVORY CRUSH DESIGN CHALLENGE WINNERS. [Bloomberg Research](#) (5/9, 2.07M) reports that the FWS announced the “winners of its Ivory Crush Design Challenge, which invited entrants to propose powerful visual concepts for public displays of crushed ivory from the U.S. ivory crushes.” According to the article, “Kelly Lance of Monterey, Calif., and Jacqueline Nott of Auburn, Calif., will see their ideas on paper transformed into three dimensions during the coming months as the Service works with the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) to build their designs and identify publicly accessible venues with high visibility to display the exhibits.” FWS Director Dan Ashe said that “these designs provide a compelling message to the American public about the need to protect African elephants by reducing our demand for ivory.”

WINNERS OF 2016 SAVING ENDANGERED SPECIES YOUTH ART CONTEST ANNOUNCED. The [Sierra \(CA\) Sun Times](#) (5/9) reports that the FWS, Endangered Species Coalition, Association of Zoos and Aquariums and International Child Art Foundation announced “the winners of the 2016 Saving Endangered Species Youth Art Contest.” FWS Director Dan Ashe said, “As our society becomes increasingly urban and disconnected from the natural world, it is becoming more and more important to engage our youth in conservation and teach them the importance of protecting our imperiled species. The work of these children and young adults shows the power of art to capture the imagination and forge critical connections to our magnificent wildlife and wild places. The work of all the entrants is an inspiration to us all and a reminder that we live in a beautiful, but also fragile, world.”

OREGON OCCUPATION LEADER DID NOT EXPECT CRIMINAL CHARGES. The [Oregonian](#) (5/9, 861K) reports that lawyers for Oregon wildlife refuge occupation leader Ammon Bundy said their client expected the occupation to end up in civil court and not result in criminal charges. “He had expected the government to issue the occupiers an eviction or ejection claim, instead of arresting and indicting them on federal charges in criminal court,” the Oregonian says. The occupation, was aimed at “raising this issue” of the purportedly unconstitutional ownership of Western lands by the federal government, Bundy’s lawyers said.

Additional coverage was provided by the [Minneapolis \(MN\) Star Tribune](#) (5/9, 1.3M), the [Washington \(DC\) Times](#) (5/9, 269K), the [Houston \(TX\) Chronicle](#) (5/9, 2.19M), [US News & World Report](#) (5/9, 1.15M), and [The Guardian \(UK\)](#) (5/9, Levin, 3.74M).

FWS CONSIDERING NEW PROTECTIONS FOR GOPHER TORTOISES. [The Hill](#) (5/9, Devaney, 884K) reports that the FWS is “considering new protections for gopher tortoises.” The agency “proposed a conservation strategy Monday that would allow the Defense Department to earn conservation credits in order to offset the negative impact military operations have on gopher tortoises.” The public has 30 days to comment.

MORE 65,000 ACRES DESIGNATED AS “CRITICAL HABITAT” FOR OREGON SPOTTED FROG. The [Salem \(OR\) Capital Press](#) (5/9, 113K) reports that “more than 65,000 acres have been designated ‘critical habitat’ for the Oregon spotted frog, a threatened species at the center of a lawsuit over irrigation.” The FWS says “the critical habitat designation in Oregon and Washington, which includes 20 miles of river, provides a ‘road map’ to guide conservation efforts for the frog.” The article says that “while the federal government claims the designation won’t have regulatory impacts on private property, attorneys for natural resource industries say critical habitat does pose a concern for landowners.”

Additional coverage was provided by the [Bend \(OR\) Bulletin](#) (5/10, 98K) and [KUOW-FM Seattle \(WA\)](#) Seattle (5/9, 15K).

SEN. LANKFORD WANTS REMOVAL OF AMERICAN BURYING BEETLE FROM ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST. The [Daily Ardmoreite \(OK\)](#) (5/9, 29K) reports that Sen. James Lankford has sent a letter to FWS Director Daniel Ashe “to call on the agency to delist the American Burying Beetle under the Endangered Species Act.” The letter says in part, “Today, the population of the American burying beetle

in Nebraska, an area with no known beetles at the original time of listing, is estimated to contain well over 3,000 beetles, and the population has also grown in Oklahoma where the beetle now exists in 45 of its 77 counties. Beetle sightings are now commonplace in Oklahoma, but are dreaded by anyone developing land as they signal costly mitigation measures.”

DOE, FWS, AND IDAHO FISH AND GAME COLLABORATE ON SAGEBRUSH HABITAT

RESTORATION. [Idaho Falls Magazine](#) (5/6) reports on seedlings planted last fall by Dept. of Energy staffers on the Idaho National Laboratory site to help create habitat for the greater sage grouse. DoE has been working with the US FWS and the Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game “for more than a decade” on habitat conservation, Idaho Falls Magazine reports; the sagebrush planting project was started in 2014, and aims to help the site recover from wildfire damage.

ARMY OFFICIAL LOOKS OUT FOR ENDANGERED SPECIES. [Greenwire](#) (5/9, Subscription Publication) reports that the Army’s deputy assistant secretary for environment, safety and occupational health, Eugene Collins, is looking out for endangered species. Collins said, “My new pilots are endangered species. I’ve gone from worrying about pilots and missiles and bombs to being concerned about tortoises, northern long-eared bats and greater sage grouse, making sure that we can respect and live in harmony with the environment.” Collins was appointed “last June as second in command of Army environmental programs, working under Katherine Hammack, the assistant secretary for installations, energy and environment.”

EMAILS REVEAL NAVY’S PLAN TO THREATEN ENDANGERED WILDLIFE. [Truth-Out](#) (5/9, Jamail, 17K) reports that an “internal emails show how the Navy has been working to manipulate the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) biologists into bending the law.” According to Truth-Out, “an anonymous Navy source leaked several internal emails to Truthout that reveal how the Navy is trying to redefine ‘harm’ to wildlife, in a way that would allow the Navy a potentially far greater rate of ‘takes’ to marbled murrelets and other endangered and/or threatened species.” Truth-Out added that the August and September 2015 emails detail how “Navy personnel pressured an apparently overwhelmed and cash-strapped FWS to complete its biological opinion (BO) in ways that would benefit the Navy.”

GRIZZLY HUNTING PLAN GENERATES A GREAT DEAL OF INTEREST. The [Great Falls \(MT\) Tribune](#) (5/9, 92K) reports that “a Wednesday work session of the Fish and Wildlife Commission at Montana WILD in Helena will be audio streamed live due to interest in the topics on the agenda, mostly in a plan to hunt grizzly bears.” According to Great Falls Tribune, FWS is planning to delist approximately 700 grizzlies at Yellowstone National Park, and “turn management over to Montana, Wyoming and Idaho.” Therefore, the agency requires all three states to “outline future grizzly bear hunting seasons.”

KILLING OF YELLOWSTONE GRIZZLY INCREASES PROTECTION DEBATE. [Newsweek](#) (5/9, Main, 751K) reports that the killing of grizzly bear No. 211, known as Scarface, at Yellowstone comes amid a fierce debate over whether to continue to protect grizzly bears under the Endangered Species Act. Public comments from supporters and critics have poured in, and will be accepted until May 10. The agency will finalize reach a final decision at the end of the year.

WALRUS NUMBERS INCREASE AT BRISTOL BAY’S CAPE GRIEG. In an online article, the [Alaska Public Radio Network](#) (5/9, Bendinger, 2K) reports on greater-than-average Pacific Walrus numbers at Cape Grieg in Bristol Bay, and says the US Fish and Wildlife service has been “made aware,” and that the Alaska Peninsula and Becharof Refuge staff has taken on the task of “looking into it,” despite the fact that the site is not on refuge land. USFWS wildlife biologist Jim McCracken said that possibly the walruses had moved from colonies in other areas of the bay such as Round Island, and that “one of the leading thoughts there might be that they’ve been there a long time, and they’ve probably started to deplete the food that’s within range of their swimming and resting capacity. So maybe they’re looking for other places.” US Fish and Wildlife Service is also monitoring the spot, because “walruses are protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, which makes disturbance of hauled-out walrus illegal,” according to refuge manager Susan Alexander.

ETNA STUDENTS PLANT NATIVE PLANTS AS PART OF FWS SCHOOLYARD HABITAT PROJECT.

The [Siskiyou \(CA\) Daily News](#) (5/9, 16K) reports that Etna Elementary School students “planted native

plants as part of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Schoolyard Habitat project on May 3.” Etna Elementary “received a \$5,000 grant to help prepare the area, and create a pollinator habitat waystation garden.” According to the article, “Etna’s Jennifer Jones, a wildlife biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, spoke to students at Etna Elementary about the importance of gardening and planting native plants.”

EX-PROFESSOR FINED \$500K FOR SMUGGLING IVORY. The [AP](#) (5/9, 2.19M) reports that “a former Minnesota college professor was ordered Monday to pay a \$500,000 fine for illegally smuggling items made of elephant ivory.” According to the article, Yiwei Zheng, a former professor at St. Cloud State University, also was “sentenced in federal court to three years probation, six weeks of intermittent confinement and 150 hours of community service.” Ed Grace, FWS deputy assistant director for law enforcement, said “stopping illegal trade in ivory and rhino ‘continues to be a huge conservation priority for us.’”

Additional coverage was provided by the [Washington \(DC\) Times](#) (5/9, 269K), the [St. Cloud \(MN\) Times](#) (5/9, 104K), [Reuters](#) (5/9), [KRDK-TV Fargo \(ND\)](#) Fargo, ND (5/9, 18K), and [KARE-TV Minneapolis \(MN\)](#) Minneapolis (5/9, 347K).

TWO WISCONSIN LEGISLATORS PLAN SUMMIT ON WOLVES. The [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#) (5/9, 687K) reports that “two Republican lawmakers from northern Wisconsin said Monday they would convene a Great Lakes wolf summit this fall involving public officials, scientists and citizens from Wisconsin, Minnesota and Michigan to push for state management of wolves.” They are “calling for the summit in the wake of a federal court’s decision in December 2014 that returned protections of the Endangered Species Act to the western Great Lakes wolf population.” Sen. Tom Tiffany and Rep. Adam Jarchow “called for the summit, noting that wolves have killed or injured livestock or pets in 14 cases so far in 2016, according to Department of Natural Resources records.”

Additional coverage was provided by the [Appleton \(WI\) Post-Crescent](#) (5/9, 140K).

STUDY: WORLD’S PLANT SPECIES HARMED BY LAND USE, CLIMATE CHANGE. The [AP](#) (5/9, Katz) reports that a study by the Royal Botanical Gardens, “finds a planet slowly being ravaged by changing land use, mostly conversion of forests to agriculture to feed a growing population, and climate change.” The “first comprehensive look at world’s plants” is designed to set a baseline for plant species discoveries and extinctions.

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: US ABANDONS EFFORT TO BAN INTERNATIONAL TRADE OF POLAR BEAR PRODUCTS. Additional coverage that “the United States recently announced it will not support an international ban on the trade of polar bear products at an upcoming meeting on endangered species” was provided by the [Alaska Public Radio Network](#) (5/9, 2K) and [Examiner](#) (5/9, 684K).

National Park Service:

NPS DIRECTOR JARVIS SEEKS TO WIDELY BROADEN CORPORATE SUPPORT. The [Washington Post](#) (5/9, Rein, 9.23M) reports that while national parks “have long relied on philanthropy to pay for improvements, interpretive programs, trail renovations and other projects left uncovered by their operating or capital budgets,” NPS Director Jonathan Jarvis now “wants to swing open the gates of the 411 national parks, monuments and conservation areas to an unprecedented level of corporate donations,” with benefits such as logo display and naming rights in return.

Additional coverage was provided by the [Santa Fe New Mexican](#) (5/9, 67K), the [Independent \(UK\)](#) (5/9, Osborne, 1.15M), [Jezebel](#) (5/9, 987K), [Quartz](#) (5/9, 663K), and [Grist](#) (5/9, 19K).

Davidson: NPS And Corporate Advertising Don’t Mix. In a [Washington Post](#) (5/9, Davidson, 9.23M) column, Joe Davidson writes National Park Service (NPS) plans to “allow advertising-like recognition of donors, including a beer maker, flirts with making national parks resemble ballparks,” and says “The Park Service is being taken to a dubious place.” Davidson cites a 2009 GAO study that reported potential risks of such NPS donor relationships, including: “Partner exerts undue influence over Park Service priorities,”

“Public confidence in the Park Service is compromised,” “Parks and Park Service become commercialized.” Davidson also quotes an anonymous NPS superintendent who said, “I think it is unethical ... to be advertising for a corporation.”

COALITION SEEKS TO PROMOTE DIVERSITY AT NATIONAL PARKS. [USA Today](#) (5/9, Theobald, 6.31M) reports on the Centennial Initiative, “a first-of-its kind coalition of more than 30 civil rights, environmental justice and conservation groups” that “is pushing for greater efforts to promote diversity in national parks and other public lands.” The group hopes to increase employment of minorities at parks and “the use of national parks by minorities,” as well as “the number of parks and monuments that highlight the role of minorities in American history.”

JOSEPH GORDON-LEVITT CREATES CLOTHING COLLECTION TO MARK NPS CENTENNIAL. [Greenwire](#) (5/9, Subscription Publication) reports that actor and director Joseph Gordon-Levitt has teamed up with the NPS “to develop a limited-edition clothing and accessory collection in celebration of the service’s centennial this year.” According to the article, “the collection includes several T-shirts, a onesie, accessories like a trucker hat and tote bag, and a 92-page coloring book, all tagged with the centennial’s ‘Find Your Park’ motto.” Gordon-Levitt said, “This is something I’m honored to participate in. So much great art is inspired by nature. I personally have an emotional connection to national parks because I grew up going camping with my family.”

Additional coverage was provided by [People](#) (5/9, 45.28M).

Continuing Coverage Of NPS Centennial. Continuing coverage of the NPS Centennial was provided by the [Albuquerque \(NM\) Journal](#) (5/9, 268K), the [Las Vegas \(NV\) Review-Journal](#) (5/7, 464K), the [Public News Service](#) (5/6, 306), [Sys-Con Media](#) (5/9, 2K), the [Billings \(MT\) Gazette](#) (5/6, 195K), the [Pensacola \(FL\) News Journal](#) (5/9, 135K), the [Washington \(DC\) Post](#) (5/9, —, Tousignant, 9.23M), [ABC News](#) (5/9, 4.15M), [ABC News](#) (5/6, 4.15M), [WBAL-AM Baltimore \(MD\)](#) Baltimore (5/9, 12K), [WWGP-AM Sanford \(NC\)](#) Sanford, NC (5/9), [WLUC-TV Marquette \(MI\)](#) Marquette, MI (5/9, 14K), and [WRC-TV Washington \(DC\)](#) Washington (5/9, 507K).

AUTHORITIES SEEK DEATH VALLEY VANDALS. The [AP](#) (5/9, 2.19M) reports that “authorities on Monday were searching for three men who went on a drunken binge in an environmentally fragile area of Death Valley National Park, leaving behind beer cans, shotgun shells, vomit, underwear — and possibly killing one of the rarest fishes on earth.” According to the article, “video recorded the men climbing a fence and driving away in what appeared to be a modified blue Yamaha Rhino off-road vehicle.” The NPS is “offering a \$5,000 reward leading to the men’s arrest and conviction” and the Center for Biological Diversity is “adding another \$10,000 to the pot.”

Additional coverage was provided by the [Colorado Springs \(CO\) Gazette](#) (5/9, 177K), the [Albuquerque \(NM\) Journal](#) (5/9, 268K), the [Minneapolis \(MN\) Star Tribune](#) (5/9, 1.3M), [US News & World Report](#) (5/9, 1.15M), the [Washington \(DC\) Post](#) (5/9, Press, 9.23M), the [Washington \(DC\) Times](#) (5/9, 269K), the [Daily Mail](#) (5/9, Press, 4.57M), [Fox News](#) (5/9, 10.55M), the [Los Angeles \(CA\) Times](#) (5/9, Rocha, 4.12M), the [National Parks Traveler](#) (5/9, 989), and [WRC-TV Washington \(DC\)](#) Washington (5/9, 507K).

NPS TO CONSIDER NEW PHILADELPHIA AS NATIONAL PARK. The [AP](#) (5/9, 2.19M) reports that NPS officials will “visit Illinois to determine whether a 19th-Century town founded by a former slave should be part of the federal system.” According to the article, “the visit to the site of New Philadelphia on Wednesday will be followed that night by a public hearing in Pittsfield.” NPS representatives are “seeking public input and welcome involvement by anyone interested.”

Additional coverage was provided by the [Washington \(DC\) Times](#) (5/9, 269K), the [Bristol \(VA\) Herald Courier](#) (5/9) and the [Decatur \(IL\) Herald & Review](#) (5/9, 110K).

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK PROPOSES NEW LODGING FACILITIES. [National Parks Traveler](#) (5/9, Repanshek, 989) reports the National Park Service proposes new lodging facilities laid out at Flamingo in Everglades National Park/NPS by demonstrating some fiscal creativity. According to National Parks Traveler, “park officials have saved enough from entrance fees and other revenue streams to offer

\$5 million against the construction of a modest number of cottages and “eco-tent” structures.” By offering \$5 million, the park reduced the financial burden on the winning bidder, and significantly reducing, or possibly eliminating, any “leaseholder surrender interest” the Park Service would owe the concessionaire if it did not win a contract renewal at the end of the initial period.

SITE FOR BROWSING NATIONAL PARK MAPS. [Smithsonian](#) (5/9, Blakemore, 6.98M) reports national park pamphlets developed in the 1970s have started to generate their own fanbase, according to National Parks Traveler’s Scott Johnson, and one man has created his own website to collect and share them. The website conceived by park ranger Matt Holly tells visitors, “Here, I uploaded a bunch of free maps for you. Wooo!” According to Smithsonian, “Holly has digitized over 1,000 maps from 93 of the 411 Park Services locations.”

CIVIL WAR TRUST COMPLETES PURCHASE OF BRANDY STATION BATTLEFIELD’S MITCHELL TRACT. The [Fredericksburg \(VA\) Free Lance-Star](#) (5/9, 93K) reports that “purchase of the Mitchell tract on Culpeper County’s Brandy Station battlefield has been completed, the Civil War Trust told its members Monday afternoon.” The article notes that “a grant from the Interior Department’s American Battlefield Protection Program provided \$215,000 and a Virginia Battlefield Preservation Fund grant—requested by the Brandy Station Foundation—contributed \$150,000.”

Additional coverage was provided by the [Roanoke \(VA\) Times](#) (5/9, 282K) and the [Culpeper \(VA\) Star Exponent](#) (5/9, 15K).

CITIZENS CONSERVATION CORPS OF WEST VIRGINIA AWARDED INTERN GRANT. The [Beckley \(WV\) Register-Herald](#) (5/10, 75K) reports that “Citizens Conservation Corps of West Virginia will begin an intern program this week, funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior.” According to Jennifer Douglas, CCCWV chief operating officer, “the interns will assist park rangers with projects at New River Gorge National River National Park Service.”

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: WYOMING TO SELL STATE LAND AT GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK. Additional coverage that Wyoming is looking to sell land at Grand Teton National Park was provided by [KIFI-TV](#) Idaho Falls, ID (5/9, 2K).

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: NPS SEEKS PUBLIC’S HELP WITH LOS ANGELES COYOTE SCAT STUDY. Additional coverage that the NPS is “seeking volunteers to help find and analyze coyote excrement” was provided by [Fox News](#) (5/9, 10.55M).

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: PETITIONERS OPPOSE GLACIER PARK HELICOPTER TOURS. Additional coverage of the opposition to helicopter tours in Glacier National Park was provided by the [Spokane \(WA\) Spokesman-Review](#) (5/9, 171K).

“EVERY KID IN A PARK” INITIATIVE LAUDED. For “The Blog” of the [Huffington Post](#) (5/9, Shafroth, 367K), National Park Foundation President Will Shafroth lauds the “Every Kid in a Park” initiative. According to Shafroth, “every child deserves the opportunity to cultivate his or her own unique connections to these incredible places, experiencing for themselves all that our national parks and other federal lands and waters have to offer.”

Additional coverage of the “Every Kid in a Park” initiative was provided by the [Alpena \(MI\) News](#) (5/7, 26K) and the [Vincennes \(IN\) Sun-Commercial](#) (5/8, 23K).

DECISION TO MOVE CIVIL WAR ARTIFACTS TO GETTYSBURG WELCOMED. [Philly \(PA\)](#) (5/10, 731K) welcomes the decision to move artifacts in the Civil War Museum of Philadelphia’s collection to the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center. The paper advises other museums and institutions to “heed the lesson of the Civil War Museum and find ways to cooperate and collaborate to reduce expenses and increase attendance.”

OP-ED: MANAGING ACADIA NATIONAL PARK AFTER A STRANGE WINTER. In an op-ed for the [Bangor \(ME\) Daily News](#) (5/9, 181K), NPS science coordinator Abe Miller-Rushing and NPs graphics

ranger Kristi Rugg write that Acadia National Park had a strange winter with record-breaking warm temperatures. According to Miller-Rushing and Rugg, “in a state with a culture and economy so connected with nature, our changing climate affects our most treasured places, traditions and communities. Some plants and animals, and some businesses and individuals, have done well with these changes; others have fared poorly.” They state that as we celebrate the centennial of Acadia National Park and the NPS, we should resolve to use best available science and managing for change are the responsible steps to take as we begin a second century of stewardship of our national parks.

NEWSDAY: PLUM ISLAND IS AN ENVIRONMENTAL TREASURE THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD PROTECT. [Newsday \(NY\)](#) (5/9, 1.36M) editorializes that Massachusetts’ Plum Island is “an environmental treasure that should remain in the public’s hands,” and praises state Rep. Lee Zeldin for proposing legislation that would suspend the sale of the island to private buyers “and lead the federal government to preserve the island for education, research, or conservation.” Newsday names the National Park Service and the US Fish & Wildlife Service as the most likely agencies that could “protect Plum Island as a federal preserve.”

US Geological Survey:

STUDY: COLORADO RIVER FLOW IS HALF GROUNDWATER. [KUER-FM](#) Salt Lake City (5/9, Fahys, 4K) reported a team of USGS scientist have developed a way to measure how much water flows down river as it leaves Utah. The study also revealed that “irrigation and evapotranspiration means around 80 percent of that groundwater never reaches Lee’s Ferry above the Grand Canyon.” The study is gaining interest because 50 million people across seven states depend on the Colorado, as well as wildlife and the environment. According to Gary Wockner, director of a conservation group called Save the Colorado, “the new measurements highlight an old problem” of water being taken from the reservoirs, resulting in “a cumulative deficit.”

Top National News:

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, NORTH CAROLINA FILE DUELING SUITS OVER “BATHROOM LAW.” The Justice Department’s lawsuit against North Carolina over its so-called “bathroom law” and the state’s own suit against the federal government moved the issue of transgender rights to the forefront of media attention yesterday. While Attorney General Lynch denounced the law in terms that media coverage calls unusually pointed, the coverage provides little insight on the potential national ramifications of the dueling litigation, or on the possible presidential campaign impact beyond North Carolina. However, North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory tried to nationalize the issue in his comments, and some reports say that similar pending legislation in other states could help him in that endeavor. All three broadcast networks covered the DOJ action, in reports totaling just over six minutes.

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (5/9, story 6, 1:45, Muir, 14.63M) said the government is “moving forward and suing the state because they say authorities are now violating civil rights there,” a move that “sparked dueling protests.” ABC (Osunsami) said, “The country’s top prosecutor is now asking a federal court to stop North Carolina from enforcing its new law, charging that it removes protections for gay families and keeps transgender residents out of the public restrooms they need. In her view, this is the new Jim Crow, sex discrimination in violation of federal civil rights law.” Attorney General Lynch was shown saying, “They created state-sponsored discrimination against transgender individuals.” Osunsami: “Two hours earlier, North Carolina’s governor stood before cameras refusing to back down.” Gov. Pat McCrory said, “I think it’s time for the US Congress to bring clarity to our national anti-discrimination provisions.”

The [CBS Evening News](#) (5/9, story 3, 2:00, Pelley, 11.17M) reported, “The US Justice Department and the state of North Carolina sued each other today.” CBS (Villafranca) added, “The DOJ sent a letter to North Carolina officials last week and warned them that if the state didn’t comply, the government could withhold billions of federal dollars earmarked for the Tar Heel State.” [NBC Nightly News](#) (5/9, story 2, 2:25, Holt, 16.61M) called it a “blockbuster clash” that “is brewing over transgender rights, and North Carolina’s so-called bathroom law.” NBC showed Lynch saying, “Let us write a different story this time. Let us not act out of fear and misunderstanding, but out of the values of inclusion, and diversity and

regard for all that makes our country great.”

The [AP](#) (5/9) said “a potentially epic clash over transgender rights took shape” with the DOJ lawsuit and McCrory’s refusal “to back down.” In “unusually forceful language,” Lynch said the state law “amounts to ‘state-sponsored discrimination’ and is aimed at ‘a problem that doesn’t exist.’” Lynch continued, “What this law does is inflict further indignity on a population that has already suffered far more than its fair share. This law provides no benefit to society, and all it does is harm innocent Americans.” McCrory accused the Administration “of unilaterally rewriting federal civil rights law.” He said, “This is not a North Carolina issue. It is now a national issue.” [Reuters](#) (5/9, Jenkins) reports McCrory [tweeted](#), “We’re taking the Obama admin to court. They’re bypassing Congress, attempting to rewrite law & policies for the whole country, not just NC.”

The [Raleigh \(NC\) News & Observer](#) (5/9, Jarvis, Blythe, 396K) reports McCrory defended the law “as a necessary protection of privacy,” but [Bloomberg News](#) (5/9, Strohm, 2.07M) reports White House press secretary Josh Earnest said “the law ‘is just mean-spirited, because it seeks to discriminate against people based on who they are.’” He said it’s also ‘inconsistent with the economic interests of North Carolina.’” The [Charlotte \(NC\) Observer](#) (5/9, Gordon, Gordon, 603K) reports Lynch warned that DOJ “reserves the option of withholding federal funding from the North Carolina Department of Public Safety and UNC.” [US News & World Report](#) (5/9, Mills, 1.15M) says “legal experts are torn on whether the federal government would attempt such an aggressive, punitive maneuver.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/9, Bauerlein, Subscription Publication, 6.27M) says the state receives billions in federal funds, including \$1 billion in K-12 education funds.

[USA Today](#) (5/9, Troyan, 6.31M) says “the sharply worded exchanges” between Lynch and McCrory “escalated the legal fight over the rights of people who no longer identify with their birth gender.” The [New York Times](#) (5/9, Blinder, Lichtblau, Subscription Publication, 14.18M) says McCrory’s suit “accused the federal government of pursuing a ‘radical reinterpretation’ of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and said that ‘transgender status is not a protected class,’” while the DOJ suit said the North Carolina law “compelled ‘public agencies to follow a facially discriminatory policy.’”

The [Huffington Post](#) (5/9, Reilly, 367K) reports the DOJ suit “highlights statements by North Carolina officials in support of the law, including a statement from Lt. Gov. Dan Forest (R), who has said that a proposed anti-discrimination ordinance in Charlotte ‘would have given pedophiles, sex offenders, and perverts free rein to watch women, boys and girls undress and use the bathroom.’” Mark Joseph Stern of [Slate](#) (5/9, 1.79M) writes that the DOJ suit “is a wonderfully tough, clear-headed document that carefully explains why ‘sex discrimination’ – which is barred in employment and education under federal civil rights law – encompasses gender identity discrimination.”

[The Advocate](#) (5/9, Brydum, 621K), [The Atlantic](#) (5/9, Graham, 2.83M), [The Hill](#) (5/9, Savransky, 884K), [OUT](#) (5/9, Lambert, 61K), [Salon](#) (5/9, Roussi, 1.07M), [TIME](#) (5/9, Chan, White, Begley, 17.97M), and [Vice](#) (5/9, Donahue, 1.64M) are among the other online outlets running straightforward reports on the DOJ action.

Carson: Lynch’s Jim Crow Comparison “A Bunch Of Crap.” The [Washington Post](#) (5/9, Berman, Larimer, 9.23M) reports Lynch “compared the bathroom law to earlier measures that mandated different bathrooms and water fountains for black and white people.” The [Washington Times](#) (5/9, Richardson, 269K) reports Lynch said, “This is not the first time that we have seen discriminatory responses to historic moments of progress for our nation. We saw it in the Jim Crow laws that followed the Emancipation Proclamation.” [Politico](#) (5/9, McCaskill, 1.93M) reports that Ben Carson called that comparison “a bunch of crap.” Carson said, “We know what men are, and we know what women are, and we’ve known that for thousands of years. You know, if there are some people who are confused about it, we can make some accommodations for them, but it doesn’t have to involve everybody.”

Law Has Already Had Economic Impact On North Carolina. [Vanity Fair](#) (5/9, Nguyen, 7.94M) reports that in addition to the potential loss of federal funds, the law “has already threatened hundreds of millions of dollars in investments, largely in the private sector.” Some states have limited government travel to North Carolina, “and several major companies” including Google and PayPal “have threatened to pull

their business from the state.” In addition, the NBA says it may pull the 2017 All-Star Game out of Charlotte.

North Carolina GOP Concerned About November Impact. [Politico](#) (5/9, Schneider, 1.93M) reports North Carolina Republicans “are increasingly worried” that the law “will cost the GOP dearly in November’s elections,” since “the party that took over North Carolina as champions of small government is now seen by moderate voters as the party of the bathroom police.” In addition to McCrory’s race for re-election, where [polls have been tight](#), the state is a presidential swing state, and Republican Sen. Richard Burr is also in [a competitive race](#) for a third term.

Other States Considering Similar Legislation. The [Los Angeles Times](#) (5/9, Wilber, 4.12M) reports that while North Carolina “was the first state to pass a law limiting transgender individuals’ use of public restrooms...more than half a dozen others are weighing similar legislation.”

ACLU Files Suit Against Mississippi Religious Freedom Law. The [Christian Science Monitor](#) (5/9, 459K) reports the Mississippi affiliate of the American Civil Liberties Union has “filed suit against the state on behalf of a gay couple on Monday, saying that a law that enables workers to deny services to people based on their religious objections to same-sex marriage is discriminatory.” The Monitor says Mississippi “is just the latest legal battleground where religious conservatives are trying to foment religious freedoms that they say have been eroded by the US Supreme Court decision to legalize same-sex marriage last year.”

STATE DEPT. CAN’T FIND IT AIDE’S EMAILS FROM CLINTON’S TENURE. [Politico](#) (5/9, Gerstein, 1.93M) reported that according to a Monday court filing by attorneys for the RNC, the State Department contends “it cannot find any text messages sent to or from former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and cannot locate any emails received or sent by a key information technology staffer during her tenure.” However, State spokeswoman Elizabeth Trudeau on Monday said “the agency has located some emails belonging to the computer specialist, Bryan Pagliano, although the messages were found in other people’s accounts.” The filing by the RNC attorneys, part of a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit brought by the GOP, “said State had advised that its searches for Clinton texts, BlackBerry instant messages and emails belonging to Pagliano all came up empty for a period of May 2009 through February 2013.”

The [AP](#) (5/9, Braun) reports that Trudeau, in a statement, said State “searched for Pagliano’s email file but ‘has not located one that covers the time period of Secretary Clinton’s tenure.’” However, Trudeau “also said ‘the department disagrees with a number of assertions made in today’s filing’ and added that agency officials continue to search for ‘Mr. Pagliano’s emails, which the department may have otherwise retained.’” Trudeau also said the department would respond further to the RNC in court.”

On its website, [ABC News](#) (5/9, Fishel, 4.15M) reported that Pagliano “was responsible for setting up the now-infamous private server in the basement of the Clinton’s home in Chappaqua, New York. He has since become a key witness in the FBI inquiry into the handling of sensitive material on that server and has been granted immunity by the Justice Department in exchange for his cooperation.”

[Bloomberg Politics](#) (5/9, Btody, 529K) reports that State said “that while it does have e-mails related to Pagliano’s employment as a contractor after Clinton left office in 2013, it hasn’t found any from her tenure.” Said RNC deputy communications director Raj Shah, “It’s hard to believe that an IT staffer who set up Hillary Clinton’s reckless email server never sent or received a single work-related email in the four years he worked at the State Department,” adding, “Such records might shed light on his role in setting up Clinton’s server, and why he was granted immunity by the FBI.”

[The Hill](#) (5/9, Hattem, 884K) reported that Trudeau, speaking with reporters yesterday, “declined to comment on how or whether Pagliano stored his emails, or whether he might have decided to delete them after a certain period of time. ‘It is not required for employees to save every email they sent and received, however they must preserve federal records,’ she said.” The [Washington Times](#) (5/9, Ernst, 269K) reports, “Roughly 30,000 emails have been reviewed by the State Department since last summer. The only email available email by Pagliano is a ‘Happy Birthday Madam Secretary’ from 2012, the Associated Press reported.”

TRUMP TAKES “CONCILIATORY” TONE AS RYAN OFFERS TO STEP DOWN AS CONVENTION

CO-CHAIR. The [New York Times](#) (5/9, Haberman, Subscription Publication, 14.18M) says Donald Trump on Monday “struck a more conciliatory tone” about House Speaker Ryan. Following Sarah Palin’s call for a primary challenge against the Speaker, Trump told CNN’s Chris Cuomo, “Sarah is very much a free agent. ... She’s a terrific person but she’s very much a free agent and I didn’t know about this until yesterday. I guess she’s been fighting, or she’s endorsing somebody that’s running against Paul Ryan and I didn’t know about it until yesterday when I read about it.” Discussing Ryan, Trump said, “I’ve always liked him. ... He called me not so long ago, I don’t know, a number of weeks ago, but he called me and he was very supportive and very nice and I thought everything was fine, and then I got blindsided, so we’ll see.”

Ryan, meanwhile, said Monday he is willing to step down as co-chairman of the Republican convention if Trump asks him to. Ryan told the [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#) (5/9, Spicuzza, Gilbert, 687K), “He’s the nominee. I’ll do whatever he wants with respect to the convention.” Discussing his claim that he “wasn’t ready yet to support his party’s presumptive nominee,” Ryan said, “I never said never. I just said (not) at this point. I wish I had more time to get to know him before this happened. We just didn’t.”

Tom Llamas said on [ABC World News Tonight](#) (5/9, story 3, 3:35, Muir, 14.63M) that Ryan is “seeming to soften his tone after declaring he wasn’t ready to endorse Trump.” The [Washington Post](#) (5/9, Viebeck, 9.23M) similarly describes Ryan’s comments to the Journal-Sentinel about Trump as a softening of his tone in the wake of his earlier comments, while [Bloomberg Politics](#) (5/9, House, 529K) says the offer “comes amid continued resistance by Ryan and other conservatives” to supporting Trump.

[Reuters](#) (5/9) says Ryan also voiced his opposition to a third-party candidate, according to Journal Sentinel columnist Christian Schneider. The [CBS Evening News](#) (5/9, story 4, 2:00, Pelley, 11.17M) reported Ryan “warned that any attempt to launch a third-party candidate would be a disaster for Republicans.” The [Washington Times](#) (5/9, Sherfinski, 269K) also reports on Ryan’s comments.

A [Christian Science Monitor](#) (5/9, Grier, 459K) analysis questioned whether Ryan is “trying to get kicked out of his gig as co-chair of the Republican National Convention,” noting that this “could explain” his offer to step down. Trump and Ryan “are far apart on important items of policy,” which puts Ryan “in an awkward position for the convention.” However, quitting could “mak[e] it appear Ryan is afraid to face up to Trump after his disavowal.” The Monitor added that it is “also possible that Ryan’s offer to do what Trump wants is what it seems to be on the surface – an olive branch,” in which case “Trump might be wise to meet Ryan halfway,” as he “needs the speaker on his side, probably more than Ryan needs him.” Similarly, in a [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/9, Subscription Publication, 6.27M) op-ed, Weekly Standard executive editor Fred Barnes argues Trump needs Ryan’s support because Ryan leads a large, powerful, and influential bloc of Republicans in Congress and if Trump is dismissive of them. It could increase the chances of a third-party conservative candidate entering the race, making his road to victory against Hillary Clinton more difficult.

The [Washington Post](#) (5/9, Costa, 9.23M) reported in its “Post Politics” blog that Ryan’s “longtime mentor and friend” William Bennett “said ‘with authority’ in his latest podcast that Ryan will not make policy demands” of Trump when they meet on Thursday. Bennett said Ryan intends “to set expectations low for the session and try to keep relations with Trump from worsening.” In addition, Ryan “wants to see whether he and the presumptive GOP presidential nominee can at least agree to a general consensus on the principles of the party.” While “Ryan advisers and other top House Republicans have largely kept quiet about what exactly he would say to or demand of Trump,” Bennett said, “I can’t really tell you how I have it, but I have it.”

A [New York Times](#) (5/9, Hulse, Subscription Publication, 14.18M) analysis calls Ryan’s refusal to endorse Trump “a reminder of a lost Washington art — not just the willingness to take on the political opposition, but a readiness to publicly challenge the leader of one’s own party.” By raising his concerns, Ryan “seemed to acknowledge the potential for Republican-on-Republican clashes should Mr. Trump prevail in November” on policy issues and “over Mr. Trump’s very interpretation of the powers of the presidency.”

Carson Seeks Private Pre-Meeting With Ryan. Ben Carson, who the [Washington Post](#) (5/9, Costa, Rucker, 9.23M) describes as “a top emissary” for Trump, has requested a private meeting with Ryan “this week in advance of Trump’s visit to Washington on Thursday, according to three people familiar with the matter.” The sources say Carson “reached out Monday to Ryan’s political advisers to request a private session with the speaker.” The Post says the outreach “is an apparent effort both to soothe tensions between Trump and Ryan ahead of their highly anticipated meeting on Capitol Hill and to establish a framework for that discussion.”

Media Analyses: Primary Challenge Unlikely To Oust Ryan. [Roll Call](#) (5/9, Gangitano, 61K) profiles House Speaker Ryan’s primary challenger Paul Nehlen, who “saw his profile boosted over the weekend thanks to an endorsement from Sarah Palin,” and questions whether he has “a chance to ‘Cantor’ Ryan as Dave Brat did to the House Majority Leader Eric Cantor in 2014.” While Palin said Ryan’s “political career is over but for a miracle,” the Speaker “had more than \$7.6 million in cash on hand at the end of March according to Federal Election Commission filings,” and “a 76 percent approval rating among Republicans in Wisconsin, according to a recent Marquette Law School poll.” A [Washington Post](#) (5/9, Debonis, 9.23M) analysis similarly says there is “significant evidence that Ryan is not about to be ousted from the right, despite the volatile anti-establishment environment and Nehlen’s support from one national tea party group.”

Editorial Wrap-Up:

NEW YORK TIMES. “A Soldier’s Challenge To The President.” In an editorial, the [New York Times](#) (5/10, Subscription Publication, 14.18M) calls for the courts to allow Army intelligence officer Capt. Nathan Michael Smith’s suit against President Obama, which makes “a persuasive case that the military campaign is illegal unless Congress explicitly authorizes it,” to move forward so as “to force the White House and Congress to confront an important question both have irresponsibly skirted”: whether the use of force against ISIL requires a separate war authorization by Congress. The Times argues that not having one is “a dangerous precedent that the next president may be tempted to abuse.”

“Guess Who’s Taking Remedial Classes.” In an editorial, the [New York Times](#) (5/10, Subscription Publication, 14.18M) writes, “Many elected officials, parents and teachers have become complacent about the quality of their schools,” making it harder to create an educational system “that provides high-level instruction for all children.” The Times cites “striking new study” by Education Reform Now, that found 45 percent of college students taking remedial classes came from middle-, upper-middle-, and high-income families. The Times attributes the problem to high schools that “offer a rigorous curriculum for relatively few students and often use a grading system that masks underperformance.”

“Saving Elephants, Ennobling Albany.” In an editorial, the [New York Times](#) (5/10, Subscription Publication, 14.18M) lauds as a “modest but heartening development” efforts by students in the Environmental Policy Clinic of Pace University in Pleasantville, New York, to get the New York State Legislature to ban the use of elephants in performances in New York. The Times argues in favor of the ban and concludes that passing the law could give “the Legislature and Gov. Andrew Cuomo to enlighten some minds, help some elephants and polish a little of Albany’s blackened soul.”

WASHINGTON POST. “Sanders’s Plans Aren’t Just Too Good To Be True; They’re Also Fiscally Dangerous.” In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (5/9, 9.23M) weighs in on the analysis of Bernie Sanders’s proposals by the Urban Institute and the Tax Policy Center, calling it the “latest confirmation that Mr. Sanders’s plans don’t add up, fiscally.”

“Iran’s ‘Moderates’ And The Holocaust.” A [Washington Post](#) (5/9, 9.23M) editorial criticizes a “cartoon festival beginning this Saturday on the theme of the Holocaust” in Iran. The Post notes that it is the “second time the regime has staged such a event.”

“Don’t Punish West Point For Cadets Raising Their Fists in Pride.” In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (5/9, 9.23M) criticizes the backlash that 16 black West Point cadets have received for celebrating graduation from the US Military Academy by posing in a picture in their traditional gray dress uniforms

with raised fists. “Self-appointed online custodians of morality” see the image of the women as a sign of allegiance to the Black Lives Matter movement that would supposedly put them in violation of Army code that prohibits political activities while in uniform. West Point is now investigating the image. The Post says the photo only shows a “group of strong, confident young women enjoying their moment in the sun,” adding that if the group of white cadets had posed in similar fashion, “there would be no controversy.”

WALL STREET JOURNAL. “A Legal Test For The FDA.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/9, Subscription Publication, 6.27M) editorializes that it is difficult to think of a drug with a stronger case for approval than Sarepta Therapeutics’ Eteplirsen, an innovated drug for a fatal form of muscular dystrophy that has shown no safety risks and four years of concrete results in a clinical trial of 12 boys. However, reviewers at the FDA, which will decide whether to approve the drug this month, says the study is too small. The Journal argues that the rarity of the condition makes it impossible for the large trials the FDA seeks, while adding that there are zero alternative treatments. Should the FDA not approve Eteplirsen, Congress should be ready to pass legislation forcing the agency to serve those it is supposed to represent.

“What Is Preet Bharara Afraid Of?” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/9, Subscription Publication, 6.27M) editorializes that Manhattan US Attorney Preet Bharara told the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals last week that he would challenge a March order that allowed a lawsuit brought by former hedge-fund manager David Ganekto to proceed to discovery and trial. In the suit, Ganek alleges that his civil and constitutional rights were violated when federal prosecutors and the FBI raided his Level Global office in a 2010 insider-trading probe. The Journal criticizes Bharara’s action as evidence that he is attempting to avoid transparency, and perhaps accountability for prosecutorial abuse of power.

“Tom Perez’s Clinton Bait.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/9, Subscription Publication, 6.27M) editorializes against the Labor Department’s new rule that gives unions another way to hammer business. The new rule is supposed to update the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959, which requires that attorneys, hired by employers to communicate directly with workers, must publicly disclose their clients, services, and compensation. The 1959 law explicitly exempts disclosure of any advice protected by attorney-client privilege, but the new rule would nullify this exemption. The Manhattan Institute says the rule could cost roughly \$60 billion over 10 years. The Journal notes the rule comes as Hillary Clinton is said to be considering Labor Secretary Tom Perez as her running mate, adding that Perez appears to be trying to bolster his progressive resume.

Big Picture:

HEADLINES FROM TODAY’S FRONT PAGES.

Los Angeles Times:

[Brown Details Revised Plan For Dealing With Drought](#)

[Town Reinvents Itself As Desert Pot Springs](#)

[Judge Tosses Media Mogul Case](#)

[Clinton May Get Burned By Coal In Swing States](#)

[Pace Of Arms Testing By N. Korea Fuels Concern](#)

Wall Street Journal:

[Trump Amplifies Stance On Taxes, Debt](#)

[LendingClub CEO Fired Over Faulty Loans](#)

[The Recession’s Economic Trauma Has Left Enduring Scars](#)

[US, North Carolina Sue Each Other Over Bathroom Law](#)

New York Times:

[Donald Trump, In Switch, Turns To Republican Party For Fund-Raising Help](#)

[Countersuits Over North Carolina’s Bias Law](#)

[New Orleans Plan: Charter Schools, With A Return To Local Control](#)

[Anger Overflows In Nigeria As Economy Dives](#)

[As Lending Club Stumbles, Its Entire Industry Faces Skepticism](#)

[Brazil Reels Again As Impeachment Vote Is Declared Invalid](#)
[Rodrigo Duterte Brings Familiar Tone To Philippine Election](#)

Washington Post:

[NC, Justice Dept. Sue Each Other On 'Bathroom Bill'](#)
[In Critiques Of Clinton, The Donald Feels The Bern](#)
[Panama Papers Shed Light On Alleged Financial Fraud In US](#)
[Fearing Hostilities In Space, Pentagon Fortifies Satellites](#)
[Brutal 'Justice' In Rural India](#)

Washington Times:

[Strasburg, Nationals Reportedly Agree To Long-Term Deal](#)
[Obama Aide's Series Of Gaffes Stir Ill Will At Home, Abroad](#)
[Blue-State Voters Ignore GOP Doubts About Trump](#)
[Another 'Bad Faith' Ruling Hits Obama On Openness](#)
[Putin Shows Off Military Might](#)
[State, Justice In Legal Brawl Over Bathroom Bill](#)
[Pentagon Watches Warily As 'Filipino Donald Trump' Wins Presidential Vote](#)

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Severe Weather; Weather Forecast; 2016 Politics; East Coast-Fugitive Manhunt; Maryland Shooting Spree; North Carolina Bathroom Law-Justice Department; Canada Wildfire; Missouri Law Enforcement; Powerball Winner; Anti-Aging-Second Skin; New York City Subway Drill; September 11-Pictures; Invictus Games.

CBS: Severe Weather; Canada Wildfire; North Carolina Bathroom Law-Justice Department; 2016 Politics; 2016 Politics-Trump; ISIL Military Chief Killed; North Korea-Nuclear Program; Opioid Epidemic; Invictus Games.

NBC: Severe Weather; North Carolina Bathroom Law-Justice Department; 2016 Politics; 2016 Politics-Trump; Canada Wildfire; Carnival Accident; Chicago Violence; Medical Bills; Anti-Aging-Second Skin; NCAA Award-White House; Planet Observations; Invictus Games.

Network TV At A Glance:

2016 Politics – 12 minutes, 00 seconds
Severe Weather – 7 minutes, 00 seconds
North Carolina Bathroom Law-Justice Department – 6 minutes, 10 minutes
Canada Wildfire – 5 minutes, 55 minutes
Invictus Games – 5 minutes, 35 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: Severe Weather-Power Outages; Pentagon-ISIL Military Chief Killed; Texas Ride Sharing Drivers-Background Checks; Maryland Shooting Spree-Suspect Held; 2016 Politics-Donald Trump Campaign.

CBS: Severe Weather-Power Outages; Canada Wildfire-Evacuees; North Carolina Bathroom Law-Justice Department; 2016 Politics-GOP Support; International Markets.

NPR: North Carolina Bathroom Law-Justice Department; Severe Weather-Tornadoes; Syrian Crisis-Russian Cease Fire; International Markets; Lending Club Company CEO Resigns; Ferguson Missouri-New Police Chief.

FOX: Severe Weather-Tornadoes; Canada Wildfire-Progress; North Carolina Bathroom Law-Justice Department.

Washington Schedule:

TODAY'S EVENTS IN WASHINGTON.

White House:

PRESIDENT OBAMA — Convenes a National Security Council meeting on ISIL; honors the 2016 NCAA Champion UConn Huskies women's basketball team.

VICE PRESIDENT BIDEN — Attends the Joyful Heart Foundation Joyful Revolution Gala.

US Senate: 10:00 AM Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing on terrorism and instability in Sub-Saharan Africa – Hearing on ‘Terrorism and Instability in Sub-Saharan Africa’, with testimony from Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Linda Thomas-Greenfield; USAID Assistant Administrator for Africa Linda Etim; State Department Acting Coordinator for Counterterrorism Justin Siberell; United Nations Development Program Assistant Administrator and Regional Bureau for Africa Director Abdoulaye Mar Dieye; and National Democratic Institute Senior Associate and Regional Director for Central and West Africa Dr Christopher Fomunyoh Location: Rm 419, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://foreign.senate.gov/>

9:30 AM Seapower Subcommittee closed markup hearing on ‘National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017’ Location: Rm 232A, Russell Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://armed-services.senate.gov/>

10:00 AM Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on the FISA Amendments Act – Hearing on ‘Oversight and Reauthorization of the FISA Amendments Act: The Balance between National Security, Privacy and Civil Liberties’, with testimony from Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft partner Kenneth Wainstein; IronNet Cybersecurity Consulting President Matthew Olsen; New York University School of Law Brennan Center for Justice Liberty & National Security Program Co-Director Elizabeth Goitein; and Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board Chairman David Medine, and member Rachel Brand Location: Rm 226, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://judiciary.senate.gov/>

10:00 AM Senate HELP Committee hearing on dyslexia, scientific research, and education – Hearing on ‘Understanding Dyslexia: The Intersection of Scientific Research & Education’, with testimony from Yale University School of Medicine Center for Dyslexia and Creativity Co-Director Dr Sally Shaywitz; actor and author Ameer Baraka; Georgetown University Medical Center for the Study of Learning Director Dr Guinevere Eden; Boies, Schiller, & Flexner Chairman David Boies; Kennedy Krieger Institute Department Of Neuropsychology Director Dr Mark Mahone; and parent April Hanrath Location: Rm 430, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://help.senate.gov/>

10:00 AM Senate Banking Committee hearing on ‘the financial risks of China’ – Hearing on ‘Evaluating the Financial Risks of China’, with testimony from U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission Chairman Dennis Shea; American Iron and Steel Institute President and CEO Thomas Gibson; American Enterprise Institute Resident Fellow Desmond Lachman; and Heritage Foundation Senior Research Fellow Dr William Wilson Location: Rm 538, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://banking.senate.gov/>

10:00 AM Nominations hearing considers Peg Gustafson to be Department of Commerce Inspector General Location: Rm 253, Russell Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://commerce.senate.gov>

10:00 AM Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing on America’s role in the world – Hearing on ‘Examining America’s Role in the World’, with testimony from former Secretary of State James Baker III; and former National Security Advisor Thomas Donilon Location: Rm 419, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://foreign.senate.gov/>

11:00 AM Personnel Subcommittee markup hearing on ‘National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017’ Location: Rm G50, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://armed-services.senate.gov/>

2:00 PM Senate Armed Services subcommittee marks up National Defense Authorization Act – Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee markup hearing on ‘National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017’ Location: Rm G50, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://armed-services.senate.gov/>

2:00 PM Senate Finance Committee hearing on evidence based practices for vulnerable individuals and families – Hearing on ‘Can Evidence Based Practices Improve Outcomes for Vulnerable Individuals and

Families?', with testimony from MDRC President Gordon Berlin; Sorenson Impact Foundation Board of Directors Chairman James Lee Sorenson; Nurse-Family Partnership of Essex and Morris Counties (NJ) Nurse Home Visitor Tesha Bright; and former New York City Human Resources Administration Commissioner Robert Doar Location: Rm 215, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://finance.senate.gov>

2:30 PM Closed Briefing: Intelligence Matters Location: Rm 219, Hart Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://intelligence.senate.gov>

3:30 PM Senate Armed Services subcommittee marks up National Defense Authorization Act – Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee markup hearing on 'National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017' Location: Rm G50, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://armed-services.senate.gov/>

5:30 PM Senate Armed Services subcommittee marks up National Defense Authorization Act – Strategic Forces Subcommittee closed markup hearing on 'National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017' Location: Rm 232A, Russell Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://armed-services.senate.gov/>
US House: 10:30 AM Mercatus Center discussion on healthcare policy solutions – Mercatus Center Capitol Hill discussion on 'Healthcare Policy Solutions for 2017 and Beyond', with Republicans Sen. John Barrasso and Rep. Brett Guthrie, Kansas Lt. Governor Jeff Colyer, Centene Senior VP for Medicaid Solutions Toby Douglas, Mercatus Center Senior Research Fellow Brian Blase, Brookings Institution Center for Health Policy Associate Director Loren Adler, Cato Institute Director of Health Policy Studies Michael Cannon, Ethics and Public Policy Center Senior Fellow James Capretta, and Mercatus Center Senior Research Fellow Jason Fichtner Location: Cannon Caucus Rm, Cannon House Office Bldg, Washington, DC www.mercatus.org/

11:00 AM House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer regular pen-and-pad briefing Location: H-144, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC www.democraticwhip.gov/ <https://twitter.com/WhipHoyer>

2:00 PM House meets for legislative business – House of Representatives meets for legislative business, with agenda including consideration of 'S. 2755 – Fallen Heroes Flag Act of 2016', as amended, 'H.R. 4063 – Jason Simcakoski PROMISE Act', as amended, 'H.R. 4957 – To designate the Federal building located at 99 New York Avenue, N.E., in the District of Columbia as the 'Ariel Rios Federal Building', 'H.R. 4985 – Kingpin Designation Improvement Act of 2016', 'S. 32 – Transnational Drug Trafficking Act of 2015', 'H.R. 5048 – Good Samaritan Assessment Act of 2016', 'H.R. 5052 – OPEN Act', 'S. 125 – Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program Reauthorization Act of 2015', 'H.R. 2137 – Federal Law Enforcement Self-Defense and Protection Act of 2015', and 'H.R. 3209 – Recovering Missing Children Act' under suspension of the rules Location: Washington, DC <http://www.house.gov/>

12:00 p.m. for Morning Hour debate and 2:00 p.m. for legislative business, with votes postponed until 6:30 p.m.

4:00 PM House Foreign Affairs subcommittee hearing on prisoners of conscience in Vietnam – Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations Subcommittee hearing on 'Will President Obama Prioritize the Release of Prisoners of Conscience in Vietnam?', with testimony from Vu Minh Khanh – wife of Vietnamese prisoner of conscience Nguyen Van Dai Location: Rm 2172, Rayburn House Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://www.hcfa.house.gov> <https://twitter.com/HouseForeign>

5:00 PM House Rules Committee hearing – Hearing on 'H.R. 4641, to provide for the establishment of an inter-agency task force to review, modify, and update best practices for pain management and prescribing pain medication, and for other purposes' and 'H.R. 5046, the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Reduction Act of 2016' Location: H-313, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC <http://www.rules.house.gov/> <https://twitter.com/RulesReps>

Other: 12:00 PM GOP Sen. Marco Rubio speaks on the Middle East at the Hudson Institute – Republican Sen. Marco Rubio speaks at the Hudson Institute, in conversation with Hudson Senior Fellow Michael Doran, discussing the conflict in Syria, the campaign to roll back the Islamic State group, Iran's regional aims, and the strategic challenges ahead for the U.S. and its allies Location: Hudson Institute,

1015 15th St., Washington, DC <http://www.hudson.org> <https://twitter.com/HudsonInstitute>

8:00 AM 'Assessing the New DOL Fiduciary Rule: Policy and Practical Challenges Conference' – Investment Company Institute host 'Assessing the New DOL Fiduciary Rule: Policy and Practical Challenges Conference'. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Program Operations Timothy Hauser keynotes, with other speakers including Republican Rep. Phil Roe Location: JW Marriott, 1331 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC <http://www.ici.org/> <https://twitter.com/WhatsNewAtICI>

9:00 AM NTSB Pedestrian Safety Forum – National Transportation Safety Board Pedestrian Safety Forum, featuring urban planners, highway engineers, and transportation policy advocates. NTSB Vice Chairman Dr T. Bella Dinh-Zarr chairs the forum and delivers opening and closing remarks, with participants including Barbara McCann (Department of Transportation), Bob Kreeb (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration), Dr Ann Dellinger (CDC), Dr Gabe Rousseau (Federal Highway Administration), Luisa Paiewonsky (VOLPE), Scott Kubly (Seattle Department of Transportation), Rob Viola (New York City Department of Transportation), Linda Bailey (National Association of City Transportation Officials), Dr James Sayer (University of Michigan), Carl Sundstrom (University of North Carolina), Dr Jessica Cicchino and David Zubry (both Insurance Institute for Highway Safety), Dr Krista Nordback (Portland State University), Richard Retting (Sam Schwartz Transportation Consultants), and Fionnuala Quinn (Bureau of Good Roads) Location: NTSB, 429 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Washington, DC <http://www.nts.gov/> <https://twitter.com/NTSB>

12:00 PM 'Populist Politics: From Protests to Violence' Luncheon Seminar – Potomac Institute for Policy Studies hosts 'Populist Politics: From Protests to Violence' Luncheon Seminar, to the current re-emerging trends and their future implications for security and peace. Includes opening remarks from U.S. Marine Corps Gen. (Ret.) Alfred Gray and keynote from George Washington University Professor Amitai Etzioni, with panelists including Hudson Institute Research Fellow Benjamin Haddad, Project on European Security Co-Director Dr Patrick Murphy, and former OAS Deputy Secretary for Multidimensional Security Abraham Stein, and closing remarks from International Law Institute Chairman Prof. Don Wallace Jr Location: 901 N. Stuart St., Suite 200, Arlington, VA Arlington www.potomac institute.org <https://twitter.com/PotomacInst>

1:00 PM NASA announces latest discoveries made by its Kepler Space Telescope – NASA announces latest discoveries made by its Kepler Space Telescope planet-hunting mission via news teleconference featuring NASA Astrophysics Division director Paul Hertz, Princeton University associate research scholar Timothy Morton, and NASA Ames Research Center Kepler mission scientist Natalie Batalha and Kepler/K2 mission manager Charlie Sobeck * Launched in 2009, Kepler was the first NASA mission to find Earth-size planets in or near the habitable zone – the range of distance from a star in which the surface temperature of an orbiting planet might sustain liquid water. It completed its prime mission in 2012, collected data for an additional year in an extended mission, and began a new extended mission called K2 in 2014 which continues its search for exoplanets while introducing new research opportunities to study young stars, supernovae, and other cosmic phenomenon

Last Laughs:

LATE NIGHT POLITICAL HUMOR.

Jimmy Fallon: "I saw that Jeb Bush wrote a Facebook post congratulating Donald Trump for securing the Republican nomination, but said he still won't support him. That's right, Jeb wrote an insincere Facebook post, or as it's also known, a Facebook post."

Jimmy Fallon: "That's right, Jeb Bush announced on Facebook that he will not support Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton. Even worse, the only two likes on that post were from Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton."

Jimmy Fallon: "On 'Meet the Press' yesterday, Donald Trump said he would like to see minimum wage increased, saying, quote, 'I don't know how people make it on \$7.25 an hour.' Then his butler said, 'Just barely, sir.'"

Jimmy Fallon: “And today, House Speaker Paul Ryan said that he would step down as chair of the Republican National Convention if Donald Trump asked him to. Ryan said the hardest part of walking away from the convention would be trying not to skip away from the convention.”

Seth Meyers: “House Speaker Paul Ryan today defended himself against criticism from fellow Republicans over his reluctance to endorse Donald Trump and said, quote, ‘I just want to get to know the guy.’ ‘Us, too,’ said Eric and Donald, Jr.”

Seth Meyers: “Donald Trump announced today that if he wins the presidency, Chris Christie will lead his transition team and help put together the Trump Administration. Because if there’s anything Christie knows how to do, it’s fill a cabinet.”

Seth Meyers: “In an apparent swipe at Donald Trump, President Obama said in a recent interview that the election process is a serious matter, because running the country is not a reality show. Added Obama, ‘And I don’t care if that offends people, because I am not here to make friends.’”

Seth Meyers: “A recent study found that Bernie Sanders’ economic plan would add \$18 trillion to the national debt. The study was conducted by famed economist ‘Millary Flinton.’”

Seth Meyers: “North Korea’s ruling political party announced today that they will be giving leader Kim Jong-un a new title. I’m going to guess – is it the heavyweight title?”

Conan O’Brien: “A lot of top Republicans not happy about [Donald] Trump. A former speech writer of John McCain’s said Donald Trump has an unstable personality. This coming from the guy who wrote the words, ‘Please welcome my running mate Sarah Palin.’”

Conan O’Brien: “Ann Coulter is coming out with a book praising Donald Trump. Just what Trump needed – the support of yet one more angry white man.”

Jimmy Kimmel: “Hillary Clinton had a good Mother’s Day weekend. She won the caucuses in Guam on Saturday, moving her another inch closer. The Guam caucuses are different. The winner gets a bag of mangoes.”

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