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Amargosa Wild and Scenic River in California

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Over 7,000 Catholic nuns unite against 'immoral' GOP health care bill in a public letter to senators

U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill Monday to expand Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits

BBC uploaded 40 hours of beautiful 'Planet Earth II' bonus footage to YouTube

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Why You Can't Teach United States History without American Indians

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Shoshone cultural initiative at GBC

Lee " Andy" Emm



File:Photograph from an industrial survey report of Fort Bidwell Agency, California - NARA - 296316.jpg

Record creator: Department of the Interior. Bureau of Indian Affairs. Sacramento Area Office. (1947)

Title: Photograph from an industrial survey report of Fort Bidwell Agency, California. The photograph presumably depicts Bieber Quinn, Leroy Quinn, Sally Ann Quinn, and Sally Jack sitting on a front porch. Date: circa 1924

NARA's Pacific Region (San Bruno) (NRHAS), 1000 Commodore Drive, San Bruno, CA, 94066-2350.



Amargosa Wild and Scenic River in California
Photo by Bob Wick, BLM

The [Amargosa River](#) in California is often called the “Crown Jewel of the Mojave Desert” and exemplifies the diversity of the Wild and Scenic River system. It flows through the hottest and driest part of the U. S. and

remains below the surface for much of its course before emptying out into Badwater Basin in Death Valley. Along the wild and scenic segment, the river flows at the surface and is saltier than the ocean but is still critical for desert life. The tiny Amargosa pupfish has evolved to swim in the warm salty water, and the Amargosa vole, possibly the rarest mammal in the U. S. with less than 100 individuals, only lives in the wetland rushes along the river. The corridor provides exceptional birdwatching opportunities and scenic desert hikes during the cooler months.

Rio Grande Wild and Scenic River in New Mexico

The Rio Grande was one of the first eight river segments designated as a Wild and Scenic River and is a popular fishing and whitewater boating destination. Photo by Bob Wick, BLM

The [Río Grande Wild and Scenic River](#)

(named by early Spaniards as the “Great River of the North”) enters New Mexico in a deep



basalt canyon where trout inhabit the deep green pools and birds of prey nest along the ochre cliffs. Adventurous whitewater boaters float the “Taos Box,” which contains numerous class IV and even V rapids. Milder but still exciting, class II and III runs are found downstream. Landlubbers can enjoy the river at the Canyon Rims Recreation Area, which has camp and picnic sites perched high on the canyon rim. The area has attracted people since

prehistoric times. Evidence of ancient use is found throughout the area in the form of petroglyphs, prehistoric dwelling sites and many other types of archaeological sites.

For more: <https://www.doi.gov/blog/findyourway-america-s-wild-and-scenic-rivers>

So, You Want To Become A Corrupt Professional? You Can Get Your Training At The DOI

The Department of Interior and its current Secretary, Sally Jewell, is in charge of more than 71,000 employees with a budget in excess of 90 billion dollars and one of its divisions, the Bureau of Land Management, the BLM, oversees more than 500 million acres of public land, which is about one-fifth the land area of the United States and this department is and has always been, awash in scandal.

Established on March 3, 1849, by the Department of the Interior Act, the Department of Interior became the fourth cabinet in the federal government. It didn't take long before the first scandal struck this Cabinet.

In 1873, a year after Yellowstone National Park was established, Secretary of Interior Columbus Delano made the following remarks:

“The civilization of the Indian is impossible while the buffalo remains upon the plains. I would not seriously regret the total disappearance of the buffalo from our western prairies, in its effect upon the Indians, regarding it as a means of hastening their sense of dependence upon the products of the soil and their own labors.”

Delano's attitude was shared by most Americans around this time as people began to move westward. As Delano stated, the buffalo and the wild horse were viewed as a means of perpetuating Native Americans way of life. General Phil Sheridan made clear his strategy in dealing with the Indians when he said the way to defeat the enemy is to destroy their commissary and destroy their means of transportation and our government did. In the mid to late 1800's millions upon millions of buffalo and wild horses were killed by, or with the blessing, of the federal government.

Two years later, in 1875, Delano's department was in serious disrepair due to his corruption and incompetence. He paid money to fictitious clerks while other clerks had been paid without performing any services. He was convicted of taking bribes for fraudulent land grants and was forced to resign from office. Delano had also given lucrative cartographical contracts to his son John Delano.

Then there was the infamous Teapot Dome bribery scandal of 1922. The Teapot Dome is a federal oil reserve in Wyoming. Investigations revealed that Interior Secretary Albert Fall had secretly leased the Teapot Dome reserve and California's Elk Hills reserve to oil executives and received a \$409,000 payoff in return. Fall was convicted and sentenced to a year in prison. Wow, a whole year.

In 1971, Congress passes the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act, intended to protect America's living legends, the mustang horse and its cousin, the burro. Ironically, they put the BLM, a division of the same department, the Department of Interior, that originally tried to eradicate these animals and who has been under the thumb of the special interest group, the Cattlemen's Association, since its inception, in charge of executing this act. Needless to say, this has been a disaster.

Then in 1973 Congress passes the Endangered Species Act, which expands federal power over private lands. The law's basic approach is to put most of the cost of endangered species recovery onto the owners of the land the animals happen to live on. As such, it creates perverse incentives for landowners to destroy wildlife on their lands before the government effectively expropriates it. The law was administered by Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service.

Then we have former Department of Interior Secretary, Ken Salazar, accused of doing nothing about the Bureau of Land Management's mismanagement of wild horses. The BLM allowed a notorious livestock hauler named Tom Davis, acquire nearly 1,800 wild horses and burros over a four-year period. Davis claimed he sold about 1700 to a rescue in the southeast. When the Denver Post was doing their expose on this, they called our organization to see if we had them or knew of anyone in our area who could have taken this many horses. There is nobody and if 1800 wild horses were introduced into the southeast, we would have known about it because, at the time, we were one of only two mustang rescues in the entire southeast. Livestock hauler Tom Davis is accused of handing them over to kill buyers who sent them to Mexico to slaughter for human consumption and in the process was breaking numerous Colorado state and federal laws. According to the IG report, the hauler, Tom Davis, allegedly "had farming and trucking connections" with Salazar. The Office of the Inspector General report notes that Davis began gathering horses from the BLM after Salazar took office as Interior Secretary (the BLM program is part of the Department of the Interior and therefore was under Salazar's control).

Making matters even worse for the Department of Interior in the year 2006 as word of scandals at the Department of Interior's Denver office surface, the department's Inspector General, Earl Devaney, declared that it suffers from "a culture of managerial irresponsibility," including cronyism and widespread ethical failures. Devaney charged that "short of a crime, anything goes at the highest levels of the Department of Interior." Well, it sure appears that even crime is more than a possibility with these people.

At the Interior's Minerals Management Service in Denver, various conflicts of interest were cited. The Interior's Inspector General reported that MMS employees had close relationships with, and had received gifts, including sex for hire (crime), from, employees of the energy firms they were supposed to be regulating.

The former head of the Denver Royalty-in-Kind office, Gregory W. Smith, used illegal drugs (crime) and had sex with subordinates. The report said Smith also steered government contracts to a consulting business that was employing him part-time.

Recently, the Las Vegas Review-Journal reported that the former director of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management "stood to benefit personally" in 2012 when he tried to fast-track the sale of

federal land in Henderson, Nevada, to a stadium developer, according to a government investigation report.

The joint investigation by the FBI and the Office of the Inspector General showed then-BLM director Bob Abbey was “personally and substantially involved” in the review process for the land sale, despite his connections to the transaction.

The deal was being pushed by former BLM employee Mike Ford, Abbey’s friend and onetime partner in a private consulting firm where Abbey worked both before and after his three-year stint as head of the federal agency. The firm stood to receive a \$528,000 “success fee” after the land sale went through.

Ford was working as a consultant for the City of Henderson and controversial Texas developer Chris Milam, who was floating plans for a \$650 million professional sports arena that would never be built.

When Abbey was nominated by President Obama to head the BLM, he signed what’s known as a “recusal form” stating that he had resigned his position as a private consultant but “expected to rejoin the firm as a member” after his government service. In the same form, he pledged not to “participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that had a direct and predictable effect on the financial interests of the firm.”

Investigators said Abbey’s relationship with Ford, gave the consultant unusual access to the BLM and its staff during the review process for the land sale, and at the prompting of both Ford and Abbey, key documents were processed far faster than usual.

Abbey retired as BLM director on May 31, 2012, and now he is listed as a partner in the firm Abbey Stubbs & Ford. Now isn’t that convenient?

The report says he told investigators he never received any payment from the consulting firm or anyone else as a result of the land sale in Henderson. I suppose because he is a public official we should believe him?

This goes to show you that, with these government officials, the recusal forms they sign aren’t worth the paper they are written on.

It makes one wonder if there is any sort of corruption and self-serving activity that is too debased for these government officials become involved in next. I personally doubt it.

Posted on [July 2, 2016](#) Author [David Hesse](#)

[Severe, chronic flooding will devastate California coast as sea levels rise](#)
[Joshua Emerson Smith, Los Angeles Times](#)

As glaciers melt amid the heat of a warming planet, scientists predict that coastal communities in the United States could eventually experience flooding from higher tides.

Trump Administration Proposes Repeal of Fracking Protections

https://www.ecowatch.com/trump-fracking-protections-2465172234.html?utm_source=EcoWatch+List&utm_campaign=6d76ed8b5b-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_49c7d43dc9-6d76ed8b5b-85895669

From Pipelines to Health Care, makes you want to get a habit:

Over 7,000 Catholic nuns unite against 'immoral' GOP health care bill in a public letter to senators

<https://m.dailykos.com/stories/2017/7/24/1683418/-Over-7-000-Catholic-nuns-unite-against-immoral-GOP-health-care-bill-in-a-public-letter-to-senators?detail=emaildkre>

Taking Care of the Most Vulnerable: Sister Simone Campbell on Catholic Sisters Resisting Assaults on Health Care

Sarah Jaffe, Truthout: "The senators need to know that there is a groundswell of 'we the people' saying we will take care of the vulnerable people in our nation!" says Sister Simone Campbell. Campbell has been involved in activism for many years, and explains how Catholic women have fought -- and continue to fight -- to protect health care. [Read the Interview and Listen to the Audio](#)

By a unanimous vote, the **U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill Monday to expand Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits**. Among other benefits, there will no longer be a 15-year limit on the use of postsecondary education benefits. [Read more...](#)**

BBC uploaded 40 hours of beautiful 'Planet Earth II' bonus footage to YouTube.

Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation: Who Is Brenda Burman?

Brenda Wren Burman, who during the George W. Bush administration served as deputy commissioner of the [Bureau of Reclamation](#) (USBR), was nominated on June 26, 2017, to lead the agency. The USBR is responsible for managing 475 dams and 337 reservoirs and doling out water to agricultural and residential users, as well as producing power from 53 hydroelectric power plants. Burman will be the first woman to lead the agency.

The daughter of Tim and Pat Burman, Brenda Burman was born in California and grew up in Minnesota and New Jersey. She earned a B.A. from Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio, where she played field hockey, in 1989. She worked as a volunteer trail crew member at Carlsbad Caverns National Park in New Mexico. Later, she worked as a park ranger at the Grand Canyon before going to law school at the University of Arizona. After she earned her J.D. in 1996, Burman served as a clerk on the Wyoming Supreme Court.

Burman worked for four years in private practice as an attorney handling natural resource issues before going to work in 2002 as legislative counsel for energy and water for then-Sen. Jon Kyl (R-Arizona). Both in private practice and while working for Se. Kyl, she dealt extensively with Native American water rights issues. In 2005, Burman joined the Department of the Interior as counselor to the assistant secretary for water and science, Mark Limbaugh. In June of that year, she began her first stint at USBR as deputy commissioner for external and intergovernmental affairs, which made her responsible for relationships with federal, state and local governments, as well as citizen and other nongovernmental groups. She rejoined the agency's parent department, [Interior](#), as a deputy assistant secretary in 2007.

As the Bush administration was leaving office, Burman found work as a senior water policy administrator for [The Nature Conservancy](#). In 2011, she joined the [Metropolitan Water District of Southern California](#) as special projects manager, handling issues pertaining to the Colorado River and the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.

Burman joined the [Salt River Project](#), the major electric utility for the Phoenix area, as well as a water company, as its executive water policy adviser and director of water strategy in 2015, a job she held at the time of her nomination to the Bureau of Reclamation.

Burman enjoys hiking and following the Arizona Diamondbacks baseball team.

-Steve Straehley, David Wallechinsky

Lecture by Nicholas Clapp - Old Magic: Lives of the Desert Shamans ... ► 45:30
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PraK9vU64SM>

Oct 21, 2015 - Uploaded by Rancho Mirage Public Library

For a thousand generations, desert shamans of the far West sought order in the stars and in the mysteries of ...

Red Lake Indian Reservation declares public health emergency over drug epidemic

A significant uptick in overdoses the last few months prompted tribal leaders to take the unusual action. <http://strib.mn/2vGTWBz>

from PowWows.com:

The Best Native American Studies Programs at US Colleges

Knowledge is incredibly valuable and learning more about Native American communities will help you to protect and maintain their identity and traditions.

There are some top notch college programs around the USA that offer students the chance to learn about Native American culture, history, sociology, economics and much more. These programs lead to employment in a wide range of sectors, including health education, museum curation, public interest law, social work, teaching and much more.

Here are some of the notable programs at colleges across the USA that focus on Native American topics. [READ MORE](#)

Native Realities Launches “Deer Woman” Kickstarter Campaign

From the folks that have published some outstanding Indigenous comics such as Tribal Force, and Tales of the Mighty Code Talkers comes this amazing new project! DEER WOMAN: AN ANTHOLOGY aims to bring together more than a dozen Native and Indigenous women artists and illustrators to present stories of resistance, survival, empowerment, and hope.

Drawing from the inspiration of traditional Deer Woman stories, DEER WOMAN: AN ANTHOLOGY will be a powerful collection of stories by Native women to bring determination and healing to those in need and those willing to listen with their hearts.

In case you're unfamiliar with the Deer Woman story, their Kickstarter campaign lays it all out for you. [READ MORE](#)

Pow Wow Life Photo Contest – Sponsored by Crazy Crow Trading Post

With hundreds of Pow Wows happening this summer, we want to see your best Pow Wow photos! Enter our photo contest for your chance to win great prizes from [Crazy Crow Trading Post](#) including Pendleton Blankets!

How to Enter

Take a photo or video of Pow Wow Life—whatever that means to you! This could be a selfie or a photo of a dancer, singer, vendor, people traveling, friends gathering, children playing, etc. You can enter as many times as you want. [READ MORE](#)

Irene Bedard – Pocahontas Appearing In Wreck It Ralph 2

At the 2017 D23 Expo, Disney announced Wreck It Ralph 2. The upcoming movie will feature all of the Disney Princesses including Pocahontas voiced by Irene Bedard.

Disney previewed the film during the Pixar and Disney Animation Panel. In Wreck It Ralph 2, Ralph and Vanellope explore the Internet! On their journey through the interwebs, Vanellope finds a room filled with the Disney Princesses – all of them! We were lucky to be in the audience and see the clip!

We were lucky to be in the audience and see the clip! The scene is fantastic and will be one of the highlights of the movie. You will get to see the Princesses relaxing and bonding with Vanellope, and the jokes are flying. [READ MORE](#)

Mickey Mouse Pendleton Blankets Coming Fall 2017

During the D23 Expo, Disney previewed upcoming movies and products. Among their announcements, Disney previewed two new Pendleton blankets coming fall of 2017.

The two new blankets will feature Mickey Mouse! [READ MORE](#)

Why You Can't Teach United States History without American Indians

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1469621215>

Susan Sleeper-Smith, Juliana Barr, Jean M. O'Brien - 2015 - History

Alvin M. Josephy Jr., The Nez Perce Indians and the Opening of the West (New ... This claim was part of the tribes *Indian Claims Commission* claim, *Docket No.*

[Natalie Van Hoozer](#)

Did you miss the [Nevada Online News Association](#) Digital Storytelling Workshop? Don't worry, because I did a recap post for [Online News Association](#), check it out!

ONA Reno Digital Storytelling Workshop Recap

ONA Reno's Digital Storytelling Workshop attracted guest speakers and media professionals from all over the West Coast. The event tackled a variety of topics, from the latest digital tools to unplugging from your newsroom. See the... [journalists.org](#)

Bixi Nibe

I miss days like this when one can just RELAX. Now, we cannot. Stand Real People of Mother Earth. Stand because we are Voice, to the Ocean, Forest, Mountains, to the Ancestors and the Unborn. To all our relatives in the animal, plant and stone world that are being destroyed and poisoned mainly by large corporations and transnationals floating above the laws. We Indigenous Peoples were sent here to guard, to teach and then we will go on to walk among the stars. Until then we Stand, Standing Rock happened for a reason and I for one am not letting go. Our Warriors are in journey again to the United Nations and many are the obstacles we face. Having just finished attending the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and listening to what we are up against, proves that it is us that bear most of the responsibility for protecting what remains of the natural world. I am not ashamed to say we are "disadvantaged", because the simple fact that we remain ALIVE is incredible. The replicas of the Columbus ships are still going around today,(look at previous posts) yet our canoes are also coming down the river. This is why i say we live in the Past, Present and Future. Standing Rock, Water Is Life. Prayers.

Shoshone cultural initiative at GBC

ELKO – Twelve Western Shoshone high school students have been selected to attend the 2017 summer Shoshone Community Language Initiative representing eight Shoshone tribes/bands of Nevada. [elkodaily.com](#)



LEE "ANDY" EMM

5/17/66 - 7/23/17

**GRAVESIDE SERVICES WILL BE HELD
AT THE
YERINGTON PAIUTE
TRIBAL CEMETERY
July 28, 2017
AT 10 AM**

**DINNER TO FOLLOW AT
THE YPT COMMUNITY CENTER
FOOD DONATIONS APPRECIATED**