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8 Things You Didn't Know About the Bureau of Land Management

Department of Interior PR and website information

Sacred Lakes Threatened by China's Growing Capital Video

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Invitation from International Peace and Harmony Forum of Lahore High Court Bar Association

Government Whistleblower Sounds the Alarm on Villages Threatened by Climate Change

1.2 million people in the state could be displaced from coastal communities by the end of the century.

Have what it takes to be a Grist fellow? Don't miss the application deadline!

Silent Rain Espinosa named to All-American First Team



[8 Things You Didn't Know About the Bureau of Land Management](#)

[•Read more about 8 Things You Didn't Know About the Bureau of Land Management \(in their own words\)](#)

DOI stepping up pr campaign.....(Compare with Sally Jewell's style)

Not all heroes wear a cape. At Interior, employees across the Department sometimes find themselves called to act in extraordinary circumstances. [Interior employees step up to the challenge their job presents, often going above and beyond what is expected of them.](#)

They're everyday heroes who -- through their determination and selflessness -- risk their lives in their jobs managing public lands, waterways, resources and visitors. Whether it's shielding the public from harm, rescuing a troop of boy scouts before a tornado hit or pitching in when a natural emergency strikes, many say that they were "just doing their job."

As we celebrate the American heroes in our communities, [learn more about some of the courageous and inspiring acts of Interior employees](#), and be sure to thank all the heroes in your community this week!

American Heroes: Employees step up to the challenge at Interior

You don't have to wear a cape to be a hero. At the Interior Department, ordinary men and women sometimes find themselves called to act in extraordinary circumstances. Many have gone above and beyond their job descriptions. Some get recognized, and others spend their time quietly protecting the nation's public and tribal lands, and those who visit them.

This week, we're highlighting a few of Interior's employees who are American heroes.

Bureau of Indian Affairs Police Officer saves elderly resident

Officer Justin C. White of the Bureau of Indian Affairs was dispatched to an area home in North Dakota that was engulfed in smoke. When White arrived, he found a wheelchair-bound elderly resident trapped in the home. With little thought for his own safety, White shattered a bedroom window, then crawled through the broken glass to retrieve and successfully evacuate the resident. This act of bravery won him a Valor Award -- [one of 30 Interior employees to receive the award this year](#).

Bureau of Reclamation engineer pivotal at river restoration

Bureau of Reclamation's own Jennifer Bountry was named [Federal Engineer of the Year](#) for her achievements in river restoration. Bountry was a key manager of the Elwha River Restoration Project, which looked to restore salmon and treaty obligations with the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe. Thanks to Bountry's work, nearly 100 acres of new coastal beach has been created, fish access has been restored to 70 miles of river, and fish habitats have been rehabilitated. Bountry is one of the many Interior employees whose work benefits Americans across the country.

Tribal Nations

The U.S. Department of the Interior upholds its trust responsibilities to foster the government-to-government relationship between the federal government and the federally recognized American Indian and Alaska Native tribes.

The Department is committed to tribal prosperity and to helping address challenges in the areas of economic development, education, and law enforcement. The Department supports Indian self-determination to ensure that tribes have a strong voice in shaping federal policies that directly impact their ability to govern themselves and provide for the safety, education and economic security of their citizens. The Department provides services directly, or through contracts, grants or compacts, to 567 federally recognized tribes with a combined service population of approximately 1.9 million American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Resources:

- [Federal Subsistence Management Program](#)
- [Indian Arts and Crafts Board](#)
- [Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations](#)

- [Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians \(OST\)](#)
- [Native One-Stop](#)
- [Secretary's Indian Water Rights Office](#)
- [Trace Indian Ancestry](#)
- [Tribal Leaders Directory](#)



Pictured here is Trona Pinnacles, where Star Trek V (1989), Planet of the Apes (2001), Battlestar Gallactica and Lost in Space were filmed here. Photo by Bureau of Land Management. *(see nighttime shots below)*

Climate

Change

The U.S. Department of the Interior manages one-fifth of the land in the United States, 35,000 miles of coastline, and 1.7 billion acres of the Outer Continental Shelf. The Department also upholds the federal government's trust responsibilities to 567 Indian tribes; conserves fish, wildlife, and their habitats; manages water supplies for more than 30 million people; and protects America's natural treasures.

The impacts of climate change have led the Department to focus on how we manage our nation's public lands and resources. The Department of the Interior contributes sound scientific research to address this and other environmental challenges.

Resources:

- [Bureau of Land Management](#)
- [Bureau of Ocean Energy Management](#)
- [Climate Science Centers](#)
- [National Park Service](#)
- [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service](#)
- [U.S. Geological Survey](#)

Integrity of Scientific and Scholarly Activities

[Home](#)

[Closed Cases](#)

[Policy](#)

[Handbook](#)

[SI Officers](#)

[Code of Conduct](#)

"Science and scholarship play a vital role in the Department's mission, providing one of several critical inputs to decision-making on conservation and responsible development of natural resources, preservation of cultural resources, and responsibilities to tribal communities. Scientific information considered in Departmental decision-making must be robust, of the highest quality, and the result of as rigorous a set of scientific processes as can be achieved. Most importantly, the information must be trustworthy."

The purpose of the policy is to establish the expectations for how scientific and scholarly information considered in Departmental decision making is handled and used. Scholarly information considered in Departmental decision making must be robust, of the highest quality, and the result of as rigorous scientific and scholarly processes as can be achieved. Most importantly, it must be trustworthy. This policy helps us to achieve that standard.

The goals of the policy are to ensure that DOI:

- Decisions are based on science and scholarship are respected as credible;
- Science is conducted with integrity and excellence;
- Has a culture of scientific and scholarly integrity that is enduring;
- Scientists and scholars are widely recognized for excellence; and
- Employees are proud to uphold the high standards & lead by example.

The policy applies to all DOI employees, including political appointees, as well as, contractors, cooperators, partners, permittees, leasees, grantees, and volunteers, when they engage in, supervise, manage, or influence scientific and scholarly activities, or communicate information about the Department's scientific and scholarly activities, or utilize scientific and scholarly information in making agency policy, management or regulatory decisions.

The policy creates bureau level Scientific Integrity Officers (BSIOs) and an agency-wide Scientific Integrity Officer (DSIO). SIOs are the primary point of contact for the policy implementation and they are the leads for initial review of any allegation of loss of integrity.

The policy is available in the [DOI Departmental Manual](#).

The policy creates a mechanism to assess an allegation of loss of scientific and scholarly integrity. See section 3.8 of the policy. Also see [Scientific Integrity Procedures Handbook](#).

The policy creates a process to allow scientists to engage with their communities of practice (professional societies). See section 3.9 of the policy. Also see [Scientific Integrity Procedures Handbook](#).

The policy establishes the DOI Code of Scientific and Scholarly Conduct ([PDF poster](#) of the Code).

- [Frequently asked questions about the policy](#)

The policy establishes the Scientific Integrity Officers.

- [Contact information for Department and Bureau Scientific Integrity Officers](#)

The policy establishes a process for reviewing allegations of loss of scientific integrity.

- [Closed scientific integrity cases](#)

Open Government Initiative (*Before it disappears*)

- [Interior Open Government Plan v3.0](#)
- [Interior Open Government Plan v2.0](#) (updated April 9, 2012)
- [Interior Open Government Plan v1.1](#) (updated June 25, 2010)

The Department of the Interior assembled a multi-functional team from across our department to develop Interior's Open Government Plan. In addition to meeting all of the requirements of the [Open Government Directive](#), Interior's Open Government plan seeks to:

- Create better relationships between government and citizens
- Enable DOI to understand citizens' demand for services more clearly and be more responsive to their needs
- Increase the rate of innovation by leveraging public knowledge
- Increase DOI's ability to meet its mission more effectively and efficiently by transparently engaging the public in decision making
- Encourage the development of Open Government Programs

If you have feedback on our Open Government Plan, please send to open@ios.doi.gov.

Related Documents:

- [Customer Service Plan](#)
- [Data Center Consolidation Master Plan](#)
- [Plain Language](#)
- [Regulation & Regulatory Review](#)

Strategic Plan

The U.S. Department of the Interior's Strategic Plan serves as the agency's roadmap for our near term actions. In accordance with the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), agency strategic plans cover a five year period are updated at least every three years. Interior's strategic plan frames organizational responsibilities and operational assumptions, and converts them

into expectations for performance and accomplishment. It establishes measurable performance targets in each defined mission area along with targets for Departmental management initiatives. This structure helps us to consider risks and our capacity to perform under less than ideal circumstances.

Strategic Plans

- [DOI Strategic Plan - FY 2014-2018](#)
- [DOI Strategic Plan - FY 2011-2016](#)
- [DOI Strategic Plan - FY 2007-2012](#)

Drones that fight wildfires.

An important part of managing wildfire is controlling a fire's fuel sources. Prescribed (sometimes called "controlled") burns, chemical retardants and other techniques can keep fuel from an ongoing fire, reduce future wildfire risks, and enhance the safety and effectiveness of wildfire



response. Interior's Office of Aviation Services is working with Drone Amplified -- an American startup by two professors at the University of Nebraska -- on [drone aircraft able to set prescribed burns](#).

[Sacred Lakes Threatened by China's Growing Capital](#)

By IAN JOHNSON

Plans to transform Beijing and create a new nearby supercity may destroy celebrated wetlands - and erase the communities' aquatic traditions.

Today's selection -- from *What a Fish Knows* by Jonathan Balcombe. When flounders are born, they have one eye on each side of their face. As they mature, one eye will migrate so that both are on the same side. They also have an astonishing ability to camouflage themselves, which is in part controlled by their vision:



"Baby flounders look like any other normal fish, swimming upright with one eye on each side. Then, in preparation for adult life, they undergo a bizarre transformation: one eye migrates to the other side of the face. It's like facial reconstructive surgery, only in slow motion, and without scalpels and sutures. It isn't even always slow. The entire migration takes just five days if you're a starry flounder, and less than one day in some

species. If a fish can have an awkward adolescence, this one qualifies.

In exchange for the indignity of having both eyes nestled next to each other on one flank, flounders have fabulous binocular vision. Like proud neighbors, the two eyes protrude from the body, and each can swivel independently. ... Binocular vision is a useful adaptation for a lifestyle of lying in wait on the sandy or stony bottom, exquisitely camouflaged against the substrate, watching for an opportunity to snatch an unsuspecting shrimp or other unfortunate passerby with a lightning-fast lunge. With refined depth perception, a flounder can better judge the timing and wisdom of her ambush.

"Ocular migration has obviously proven an effective survival strategy for flounders and related flatfishes, of which there are more than 650 species, including soles, turbot, halibut, sand dabs, plaice, and tonguefishes. Some species are referred to as 'right-eye flounders,' always lying on their left side after their left eye migrates to the right side of the body. Others are left-eye flounders. Despite their fine adaptations, many Atlantic flounder and sole species are now threatened by overfishing.

"[F]latfishes [are] the champions of pigment manipulation. They use their skin to melt chameleonlike into the background. I remember flipping through a biology textbook when I was in high school and encountering a jaw-dropping photo of a flounder who had been placed on a checkerboard in his tank. Within minutes, the flatfish had produced a fine rendition of a checkerboard across his back. From a distance, the flounder effectively disappears. This ability to mimic backgrounds by changing the distribution of skin pigments is a complex and poorly understood process that involves vision and hormones. If one of the flounders' eyes is damaged or covered by sand, they have difficulty matching their colors to their surroundings, which hints at some level of conscious control by the flounder rather than a cellular-level mechanism."

What a Fish Knows: The Inner Lives of Our Underwater Cousins

Author: [Jonathan Balcombe](#)

Publisher: [Scientific American](#) / [Farrar, Straus and Giroux](#)

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Pages 27-28, 32-33

Video Shows Melted Nuclear Fuel Inside Fukushima Reactor

Only ~35 more years of this Pacific ocean nightmare. EN

https://www.ecowatch.com/fukushima-nuclear-fuel-2464689584.html?utm_source=EcoWatch+List&utm_campaign=6d76ed8b5b-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_49c7d43dc9-6d76ed8b5b-85895669

Perhaps a spiritual powwow.....or a country smudge.....

Dear Colleague,

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that for the first time in the history of the Lahore High Court Bar (LHCB), the President of the LHCB Association has constituted an **International Peace and Harmony Forum of Lahore High Court Bar Association** for year 2017-18.
(Copy Attached)

All religions of the world preach similar truths and virtues, which, along with shared cultural and social values can be built upon to enhance interfaith harmony in Pakistan. Interfaith dialogue and harmony are possible only on the basis of equality, respect and acceptance.

Pakistan has seen a rise in sectarianism and attacks targeting minority groups. Targets in Pakistan include the Sunni majority, Shia, and the small Ahmadi, Hindu and Christian religious groups. According to a report by Human Rights Watch, in 2011 and 2012, Pakistan minority groups Shia, Ahmadi, and Christians “faced unprecedented insecurity and persecution in the country[AM1]”. This insecurity ranged from attacks on their religious places, to their homes, to forced conversions, false blasphemy allegations and lynching, and much more. Attacks on Sunni Sufi shrines have also occurred. All this violence poses a great threat to peace and stability in our society. It is time that we work together to a strategy which promotes more understanding and tolerance amongst our diverse population. It is only by celebrating our diversity will we ever be able to progress as a nation.

We want to learn from your experience and support you in the excellent work your organization does. Please feel free to contact us if you are interested in conducting a training, workshop, seminar or a conference with Lahore High Court Bar Association.

We will be thankful if you could kindly include our name to your mailing list and inform us of any upcoming trainings, workshops or conferences on human and minority rights and related topics arranged by you or any of your sister/partner organizations.

We look forward to a wonderful working relationship together and success for all concerned.

With best regards, Waheed Ahmad, Human Rights Consultant, Advocate High Court
Chairman International Peace and Harmony Forum of Lahore High Court Bar Association.
(2017-18).

Chairman Child Rights Committee Lahore Bar Association. Pakistan
0092-333-4639652 , 0092-300-4254329 Skype : waheedch1

Government Whistleblower Sounds the Alarm on Villages Threatened by Climate Change

John Light, Moyers and Company

Light writes: "A government scientist is speaking out against the Trump administration."

[READ MORE](#)

Sea levels are rising at a rate of nearly 1 centimeter per year along parts of the Florida coast, according to updated analyses released this year. Scientists found that, within the parameters of moderate sea level rise, more than **1.2 million people in the state could be displaced** from coastal communities by the end of the century. *Associated Press*

In context: [The struggle to keep the ocean out of California's coastal aquifers.](#)

Trona pinnacles at night (lots of fab photos)



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Have what it takes to be a Grist fellow? Don't miss the application deadline!

GRIST Staff

VIEJAS, SILENT RAIN ESPINOZA NAMED ALL AMERICAN FIRST TEAM

Silent Rain Espinoza, a senior at Christian High School in El Cajon, CA., was named to the 2017 **MAXPREP** high school All American First Team for Softball. She led her team to the CIF San Diego Section D3 Championship with a 26-9-1 record. She posted a .560 batting average with 62 hits and scored 64 runs. Almost half her hits were for extra bases. She had 34 RBIs with 19 doubles and 9 homeruns and stole 15 bases.

She was also selected to the All CIF first team and was named East San Diego County Player of the Year.

She is a tribal member of the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians. Her very proud parents are Greybuck and Mackenzie Espinoza. Her grandparents are Orlando and Diana Vigil.

In the fall she will be attending the University of Washington which she chose over Stanford and Arizona State. She has a 3.97 GPA (*Grade Point Average*) for her four year in high school.

Congratulations Silent Rain the will be following your career at Washington.

You make our people proud. God bless you and keep you safe.



File photo by Steven Silva

Silent Rain Espinoza, Christian