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Trump Auctions Off 150,000 Acres of Public Lands for Fracking Near Utah

Hoop Dancing Santa

Reindeer Numbers Have Fallen by More Than Half in 2 Decades



Canadian show "Wild Kitchen" features look into Indigenous cooking Posted By

Corinne Oestreich December

05th, 2018 Blog

Wild Kitchen, a show airing in Canada features host Tiffany Ayalik, an indigenous woman who features a deeper look into traditional outdoor cooking and even survival techniques.

Wild Kitchen is a show based in the Canadian Sub-arctic about people who harvest wild food. 100% of the cast and crew are from the Northwest Territories. Pictured here is Director of Photography, Craig Kovatch

and Executive Producer, Caroline Cox, shooting just outside of Kakisa. Photography by Yellowknife's Kayley MacKay. — with Craig Kovatch and Caroline Cox Read More

BUT BE CAREFUL OF WHAT YOU WISH FOR!!

Victory for the environment: Ryan Zinke resigns from the Department of the Interior after onslaught of scandals!

VICTORY! Ryan Zinke just stepped down as Secretary of the Interior, according to a tweet from Donald Trump. He will leave at the end of the year. This was largely thanks to people like you demanding he be held accountable for his corruption.

Every day Ryan Zinke was in office, he worked to destroy our public lands and waters -- with devastating impacts on our communities. He slashed protections for places like the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and Bears Ears National Monument. And he did it all to help his fossil fuel industry friends.

The scandals surrounding Zinke have been building for months. The DOI Inspector General released a report showing that every time Zinke had a choice between benefiting taxpayers and himself, he chose himself. He even changed policies so taxpayers would cover travel for his wife, and wasted \$25,000 on a romantic trip to Turkey with her.

His corruption was so severe that the DOI Inspector General referred an investigation to the Department of Justice for possible criminal prosecution.

Friends of the Earth members like you spoke out on these scandals and made them impossible for Trump to ignore. Zinke resigned after you signed petitions, made phone calls, took to social media and took to the streets to demand that he be kicked out of the Department of Interior.

This shows that when people like you stand up to Trump and his Administration, you can make a difference. You can stop them from destroying our environment and endangering our communities.

Forcing Zinke out is a huge victory for people and the environment. Each day Zinke was Interior Secretary, he worked to advance his radical plan to slash national monuments, cut Indigenous communities out of the decision-making process, and ignore significant environmental, cultural, and scientific information. And he did it all in a mad dash to frack, mine and drill on America's public lands.

And until the scandals caught up to him, he was dangerously effective at it.

By kicking Zinke out of the Department of the Interior, you helped send a strong message that it's unacceptable for our leaders to put the fossil fuel industry and other corporate interests ahead of people and the planet.

Trump is still trying to fill his government with corrupt extremists and climate deniers. Zinke's likely replacement, David Bernhardt, is a walking conflict of interest. Before coming to Interior he was a high paid lobbyist representing the very industries that will profit from Trump's plan to hand our public lands and waters over to polluters.

That's why we'll need you with us every step of the way as we work to stop these dangerous nominees and appointees. But Zinke's ouster shows that when we all take action together, we win.

Thank you for helping build a better future for our country and our planet.

Standing with you, Nicole Ghio, Senior fossil fuels program manager Friends of the Earth

Like I said, "Victory" does not mean its over: https://readersupportednews.org/news-section2/318-66/53916-trump-settles-for-interim-chief-of-staff-mick-mulvaney-after-being-turned-down-by-his-top-choices

How Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke came undone

Yahoo News

QUOTATION OF THE DAY

"There are these laws and these ethical norms that are being blown to bits by these cabinet secretaries. And that's the pattern, the problem, that keeps us up at night."

DELANEY MARSCO, ethics counsel at the Campaign Legal Center, a nonpartisan watchdog group.

Trump Administration's Alaska Oil and Gas Lease Sale a 'Major Flop'

Global Divestment Movement Celebrates Milestone: 1,000 Institutions With Nearly \$8 Trillion in Assets Have Vowed to Ditch Fossil Fuels

https://www.ecowatch.com/fossil-fuel-divestment-institutions-2623328911.html

Court Tosses Controversial Pipeline Permits, Rules Forest Service Failed to 'Speak for the Trees'

https://www.ecowatch.com/atlantic-coast-pipeline-permitstrees-2623387334.html

The oil industry's covert campaign to rewrite American car emissions rules The New York Times

Energy giants and conservative groups have been aggressively pushing Trump's rollback of fuel efficiency rules for automobiles, a Times investigation found. Read the full story

Huge reserves protect underwater mountains, endangered sea lifeNational
Geographic Argentina's government has voted to create two new marine parks that cover an area the size of Hungary. Read the full story

'Death Sentence': Butterfly Sanctuary to Be Bulldozed for Trump's Border Wall Samuel Gilbert, Guardian UK

Gilbert writes: "Today the most diverse butterfly sanctuary in the country, and other protected areas in the lower Rio Grande Valley along the US-Mexico border, are under threat." READ MORE

Our historical and natural landmarks tell the stories of our land and those that came before us. **Chaco Culture National Historical Park** is a sacred place and holds the site of the densest concentration of pueblos in the Southwest. Oil and energy companies are trying to use this area right outside of the national park for fracking. This will lead to toxic pollution entering the park, and potentially harming this sacred land.

Bureau of Land Management, please stop the exploitation of this irreplaceable cultural landscape and implement safeguards to protect the culture and communities across the Greater Chaco Landscape, the heart of which lies in Chaco Culture National Historical Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Chaco Canyon is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a sacred ancestral place for the Hopi, Navajo, and Pueblo people. Oil and gas development threatens the area's rich cultural resources, treasured landscapes, and living native communities while ignoring federal law.

Over 91% of Greater Chaco is already leased for oil and gas drilling, and after record-breaking protest comments in March 2018, Interior Secretary Zinke deferred the lease sale of over 4,000 acres of land in Greater Chaco, calling for more cultural study and consultation. But no additional study or consultation occurred. Although BLM quietly deferred parcels within the Farmington Field Office, the agency proceeded with the sale of 30 parcels and 41,000 acres of lands within the Rio Puerco Field Office, still within Greater Chaco and home to living Navajo communities and innumerable culturally sacred sites.

The Western Environmental Law Center is a nonprofit, public-interest environmental law firm and our expert attorneys are committed to fighting in court to save Greater Chaco and its people from oil and gas exploitation and to transition away from dirty fossil fuels. Please help us take a stand.

SBS Australia Discarded crayons become waxy landfill.

This non-profit, <u>The Crayon Initiative</u>, collects old crayons and melts them down to give them new life, minimising harm to the environment.

Soak it in - Nevada's hot springs are good for fighting winter's chill By Andrea Heerdt This article was published on 12.13.18.

Story doesn't mention my personal favorite - Duckwater sdc





With frosty temperatures and snow storms quickly rolling in, winter in Northern Nevada is on the way. However, if you're a Nevada local, you're in luck. According to the Nevada Division of Tourism, our state is home to most of the natural hot springs found in the United States.

When traveling to naturally forming springs out in remote areas, be sure to travel prepared with a detailed map and know whether or not your adventure requires a high-clearance vehicle. With natural springs, always be sure to test the temperature of the water before jumping in—a food thermometer will do the trick. As a word of precaution, it's a good idea to keep your head above water in natural springs as the warm water could contain organisms that are harmful to humans. And with any spring, be sure to clean up any trash or debris you bring in so the next person can enjoy the water.

+ Trego Hot Springs

Trego Hot Springs is located on Bureau of Land Management land and is available for all to enjoy for free. This spring is found two and a half hours north of Reno and lies just outside of Black Rock Desert. From the nearby town of Gerlach, continue onto NV-447 South for 2.8 miles before turning left on State Route 48. Take the well-maintained dirt road for 14.4 miles before turning left on Trego Road. For those who don't have a high-clearance, four-wheel-drive vehicle I'd caution you to walk the remaining 0.2 miles left to the spring rather than drive as the road is extremely muddy this time of year.

When you arrive at Trego, you'll find impressive views of the playa and what looks more like a large, blue creek than a pond. Trego is large enough to accommodate multiple groups of people, giving you extra peace and quiet while soaking in the warm water. Temperatures fluctuate throughout the Y-shaped stream with the hottest point at the top of the Y formation. Be aware that this area is too hot to soak in, so stay away from the very top of the spring. Other parts of the spring fluctuate around a relaxing 105 degrees. Overnight camping at Trego is also permitted at no additional cost.

+ David Walley's Hot Springs Resort

If you're not interested in trekking through mud or don't have access to a high-clearance vehicle, David Walley's Resort is the ideal getaway for locals interested in enjoying the benefits of mineral water without having to get too grimy to experience it.

Nestled below the Sierra Nevada Mountains outside Genoa, David Walley's Hot Springs Resort is 50 minutes south of Reno and contains five natural mineral spas for visitors to enjoy. All of the springs are filled with water naturally warmed by the Earth's mantle, and spas range in temperature from 98-105 degrees. Every Tuesday and Wednesday, locals can purchase a day pass for \$35 with a valid I.D.

+ Spencer Hot Springs

Spencer is another free-to-visit hot spring located on BLM land. From Reno, the drive takes a little over three hours as you traverse across the state towards its center. As you travel on U.S. Highway 50, make your way east towards Austin, Nevada, and continue on the highway for another 12 miles before turning south onto SR 376. After a quick 0.3 miles on SR 376, take a left on the dirt road marked by a sign for Toquima Cave, and drive for about six miles. You'll see Spencer Hot Springs on your left.

The baths are made from large tanks filled with hot spring water. They are perfect for soaking during winter as the metal containers keep the water temperature warmer for a longer period of time. Catch views of the snowy Toiyabe Mountains from Nevada's Big Smokey Valley while you soak, and if you're lucky, you'll spot a herd of wild burros that call the area home. A high-clearance vehicle is also recommended as the roads can quickly become muddy this time of year due to rain and snowmelt.

+ Soldier Meadows Hot Springs

If you're up by the Black Rock Desert and have already have explored Trego, Soldier Meadows Hot Springs is a series of pools in the Black Rock High Rock Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area. When you've reached Gerlach, travel north on Country Road 34 for about 13 miles before turning right on Soldier Meadows Road, where you'll then continue for 47 more miles. Be sure to bring a spare tire on your vehicle for emergencies, as this journey requires several hours of dirt road driving. Once you've spotted a cabin on your left, follow a series of dirt roads until you've reached the springs that lie directly behind the cabin.

The ever-grasping hand of D.C. 12.13.18. Reno News and Review editorial

In 1937, President Franklin Roosevelt signed an executive order withdrawing from public use land in Nevada to be used for erosion control demonstrations.

They must have been *some* kind of demonstrations. It took 28 years for that executive order to be revoked and the land returned to public use.

This month, when the Pentagon announced its plans to take another 600,000 acres of public land in five counties, we could almost hear Nevadans sighing with exasperation. This time, it's part of something called the Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization and would triple the size of the Fallon Naval Air Station.

We would argue with the term modernization. With computer modeling and the miniaturization of technology, these plots of land taken for federal use should be shrinking, not growing. (We think the same thing about Reno's airport, by the way.)

We have no objection to the land withdrawals that have been made to reserve acreage for Nevada <u>tribes.We</u> certainly do not identify with the movement that claims public lands belong to the states. And we do not object to most federal management of public lands.

But thinking of Nevada as an available wasteland that the feds can dip into from time to time went too far long ago, and the results have not been good. We know that presidents Grant, Hayes, Hoover, Roosevelt, Truman and Eisenhower all "withdrew" land from public use, and there were probably others, too. Roosevelt alone withdrew land six times. And foreseeable drawbacks to some of these have been concealed from the public. The federal government knew perfectly well that when it established the Nevada Proving Ground for atomic testing its work would be lifethreatening, and it did not inform state officials, much less the public that learned of it the hard way.

In 1970 the Atomic Energy Commission said that its weapons testing at the Nevada Test Site had contaminated 250 square miles for 24,000 years. Nevada Gov. Paul Laxalt, taken by surprise, immediately declared his confidence in the public's safety, though he had yet to be briefed on the statement by the AEC.

Some military installations now in Nevada are used for war-making in the innumerable places the executive branch makes war without permission from Congress. Drone assassinations on the other side of the world are conducted at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada.

The Air Force, under pressure from Congress, once prepared an encyclopedia-like report on the myriad impacts of the federal use of public lands in Nevada, the *Special Report - Nevada*, with chapters titled things like "Armaments dropped on Nevada."

We need our state's elected officials to start scrutinizing federal use of public lands with greater intensity and start asking questions that should have been asked decades ago. We need less Laxalt-style cooperation.

The success of their efforts should be gauged by how much land used by the feds is put back into public use by the ends of their terms of office and how much land they block from additional federal use while they serve.

And they should start with the Fallon plan.

Dee Numa

<u>Trump wants to reclassify radioactive waste</u> <u>from nuclear weapons to "low level" so disposal</u> <u>is cheaper</u>

AOL

This edible Hogwarts is made of 50 sq. feet of

gingerbread! Via <u>Yahoo Now</u>



It was built at <u>Duchess Bake Shop</u> in Edmonton, Canada in cooperation with <u>Cafe Linnea</u>.

NHAT AN ASTONISHING THING A BOOK IS. IT'S A FLAT OBJECT MADE FROM A TREE WITH FLEXIBLE PARTS ON WHICH ARE IMPRINTED LOTS OF FUNNY DARK SQUIGGLES. BUT ONE GLANCE AT IT AND YOU'RE INSIDE THE MIND OF ANOTHER PERSON, MAYBE SOMEONE DEAD FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS ACROSS THE MILLENNIA, AN AUTHOR IS SPEAKING CLEARLY AND SILENTLY INSIDE YOUR HEAD, DIRECTLY TO YOU . WRITING IS PERHAPS THE GREATEST OF HUMAN INVENTIONS, BINDING TOGETHER PEOPLE WHO NEVER KNEW FACHOTHER, CITIZENS OF DISTANT EPOCHS. BOOKS BREAK THE SHACKLES OF TIME. A BOOK IS PROOF THAT HUMANS ARE CAPABLE OF WORKING CARL SAGAN



'Extinction Is Not an Option': The \$1 Billion Push to Save Orcas in Washington

Levi Pulkkinen, Guardian UK

Congress Approves Bill Allowing the Killing of Sea Lions ... to Protect Salmon

Associated Press

How Earth's Future Could Soon Recreate a Lost World of 50 Million Years Ago Science Alert

Humans have pulled too hard on our planet's strings, and now we're at a point where the global climate itself is unravelling. A new study suggests that if nothing is done to reduce our carbon emissions, we could essentially reverse 50 million years of long-term cooling in just a few generations. Read the full story

The Paris climate agreement has a new rulebook that even the U.S. will follow Quartz



Hoop Dancing Santa Video Posted By Paul G December 6th, 2018 Blog

Who knew Santa could Hoop Dance?

James Jones recently shared this video on Facebook.

Enjoy this holiday hoop dance!

James Jones is a traditional hoop dance artist who has performed and traveled across Europe, China, Australia, North America, and is ranked among the top 5 hoop dancers in the world.

In 2009 James appeared as a finalist on the popular tv show "So you think you can dance Canada" and is currently hoop-dancing on a world tour with Juno award-winning group "A tribe Called Red". – From jamesjones.com

Read More

Reindeer Numbers Have Fallen by More Than Half in 2 Decades

Olivia Rosane, EcoWatch

Rosane writes: "It's a sad Christmas for the world's reindeer - the antlered Arctic grazers associated with all things Santa Claus. Their numbers have fallen by more than half in the past 20 years, and climate change is likely to blame."