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*The 2010s Were the End of Normal*

*Congress Just Passed Nightmare Legislation that Strips Trillions in Wealth from the Middle Class*

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**Driftwood - Washington State Shore**

## **Science Under Attack: How Trump Is Sidelining Researchers and Their Work** By BRAD PLUMER and CORAL DAVENPORT

In three years, the administration has diminished the role of science in policymaking while disrupting research projects nationwide. Experts say the effects could be felt for years.

## **The 2010s Were the End of Normal** By MICHIKO KAKUTANI

How social media, the Great Recession and Donald Trump combined to bring out the 'indigenous American berserk.'

## **Congress Just Passed Nightmare Legislation that Strips Trillions in Wealth from the Middle Class**

<https://wallstreetonparade.com/2019/12/congress-just-passed-nightmare-legislation-that-strips-trillions-in-wealth-from-the-middle-class/>

Yellowstone National Park is one of America's most breathtaking natural landscapes.

## **But Trump just forced the park's superintendent of four decades to RESIGN because he wouldn't let Trump open the park for HUNTING!**

Yellowstone deserves to be protected. It's a truly unique place.

## **Trump's Executive Order is Backdoor Privatization of Medicare**

Today's Trump executive order is yet another Republican giveaway to the corporations that run for-profit Medicare Advantage plans. [socialsecurityworks.org](https://socialsecurityworks.org)

**#OnThisDay** December 26th, 1927 the Hominy Indians defeated the New York Giants 13 - 6 in Pawhuska, OK.. The Hominy Indians were a professional all Indian American football team. More info in link [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hominy\\_Indians](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hominy_Indians) **#Wahzhazhe #Hominy #Indians #NFL #Champions**

## **Opportunity lost: Nevada's school trust lands sold off over 150 years**

Through a series of trades, efforts to lure settlers and some shady dealings, much of the 4 million acres originally given to the state to benefit public education is now gone.

## **A teacher is going viral for giving a biology lesson wearing an anatomically correct suit**

## **Lizard-Like Fossil May Represent 306-Million-Year-Old Evidence of Animal Parenting**

### **Somebody's Daughter** December 30, 2019 Media Release

"Four Directions, along with Coshatta Tribe of Louisiana, Blackfeet Nation, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and Global Indigenous Council to Present **World Premiere of**

***Somebody's Daughter*** at the Four Directions and Nevada Tribal Nations Native American Presidential Forum 2020”

**A Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women (MMIW) Documentary**

**January 15, 2020 at 9:20 A.M. PST**

**Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas, Nevada**

Title: *Somebody's Daughter*

See Trailer Here: [https://drive.google.com/open?id=1avWedg-IZTCMhsYTJ0E9ECasw\\_aGQIZC](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1avWedg-IZTCMhsYTJ0E9ECasw_aGQIZC)

The documentary focuses on some of the higher-profile MMIW cases, most of which were raised during the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs MMIW/MMIP hearing in December 2018. With historical points of reference, the victims' and their families' stories are told through the lens of the legal jurisdictional maze and socio-economic bondage that constricts Indian Country. For the first time on film, the devastating roles of drug cartels and gangs in the MMIW crisis is brought fully into focus.

The film includes footage of 2020 presidential candidates from the Four Directions' Frank LaMere Presidential Forum in Sioux City, Iowa, including Senator Warren, Senator Sanders, Senator Klobuchar, Secretary Castro and Marianne Williamson. Among the interviewees in the film are Vice President Biden's campaign vice chair, Ambassador Catherine M. Russell, who served as US Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues. Several of Indian Country's most prominent presidents, chairpersons and tribal council members provide candid insights into the MMIW tragedy.

*Somebody's Daughter* is an all-indigenous production that was executively produced by the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana and supported by the Blackfeet Nation and Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes in association with the Global Indigenous Council. *Somebody's Daughter* is presented by Alter-Native Media and directed by Rain, the team that created *Not In Our Name*, a short film that featured House Natural Resources Committee Chairman, Congressman Raul Grijalva, and became the most-watched film on Sierra Club's social media platforms. *Not In Our Name* had the honor of being entered into the Congressional record at a hearing in May 2019. *Somebody's Daughter* has been endorsed by civil rights icon, Congressman John Lewis.

*Somebody's Daughter* has achieved outstanding pre-release industry reviews. Georgina Lightning, award-winning actress and director, regarded as “the First Lady of Native American film,” calls *Somebody's Daughter*, “A very powerful and important film for the world to see – equal parts beauty and tragedy, it reveals the horrific truths that are sure to ignite change.” Georgina was the first woman to receive the White House Project - Emerging Artist Award, and with *Older Than America* she became the first North American Indigenous Woman to direct a major feature film that, to date, has garnered 23 awards.

In recent weeks, several of the 2020 presidential candidates have written to the film's producers, the Global Indigenous Council, to express their support for the organization's work on the MMIW crisis. "All of the progress we've made on this issue is because of you. You've demanded attention. You've fought for changes to the law, and you continue to fight for the authority to ensure justice and fairness for everyone in your nations. I am grateful for and inspired by your courage, and I look forward to continuing work on this vitally important issue," wrote Democratic frontrunner, Vice President Joe Biden.

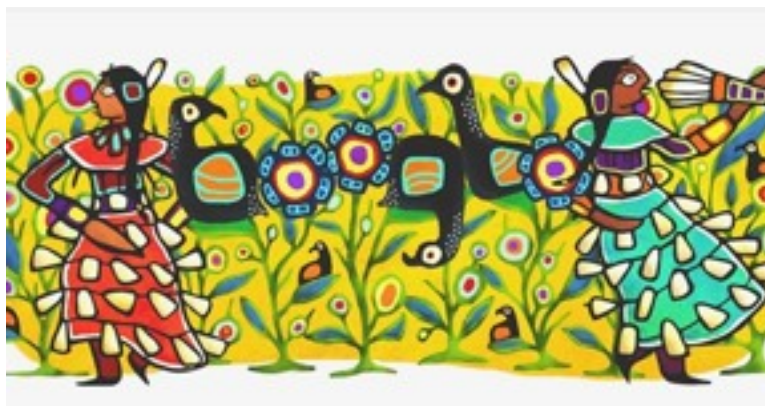
Media Contacts: Sara Atiqtalik [director@globalindigenouscouncil.org](mailto:director@globalindigenouscouncil.org)  
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Bret Healy [brethealysd@gmail.com](mailto:brethealysd@gmail.com) 605-216-1825

Congressman John Lewis, Civil Rights Icon

*"We pray for Congressman Lewis's complete recovery and thank him for taking on the challenge of MMIW."*



[newsmaven.io](http://newsmaven.io)



[Today's Google Doodle: The Jingle Dress](#)  
[Google says the Jingle Dance affirms the power of Native American women](#)

## **Water/Environmental Shorts**

### **[Who should pay for water conservation in the West? Water managers wade into discussion](#) [By The Aspen Times, 12/30/19](#)**

LAS VEGAS — Water managers from throughout the Colorado River Basin took the stage at the Colorado River Water Users Association conference earlier this month to talk about conserving water in the face of the twin threats to the river: increasing demand and climate change. The state of Colorado is currently exploring a water-use-reduction program that is largely designed to pay farmers and ranchers on the Western Slope to voluntarily conserve water. While there's still debate whether such a program should be implemented, the first question many ask is how to pay for such a program. In recent months, some water managers have come up with innovative ways to fund the controversial water-use-reduction plan — [known as demand management — that wouldn't rely entirely on taxpayers.](#)

### **[Los Angeles may store water under an Owens Valley lake drained to fill its faucets](#) [By Los Angeles Times, 12/28/19](#)**

[LONE PINE, Calif. — Quick shifts in climate have prompted Los Angeles to consider an unlikely place to bank some of its Sierra Nevada snowmelt: beneath dry Owens Lake, which the city drained starting in 1913 to fill the L.A. Aqueduct and supply a thirsty metropolis. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power has launched studies of ambitious plans to store water in the lake's underground aquifer so that it could be pumped up in summer months and drought years to create pools of water to limit the dust sweeping across the vast lakebed's salt flats.](#)

### **[Interior wordsmiths 'habitat' with eye on regulatory reach](#) [By E&E News, 12/27/19](#)**

The Interior Department is moving to formally define "habitat" in the Endangered Species Act, part of an anticipated second wave of changes to the bedrock conservation law under the Trump administration. According to a notice published Monday by the White House Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, the addition to the ESA is undergoing interagency review. Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service and the Commerce Department's NOAA Fisheries are overseeing the proposed revisions. The issue became a point of contention during a legal battle over FWS plans to protect the dusky gopher frog in Louisiana and the rights of private landowners, including timber giant Weyerhaeuser Co.

### **[Yurok Tribe files suit against Reclamation](#) [By KPVI, 12/29/19](#)**

The Yurok Tribe and Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Association is suing the Bureau of Reclamation and National Marine Fisheries Service in objection to the 2018 Biological Opinion, with their objections including insufficient flows in the Klamath River in May and June. The opinion was based on faulty data provided by consultant Thomas Hardy during the writing of the 2018 Biological Opinion. Klamath Water Users Association is a defendant in the lawsuit. "We've got some concerns about the use of it to begin with, whether it's the right (habitat) curves or the wrong (habitat) curves, how much does that really tell us about coho salmon?" said Paul

Simmons, executive director of KWUA.

### **[Fighting Water Privatization With "Blue Communities"](#)**

#### **[TARA LOHAN, THE REVELATOR](#)**

The Blue Communities Project, which began in Canada 10 years ago and has spread worldwide, is committed to defending water as a human right and banning bottled water from

municipal facilities and events. In this interview, author and activist Maude Barlow talks about the growing global movement to protect public control of water resources.

[Read the Interview →](#)

## **[Illegal Gold Rush Causing 'Irreversible Damage' to Rivers in the Brazilian Amazon](#)**

*Ana Ionovo, Mongabay*

Ionovo writes: "As João Inácio de Assunção's small boat sliced through the clay-colored waters of Rio Fresco in northern Brazil, he recalled a different time when the river was clearer and brimming with fish." [READ MORE](#)

### **Federal Water Tap**

'Land- and water-management practices have modified natural streamflows across the Nation. Low flows are more frequent, are of shorter duration, and vary less from one year to the next than they would naturally. High flows have been reduced, are less frequent, are of shorter duration, and vary less from one year to the next than they would naturally. In addition, daily flow fluctuations are higher than natural across the Nation.' — Findings from the U.S. Geological Survey's [first national assessment of man-made changes to U.S. rivers](#)

**20:** Chemicals that the EPA has marked as a high priority for risk evaluation. The agency's action was mandated by a 2016 act of Congress. ([U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#))

**1.2 million:** Miles of the nation's rivers where flows have been altered by man-made changes such as urbanization, dams, and groundwater pumping. That number represents about one-third of the nation's river-miles. ([U.S. Geological Survey](#)).

### **Fracking Bill**

Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA) re-introduced the [FRAC Act](#), a bill that would require oil and gas companies to disclose the type and volume of chemicals they inject underground during hydraulic fracturing operations.

Casey has introduced a version of this bill every session of Congress for the last decade.

### **EPA Rejects Cleanup Insurance Rules for Petroleum and Coal Manufacturers**

The [EPA proposes](#) that petroleum refineries and industries that turn coal into other marketable products will not have to show they have the money to clean up hazardous spills.

Requiring companies to show they have the money to clean up hazardous materials — through bonds, insurance, or credit — is designed to eliminate the need for taxpayer-funded remediation.

The EPA argues that existing state and federal requirements are sufficient for the petroleum and coal manufacturing industry.

The proposed rule follows a pattern: in recent years the agency has rejected financial responsibility obligations for the hardrock mining and electric power industries.

The hardrock mining rules were challenged by environmental groups, but in July the D.C. Circuit Court [upheld the agency's decision](#). The EPA cites that ruling in its current proposal for petroleum and coal.

Public comments on the proposed rule for the petroleum and coal manufacturing industry are being accepted through February 21, 2020. Submit them via [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) using docket number EPA-HQ-OLEM-2019-0087

### **River Disruption**

Over the last three decades, changes in land and water management have disturbed river flows more than climatic changes, according to the U.S. Geological Survey's [first national assessment of man-made alterations to river flows](#).

Flow disruptions have ecological consequences. The study found fewer fish and invertebrates in the streams in which water levels had been most dramatically altered.

“In every region assessed by the USGS, streamflow modification was associated with reduced ecological health,” as measured by fish and invertebrates, the report states.

Those modifications come in many forms. Dams store water and shift the timing of flows. Urbanization creates more hard surfaces, which result in higher peaks in streamflow after a storm. Groundwater pumping robs streams of water that flows underground.

The study looked at data from more than 3,300 stream gauges.

### **Nutrient Targets for Red River**

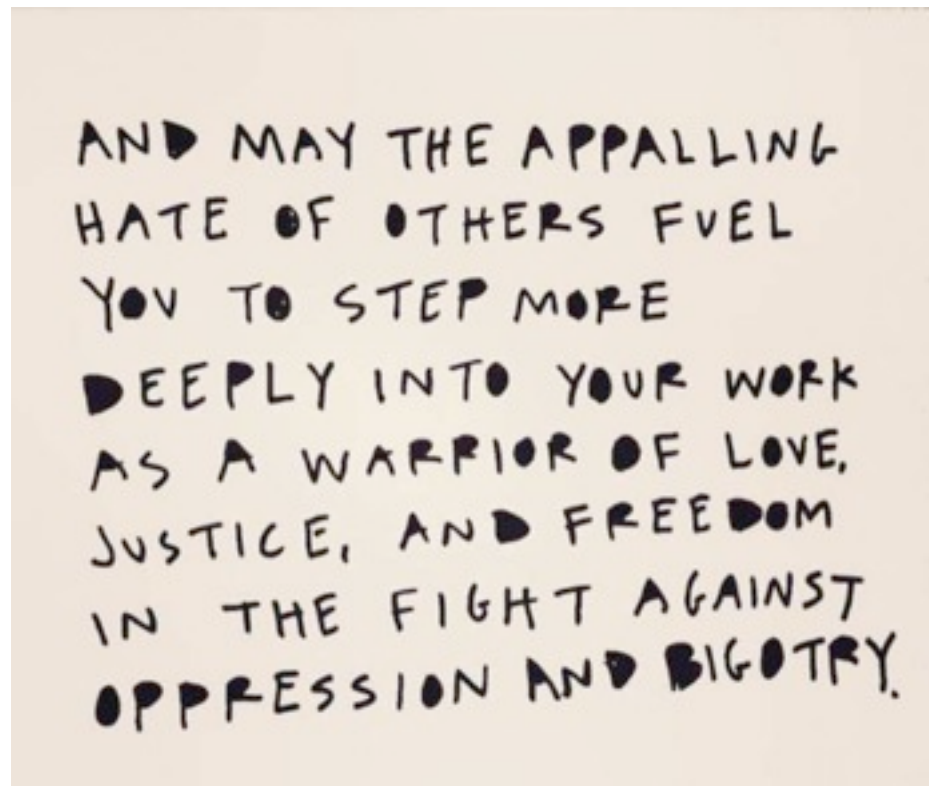
The binational commission that investigates water issues that affect Canada and the United States will [hold a public meeting](#) on January 16 in Fargo, North Dakota, to discuss water quality recommendations for the Red River.

The Red River forms part of the border between Minnesota and North Dakota, and then crosses into the province of Manitoba. A board convened by the International Joint Commission [recommended limits](#)

on nutrient concentrations in the river. Those nutrients are phosphorus and nitrogen, which cause harmful algal blooms downstream in Lake Winnipeg.

### **PFAS Regulatory Determination**

EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler has said that the agency will announce by the end of the year whether it intends to regulate two prominent PFAS chemicals in drinking water.





### **[Native Americans fight to be counted as census looms](#)**

[Fearing the widespread implications of an undercount, Native Americans are organizing and educating their communities ahead of the 2020 census.](#) [nbcnews.com](#)

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### **[New Zealand Will Consider Climate Crisis in All Major Policy Decisions](#)**

[The new rule means that any new proposal.](#)

New Zealand has always been light years ahead of us in so many areas.  
[ecowatch.com](#) By [EcoWatch](#)

### **[Food in the nude - NZ ditching plastic packaging of fruit and vegetables in supermarkets](#) - [Alberton Record](#)**

['Food in the nude' is a New Zealand campaign to end plastic packaging for fresh produce in supermarkets. Foodstuffs have signed the NZ Plastic Packaging Declaration which is committed to making all store and private label packaging 100 percent reusable, recyclable or compostable by 2025.](#)

**This 1920s Inventor Sped Up Climate Change With His Chemical Creations**  
**Thomas J. Midgley is now considered one of history's most dangerous inventors.**  
**Joseph A. Williams**

<https://www.history.com/news/cfcs-leaded-gasoline-inventions-thomas-midgley>

### **[A Big Moment Finally Comes for the Little Shell: Federal Recognition of Their Tribe](#)** *Kathleen McLaughlin, The Washington Post*

McLaughlin writes: "Almost 130 years after their treaty negotiations with the U.S. government first fell apart, the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians has at last triumphed." [READ MORE](#)



## [An Ancient Maya Palace Was Discovered in Yucatán State](#)

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## [A 2000-Year-Old Green Serpentine Mask Unearthed At The Base Of A Pyramid In Mexico](#)

[Mexico can be considered the most archaeologically rich country in the world. It features just about everything including crater sites, pyramids, dinosaurs, and prehistoric men remain,](#)

[making it an...](#)

[disclose.tv](#)



**Data Suggest Serial**

## **Killers Active in Indian Country**

[In early October, Anchorage police found the body of Kathleen Henry, a native of the Yupik village of Eek in southwestern Alaska, along a stretch of highway south of town. Her alleged killer might never have been arrested had someone not found video of her slaying contained in a lost digital memory....](#) [voanews.com](#)

SHORT FILM (Out there somewhere)

High in a tree, the mutilated body of a gruesome murder-execution dangles above two American Indian gangbangers beating the shit out of two rival gangsters. Once they're caught, 25-year-old Oneida Indian FBI Agent Megan Little Valley is brought in to interrogate the gangbangers and handle the investigation. At the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation's police station, Agent Little Valley bumps into disgraced New York City police officer Richie Eccles, a burnout white boy who grew up on the Pyramid Lake Rez. He fucking hates himself for the court's "justified" ruling of his killing of a 12-year-old black kid. For some reason, Richie still loves the Rez and its crazy citizens.

Harvard-educated outsider Megan gets no help with her murder investigation from the Rez folk. However, as the murder-executions start piling up, she must partner with Richie to solve the grisly serial killings. Their mutual hatred is tempered only by their desire to stop the escalating bloodshed. Megan believes the killings are inspired by Renaissance artworks which depict public executions and tribal legends. Richie thinks she's crazy – an over-educated Ivy League liberal pretending to be an Indian. He realizes too late that his "flower children" parents lie at the heart of the murder-executions.

Two highly educated serial killers, hiding in plain sight, stalk Megan as she pieces the crimes together. The serial killers taunt Megan and Richie and force the law officers to doubt themselves and their allegiances. In a gruesome twist, both Megan and Richie question why they ever wanted to be cops. In the end, the pair must fight each other to save their lives.

**Old Town Bakery displays Coast Salish inspired gingerbread house**

- Ladysmith Chronicle

Geoff Cram creates gingerbread displays every year, this time he wanted to do something Canadian

**Donation appeal from NARF, but worthy words:**

As the year comes to an end, Indian Country continues to be under attack, but we stand strong. Now is the time to fight back, fight for justice, and push forward in the long battle for what is right. These are not quick battles. These are not easy battles. But these are enduring battles. They are our legacy. Will you be a part of i

