

***Journal #6162 from sdc 1.21.26***

*One of my favorite roads*

*Youth Wildlife Conservation Experience*

*10 extraordinary Native American cultural sites protected on public lands*

*National Fund for Sacred Places. Applications due March 3.*

*220,000 Fewer Workers: How Trump's Cuts Affected Every Federal Agency*

*Reminder: DOI ORDER NO. 3431 (Restoring Truth and Sanity to American History)*

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*Trump admin strips key science data from America's national parks*

*Huge amounts of extra land needed for RFK Jr's meat-heavy diet guidelines*



## **Youth Wildlife Conservation Experience - Reno-Sparks Convention Center Jan 24, 2026 - 10:00 AM**

At Reno-Sparks Convention Center, families can explore a hands-on celebration of the outdoors and wildlife learning. More than 40 interactive stations invite kids to try archery, scale a climbing wall, paddle in kayaks, practice with BB guns, dive into wildlife science, make crafts, and discover additional activities. Admission is free for youth and families. Parents who accompany a youth also receive free access to The Sheep Show exhibit hall. Designed to kindle curiosity about wildlife and conservation, this experience blends active play with education for a memorable time together.

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## **10 extraordinary Native American cultural sites protected on public lands**

### **Ocmulgee National Monument (Georgia)**

Ocmulgee National Monument contains [North America's only intact "spiral mound,"](#) a 20-foot-tall hillock built by indigenous tribes for purposes that remain unclear. This is just one of the monument's pieces of major earthwork traced back to South Appalachian Mississippian settlements. The monument, [containing seven mounds in all](#) and [a collection of more than one million artifacts](#), was protected along the Ocmulgee River by act of Congress in 1934.

### **Effigy Mounds National Monument (Iowa)**

The only national monument in Iowa, Effigy Mounds was [protected by President Harry Truman in 1949](#) in order to preserve its namesake series of sacred hillocks, constructed by a [culture that inhabited land along the upper Mississippi River](#), stretching east to Lake Michigan (what is now parts of Iowa, southeast Minnesota, southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois). Numbering more than 200, the mounds were built over thousands of years in a variety of shapes ranging from simple cones to bison and birds. Though the exact function of the mounds as a whole remains unknown, [some are burial sites](#), and experts think that others may [have acted as territorial markers](#). Whatever the mounds' purpose, [more than 15 modern-day tribes](#), ranging from Minnesota to Oklahoma, are considered to be culturally associated with them. The largest and best-preserved chain of mounds, the evocatively named "[Marching Bears](#)," can only be fully appreciated from overhead. **For more:** <https://www.wilderness.org/articles/article/10-extraordinary-native-american-cultural-sites-protected-public-lands>

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**Join seminar of Jan 22 to learn more about eligibility and how to apply for National Fund for Sacred Places. Applications due March 3.**

**[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/  
WN\\_ZbXIBsZxQFiUsW\\_V7ac7Aw#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ZbXIBsZxQFiUsW_V7ac7Aw#/registration)**

## 220,000 Fewer Workers: How Trump's Cuts Affected Every Federal Agency

By [Emily Badger](#), [Francesca Paris](#) and [Alicia Parlapiano](#) Jan. 9, 2026

This is a detailed and interesting site.

Am only including one chart and the quick stat of how some Indian services are directly cut (from already barebone budgets):

**IHS 8% BIA TRUST 9% INDIAN AFFAIRS 9% BIE 9%**

Extract:

“The Trump administration shrank the federal work force by about 220,000 workers through November, representing about a 10 percent cut, [according to new data](#) that offers the first clear view of the president’s blitz to remake the government’s labor force. This decline, which also accounts for limited new hiring, has reversed the last decade of growth for America’s largest employer, returning the federal work force to roughly the size it was when President Trump took office the first time.

But the cuts went far deeper for some agencies and offices: They have had the effect of hollowing out decades-old functions of the federal government. “

Selected offices with steep cuts	Nov. 2024	Nov. 2025	Change
U.S. Agency for International Development	4,845	378	-92%
Institute of Education Sciences	191	25	-87%
National Endowment for the Humanities	216	58	-73%
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	297	108	-64%
Institute of Museum and Library Services	98	40	-59%
Federal Student Aid	1,450	780	-46%
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education	315	185	-41%
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration	932	574	-38%
Rural Development	4,981	3,141	-37%
Food and Nutrition Service	1,830	1,231	-33%

**Do click on the URL and get a look at each agency and its components.**

[https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2026/01/09/upshot/trump-workforce-cuts-table.html?unlocked\\_article\\_code=1.E1A.7rYJ.57XF5TopoqL7&smid=url-share&user\\_id=66c4c6935d78644b3ab73873](https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2026/01/09/upshot/trump-workforce-cuts-table.html?unlocked_article_code=1.E1A.7rYJ.57XF5TopoqL7&smid=url-share&user_id=66c4c6935d78644b3ab73873)

Just a reminder: Secretarial Order 3431

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR WASHINGTON ORDER NO. 3431

**Subject: Restoring Truth and Sanity to American History**

Sec. 1. Purpose. This Order implements provisions of President Trump's March 27, 2025, Executive Order (EO) 14253, titled "Restoring Truth and Sanity to American History." EO 14253 directs the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) to provide sufficient funding, as available, to improve the infrastructure of Independence National Historical Park and to complete such improvements by July 4, 2026, the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. It also directs the Secretary to review public monuments, memorials, statues, markers, or similar properties within the Department of the Interior's (Department) jurisdiction and to restore Federal sites dedicated to history, including parks and museums, to solemn and uplifting public monuments that remind Americans of our extraordinary heritage, consistent progress toward becoming a more perfect Union, and unmatched record of advancing liberty, prosperity, and human flourishing.

Sec. 2. Authority. Among the authorities for this Order are 43 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq.; the National Park Service Organic Act, 54 U.S.C. § 100101 et seq.; the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act, 16 U.S.C. § 668dd et seq.; the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, 43 U.S.C. § 1701 et seq.; the Reclamation Act of 1902, 43 U.S.C. § 391 et seq., as amended and supplemented; 25 U.S.C. §§ 2, 9; 43 U.S.C. § 1457; EO 14253; and section 2 of Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1950 (64 Stat. 1262), as amended.

Sec. 3. Background. In EO 14253, President Trump set the policy of this administration to restore Federal sites dedicated to history to solemn and uplifting public monuments that remind Americans of our extraordinary heritage, consistent progress toward becoming a more perfect Union, and unmatched record of advancing liberty, prosperity, and human flourishing. Established in 1948, Independence National Historical Park was created to protect the historic places associated with the birth of the American republic, standing as icons of freedom and democratic ideals for people around the world. The centerpiece of the park is Independence Hall, where the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the United States Constitution were debated. The universal principles of freedom and democracy set forth in these documents are of fundamental importance to American history. Their profound impact on lawmakers around the world was recognized when Independence Hall was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1979. The anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, is celebrated annually as the Nation's birthday. July 4, 2026, will be the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Recognizing the significance of Independence National Historical Park, and specifically Independence Hall, to America's 250th birthday, in EO 14253, President Trump ordered that sufficient funding be provided, as available, to improve the infrastructure of Independence National Historical Park. He further ordered that these improvements be complete by July 4, 2026.

The Department protects and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage. Since 1916, the American people have entrusted the National Park Service (NPS) with the

responsibility to conserve and interpret some of its most special places—our national parks. In addition to national parks, other Departmental Bureaus and Offices manage important natural and cultural resources contained within national wildlife refuges—managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)—and a variety of important natural and cultural sites on other public lands or similar properties—managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), and Bureau of Reclamation (BOR). These areas include national historic landmarks, national scenic and historic trails, and national monuments, which encompass places of historic and cultural significance to America.

Recognizing that the natural and historical resources managed by the Department should accurately reflect American history and not partisan ideology, in EO 14253, President Trump further ordered that the Secretary shall:

- a. determine whether, since January 1, 2020, public monuments, memorials, statues, markers, or similar properties within the Department’s jurisdiction have been removed or changed to perpetuate a false reconstruction of American history; inappropriately minimize the value of certain historical events or figures; or include any other improper partisan ideology;
- b. take action to reinstate the pre-existing monuments, memorials, statues, markers, or similar properties, as appropriate and consistent with applicable law; and
- c. take action, as appropriate and consistent with applicable law, to ensure that all public monuments, memorials, statues, markers, or similar properties within the Department’s jurisdiction do not contain descriptions, depictions, or other content that inappropriately disparage Americans past or living (including persons living in colonial times), and instead focus on the greatness of the achievements and progress of the American people or, with respect to natural features, the beauty, abundance, and grandeur of the American landscape.

Sec. 4. Restoring Independence Hall. Consistent with EO 14253 and governing laws and regulations, I direct the Director of NPS to:

- a. identify any infrastructure improvements, including deferred maintenance and restoration activities, necessary to improve the infrastructure of Independence National Historical Park, including Independence Hall;
- b. identify funding needed to complete any such projects or activities; and
- c. subject to available funding and consistent with applicable law and authorities, enter into any contracts or other agreements necessary to complete the projects or activities in such time as to allow for sufficient preparation for the celebration of the 250th anniversary of our Nation’s birth on July 4, 2026.

Sec. 5. Restoring Truth in American History. Consistent with EO 14253 and governing laws and regulations, I direct the heads of **NPS, FWS, BLM, BIA, and BOR** (collectively: the land management Bureaus), and the relevant Assistant Secretaries, to implement section 4 of EO 14253 as follows:

- a. Review of changed or removed properties.

1. Within 30 days of the date of this Order, each land management Bureau shall conduct a review to identify any public monuments, memorials, statues, markers, or similar properties (collectively: properties) on lands within its jurisdiction that have been removed or changed from January 1, 2020, through the date of this Order.

i. The review required by this Order may be conducted by a Bureau-wide data call or other method determined by the relevant Bureau to be the most efficient and cost-effective way to identify properties that have been removed or changed since January 1, 2020.

**ii. This review shall not include properties located on lands held in trust by the United States for an individual Indian or Tribe, or lands held by an individual Indian or Tribe that are subject to Federal restrictions on alienation, except that, to the extent such lands are included within units of the national park system, it shall include NPS properties on such lands.**

2. Within 60 days of the date of this Order, each land management Bureau shall provide a report to the relevant Assistant Secretary:

i. identifying any properties on lands within its jurisdiction that were altered or removed since January 1, 2020, and the date of such alteration or removal;

ii. describing the nature of the alteration or removal;

iii. providing the Bureau's reason for the alteration or removal; and

iv. concluding whether the alteration or removal of each property was made to perpetuate a false reconstruction of American history; inappropriately minimize the value of certain historical events or figures; or include any other improper partisan ideology.

3. If alteration or removal was undertaken because of a reason described in subparagraph iv above, the land management Bureau with jurisdiction over the property shall immediately undertake such actions as are necessary to reinstate such property, consistent with all applicable laws, regulations, and policies.

b. Review of properties for inappropriate content.

1. Within 90 days of the date of this Order, each land management Bureau shall conduct a review of all public monuments, memorials, statues, markers, or similar properties on lands within its jurisdiction to identify whether any such properties contain images, descriptions, depictions, messages, narratives or other information (content) that inappropriately disparages Americans past or living (including persons living in colonial times), or, with respect to content describing natural features, that emphasizes matters unrelated to the beauty, abundance, or grandeur of said natural feature.

i. The review required by this Order shall be conducted by inspecting all public-facing content at each property within the jurisdiction of the land management Bureau and shall incorporate any information received from the public via the method described in section 6.

ii. This review shall not include properties located on lands held in trust by the United States for an individual Indian or Tribe, or lands held by an individual Indian or Tribe that are subject to Federal restrictions on alienation, except that, to the extent such lands are included within units of the national park system, it shall include NPS properties on such lands.

2. Within 120 days of the date of this Order, each land management Bureau shall remove any content meeting the criteria identified in paragraph 1 or otherwise found to be inconsistent with the purposes of EO 14253. The relevant land management Bureau shall then take action to replace the removed content with content that focuses on the greatness of the achievements and progress of the American people or, with respect to natural features, the beauty, abundance, and grandeur of the American landscape, and is otherwise consistent with EO 14253. In developing appropriate content, the land management Bureau shall coordinate with the Office of Communications within the Office of the Secretary.

Sec. 6. Encouraging Public Participation. Each land management Bureau shall post signage throughout each property, in as many locations within each property as necessary and appropriate to ensure public awareness, to allow for public input as to the state of the property, its management, and its compliance with this Order. Each such sign shall include a QR code that links to a website managed by the land management Bureau, allowing the user to provide a written entry. Each land management Bureau shall ensure that (1) precautions are taken to ensure the privacy and data security of respondents; (2) the webpage is actively monitored; and (3) any appropriate public input is shared with the relevant official at each land management Bureau property. Each such sign shall include the following message:

(Name of property) belongs to the American people, and (name of land management Bureau) wants your feedback. Please let us know if you have identified (1) any areas of the (park/area, etc. as appropriate) that need repair; (2) any services that need improvement; or (3) any signs or other information that are negative about either past or living Americans or that fail to emphasize the beauty, grandeur, and abundance of landscapes and other natural features.

Sec. 7. Effect of the Order. This Order is intended to improve the internal management of the Department and to ensure implementation of EO 14253. This Order and any resulting reports or recommendations are not intended to , and do not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its departments, agencies, instrumentalities or entities, its officers or employees, or any other person. To the extent there is any inconsistency between the provisions of this Order and any Federal laws or regulations, the laws or regulations will control.

Sec. 8. Expiration Date. This Order is effective immediately and will remain in effect until it is amended, suspended, or revoked, whichever occurs first.

Date: MAY 20 2025

Doug Burgum

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The current U.S. Secretary of the Interior is [Doug Burgum](#), the 55th person to hold the post, appointed by President Trump in 2025, focusing on energy dominance, resource management, and partnerships with states and tribes. He previously served as Governor of North Dakota and has a background in technology and entrepreneurship. Burgum's deputy is [Kate MacGregor](#), who returned to the role in 2025.

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Css:

Think she may have been an attorney fro Maynard Alves when he owned the Dean Ranch in Crescent Valley. She was also associated with sagebrush rebellion types in Nevada

<https://www.hcn.org/articles/lawmakers-call-for-an-investigation-into-interiors-karen-budd-falen/>

# Join us for Earth Day 2026!

## Free Trees for Kids through Neighborhood Forest

### How it works:

- Scan QR code and select one of the following options:
  1. Register my child for a free tree
  2. Purchase trees if you don't have a child participating (Buy one, Fund one)
  3. Make a donation
- Neighborhood Forest ships the trees to our institution ahead of Earth Day (April 22). We'll contact you when trees are available for pick up.
- Species information and planting instructions will be emailed to you, and are available at [www.neighborhoodforest.org/info](http://www.neighborhoodforest.org/info)



Neighborhood Forest  
*giving trees to children*

[Sign Up Here](#)



Register by March 15th!



## **Regarding Peaceful Protest vs. Unlawful Obstruction** **Monday, January 19, 2026**

### **For Immediate Release**

U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Maine

**PORTLAND, Maine:** U.S. Attorney Andrew Benson issued the following statement today:

“Every member of federal law enforcement swears to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. This oath guides the men and women of law enforcement as they fulfill their duty to enforce federal law, including the laws relating to illegal immigration.

The Constitution guarantees the right to peacefully assemble and to protest. These are fundamental rights that form the basis for a free society. What is not protected, however, are acts of violence against other individuals, destruction of property, or obstruction of lawful governmental activity.

In the coming days, if Maine citizens seek to exercise their rights to assemble and protest, it is vital that these protests remain peaceful. Anyone who forcibly assaults or impedes a federal law enforcement officer, willfully destroys government property, or unlawfully obstructs federal law enforcement activity commits a federal crime and will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Finally, it is incumbent upon anyone with a public voice—whether that be an elected official, commentator or engaged citizen—to similarly urge peaceful protest and engagement. Divisive, bombastic public statements only inflame the situation and make violence more likely.

Force, intimidation and threats have no place in our public discourse and are contrary to our time-honored tradition in Maine of peaceful civic engagement.”

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Csa: Why can't Newe ranchers do something similar?m

**How an Indigenous dry meat company will have you rethinking your beef jerky choices**

[https://youtu.be/Azm\\_WaSQDbU?si=hJRItCDZ0nz-DKm](https://youtu.be/Azm_WaSQDbU?si=hJRItCDZ0nz-DKm)  
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**She Fought for Indigenous Voices at the UN. Now She's in a Russian Jail Cell.**

**Observers say Daria Egereva's case highlights the risks Native advocates face when they challenge the powerful.**

[https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2026/01/indigenous-activist-daria-egereva-un-cop-climate-human-rights-russia-jail/?utm\\_source=mj-newsletters&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=daily-newsletter-01-20-2026](https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2026/01/indigenous-activist-daria-egereva-un-cop-climate-human-rights-russia-jail/?utm_source=mj-newsletters&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=daily-newsletter-01-20-2026)

## **Bureau of Land Management revokes American Prairie bison leases**

*A herd of bison move through land controlled by the American Prairie Reserve south of Malta, Mont., April 25, 2012. (AP Photo/Matt Brown, File)*

By AMANDA EGGERT/Montana Free Press 11:46 AM PST, Jan 20, 2026

The U.S. Department of the Interior announced on Friday that it is revoking grazing permits in Phillips County that American Prairie had been using to sustain its herd of bison.

The decision comes after a [three-and-a-half-year battle](#) between the Montana livestock industry, backed by Gov. Greg Gianforte and the Montana Department of Justice, and American Prairie, a conservation nonprofit working to restore the prairie ecosystem of north-central Montana.

The Montana Stockgrowers Association cheered the news, describing it as a “win for public lands ranching in Montana.”

“MSGA is thrilled to see this decision by the BLM to restore grazing allotments back to their intended usage for production livestock grazing,” MSGA President Lesley Robinson said in a Friday afternoon press release. “MSGA is proud to defend sound, lawful land management. This decision is an incredible win for public lands grazers, ranching families and rural communities across the West.”

American Prairie called the decision a “troubling precedent” for those reliant on consistent, predictable federal land management decisions.

“This decision is not grounded in new impacts or new information — it appears to be completely arbitrary and is unfair,” American Prairie CEO Ali Fox wrote in an emailed statement. “When federal agencies begin changing how the rules are applied after the process is complete, it undermines confidence in the system for everyone who relies on public lands. Montana livestock owners deserve clarity, fairness and decisions they can count on.”

American Prairie’s statement also emphasized bison’s ecological significance to prairie ecosystems, describing it as “a relationship that has been extensively studied and well documented over time.”

In its Jan. 16 letter to American Prairie signed by Sonya Germann, the State Director for the Bureau of Land Management’s Montana/Dakotas office, the Interior Department took issue with how American Prairie has characterized its herd of bison, [estimated in 2024 at approximately 900 animals](#). Edited

For more: [https://apnews.com/article/greg-gianforte-montana-animals-bureau-of-land-management-u-s-department-of-the-interior-4655a5792233adeb011b336c46f522ad?utm\\_source=firefox-newtab-en-us](https://apnews.com/article/greg-gianforte-montana-animals-bureau-of-land-management-u-s-department-of-the-interior-4655a5792233adeb011b336c46f522ad?utm_source=firefox-newtab-en-us)

This story was originally published by [Montana Free Press](#) and distributed through a partnership with The Associated Press.

### **Yavapai-Apache Water Settlement reintroduced in Senate**

“After decades of negotiations and litigation, federal lawmakers are again moving to finalize a comprehensive water rights settlement for the Yavapai-Apache Nation in central Arizona. Legislation reintroduced in Congress in mid-January 2026 would ratify the Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Rights Settlement and authorize more than one billion dollars in federal funding for water infrastructure and related provisions. The Yavapai-Apache Nation is located in Arizona’s Verde Valley and includes more than 2,500 enrolled members across five communities. Like many tribes in the Southwest, the Nation has pursued formal recognition of its water rights for generations. Those claims have been tied up for more than 40 years in Arizona’s complex general stream adjudications. ... ” [Read more from Western Water.](#)

### **Trump admin strips key science data from America’s national parks**

“Aneth Wright was, until very recently, a data technician for the National Park Service. For more than two decades, Wright worked for the bureau’s inventory and monitoring program — a long-standing initiative that tracks the health of the country’s national parks through their plants, animals, waters and landscapes. The work felt important, she says, and she’d always taken pride in her group’s contributions, which informed the management of 16 parks across Colorado and Utah. But last year, Wright says the atmosphere turned sour. I&M employees got swept up in widespread government layoffs, and the word coming down from leadership was that the program, which is the largest science organization within the Park Service, might not survive. ... Facing pressures from staffing and funding cuts by the Donald Trump administration, the I&M program of today is struggling to meet its mission of providing sound science for land managers, even as employees argue that this type of long-term, consistent data is more critical than ever. Amid a political tug-of-war over the nation’s parks, decisions are being made blindly that could impact public lands for decades to come. ... ” [Read more from SF Gate.](#)

### **Huge amounts of extra land needed for RFK Jr’s meat-heavy diet guidelines**

“The Trump administration’s new dietary guidelines urging Americans to eat far more meat and dairy products will, if followed, come at a major cost to the planet via huge swathes of habitat razed for farmland and millions of tons of extra planet-heating emissions. A new inverted food pyramid recently released by Donald Trump’s health department emphasizes pictures of steak, poultry, ground beef and whole milk, alongside fruits and vegetables, as the most important foods to eat. The new guidelines are designed to nearly double the amount of protein currently consumed by Americans. “Protein and healthy fats are essential and were wrongly discouraged in prior dietary guidelines,” said Robert F Kennedy Jr, the US health secretary. “We are ending the war on saturated fats.” But a surge in meat-eating by Americans would involve flattening vast tracts of ecosystems such as forests to make way for the hefty environmental hoofprint of raised livestock, emitting large quantities of greenhouse gases in the process, experts have warned. ... ” [Read more from The Guardian.](#)