

Tribal Consultation Potential Department of the Interior (DOI) Reorganization



Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior

Background

- President Trump issued Executive Order 13781 (March 13, 2017)
 - Asked for a plan from each agency on how it could reorganize to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability of the agency
 - DOI requested Tribal input by letter May 16, 2017, and held Tribal listening sessions at six locations in May and June 2017

Current Status

- No reorganization plan has been written yet
- DOI has developed **draft** maps of unified regions
- Currently seeking Tribes' input through consultation
- Also open to input from DOI employees, Congress, State and local governments, and others

DOI - By the Numbers

- Touches more people, in more ways, than any other agency
 - 2,400 operating locations in 12 time zones (USVI to Palau)
 - 70,000 employees
 - 610,000 volunteers
 - Acreage (1/5 of the US):
 - 530 million surface acres
 - 700 million subsurface acres
 - 1.7 million outer continental shelf acres
 - 25 million acre-feet of water supply

Goals of Reorganization

- Prepare DOI for the next 100 years
 - DOI has not been reorganized in >150 years, despite all that has changed
- Reduce administrative redundancies and maximize use
- Improve service to the American people
- Improve communication and coordination across agencies
- Increase joint problem-solving & effective decision-making

Proposal for Reorganization

- Proposal:
 - Bring bureaus together under 13 unified regions
 - Have an Interior Regional Director (IRD) for each region
 - Reduce jurisdictional and organizational barriers, simplifying processes
- Three Primary Functions:
 - Recreation
 - Conservation
 - Permitting
- Interior's mission stays the same: Respecting and supporting Tribal sovereignty

Unified Regions

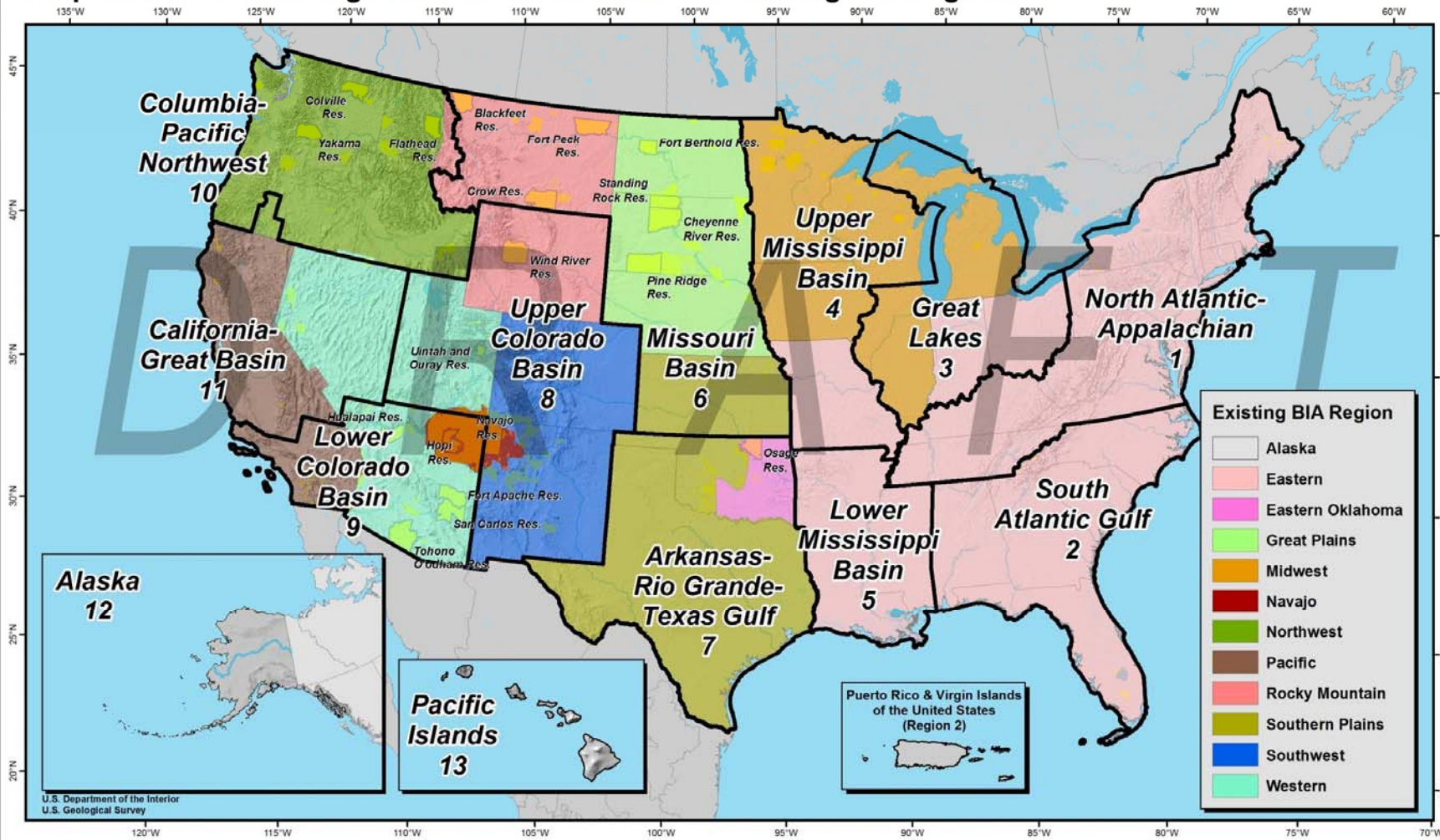
- Currently there are 9 bureaus in 61 regions
- Proposal to have 13 unified regions
 - Developed based on watersheds, and adjusted for State lines
 - Bureaus would share same regional boundaries
 - Provide better management on an ecosystem basis
 - Including wildlife corridors, watersheds, trail systems
 - Improve interagency coordination and customer service so all DOI executives in a region have shared frame of reference

Unified Regions

- Allows for more field-based decisions and resources
 - District and agency offices remain in place
 - Coordination/consolidation of resource intensive functions (conservation and permitting)
 - Allows more resources at the agency level
 - Allows for return of authorities to district and agency level for more efficient delivery of services

Proposed 13 Unified Regions with Tribal Lands and Existing BIA Regions

As of May 17, 2018



Interior Regional Director (IRD)

- Interior Regional Director (IRD) for each region
 - Report directly to Deputy Secretary
 - Serve as coordinators who are project responsible
 - Focus on three primary functions
 - Potentially rotate every bureau regional director to serve as IRD
 - Core functions
 - Oversee the shared services for the region
 - Facilitate interagency conflict where multiple bureaus involved
 - Work with Bureau Regional Directors to facilitate problem-solving before elevating issue to Assistant Secretary level

Putting Constituents First

- Improve services for the American people
 - Reduce jurisdictional and organizational barriers, simplifying processes
 - E.g., make permitting and environmental review processes more efficient
 - Develop/expand recreational opportunities on public lands and waterways
 - Support businesses (e.g., outfitters, guides, lodging concessioners) that facilitate access to those lands
 - Support tribal businesses on and near other public lands

Written Comments & Next Steps

- Please submit any written input to consultation@bia.gov by August 15, 2018
- Next Steps:
 - Review Tribal input
 - “Pilot project” of shared services approach in Alaska

Consultation Schedule

Date	Time (Local)	Location	
Tuesday, June 19	9 am – 1 pm	Four Winds-New Buffalo Casino	11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo, MI
Thursday, June 21	9 am – 1 pm	BIA Rocky Mountain Regional Office	2021 4th Avenue, North, Billings, MT
Monday, June 25	9 am – 1 pm	National Indian Programs Training Center	1011 Indian School Road, NW, Albuquerque, NM
Thursday, June 28	9 am – 1 pm	Jackson Rancheria Casino Resort	12222 New York Ranch Road, Jackson, CA
Tuesday, July 24	9 am – 1 pm	Morongo Band of Mission Indians Tribal Chambers	12700 Pumarra Road, Banning, CA
Thursday, August 2	9 am – 1 pm	Elizabeth Peratrovich Hall	320 W. Willoughby Avenue, Juneau, AK
Tuesday, August 7	9 am – 1 pm	Embassy Suites Oklahoma City	1815 South Meridian, Oklahoma City, OK
Thursday, August 9	1 pm – 4 pm	Pearl River Resort, Golden Moon Hotel & Casino	13541 Hwy 16 W, Philadelphia, MS

For More Information:

- Department's Website: www.doi.gov/employees/reorg
- Indian Affairs Website: www.bia.gov/as-ia/raca/doi-reorganization

Elizabeth K. Appel

Elizabeth.appel@bia.gov

Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs