



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Washington, DC 20240

MAY 17 2018

Dear Tribal Leader:

The Department of the Interior (Department) is examining ways it could reorganize to improve efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability in line with President Donald J. Trump Executive Order 13781, signed on March 13, 2017. Secretary Ryan K. Zinke recently announced his vision to establish 13 unified regional office boundaries across all of the Department's Bureaus. Currently the Department's 10 Bureaus operate in 40 distinct regions, each with unique boundaries. Establishing uniform boundaries would facilitate sharing of resources and encourage a shared frame of geographic reference, resulting in operational and administrative efficiencies.

The Department is taking careful consideration on how our Indian Affairs regions and functions may be included in this reorganization. Your input is critical to our efforts and I invite you to consult on how to implement the principles of efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability in a manner that substantially improves services to the Tribes and Tribal citizens across Indian Country. This is an opportunity to shape the Department for the next 100 years, to provide long-term, meaningful benefit for all, including Tribes and Indian Affairs.

I will be kicking off this consultation period with a listening session on Sunday, June 3, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. CDT, at the National Congress of American Indians Mid-Year conference in Kansas City, Missouri. I also invite you to attend one of the following formal consultation sessions:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time (Local)</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Venue</b>
Tuesday, June 19	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	New Buffalo, MI	Four Winds-New Buffalo Casino 11111 Wilson Road New Buffalo, MI 49117
Thursday, June 21	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Billings, MT	Bureau of Indian Affairs Rocky Mountain Regional Office* 2021 4 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, North Billings, MT 59101
Monday, June 25	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Albuquerque, New Mexico	National Indian Programs Training Center* 1011 Indian School Road, NW Albuquerque, NM 87104
Thursday, June 28	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Jackson, California	Jackson Rancheria Casino Resort 12222 New York Ranch Rd. Jackson, CA 95642

Tuesday, July 24	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Cabazon, California	Morongo Casino Resort and Spa 49500 Seminole Dr. Cabazon, CA 92230
Thursday, August 2	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Juneau, Alaska	Elizabeth Peratrovich Hall 320 W. Willoughby Avenue Juneau, AK 99801
Tuesday, August 7	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Oklahoma City	Embassy Suites Oklahoma City 1815 South Meridian Oklahoma City, OK 73108
Thursday, August 9	1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Choctaw, MS	Pearl River Resort, Golden Moon Hotel & Casino Hwy 16 W Choctaw, MS 39350

\*Bring photo identification and arrive in time to go through security, as these are Federal facilities.

Please check the following website for conference room information and updates:

<https://www.bia.gov/as-ia/raca/doi-reorganization>

If you prefer to submit comments in writing, please email them by **August 15, 2018**, to [consultation@bia.gov](mailto:consultation@bia.gov). I look forward to your thoughts on how the reorganization can provide a strong foundation for our future together.

Sincerely,

John Tahsuda  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs  
Exercising the Authority of the Assistant Secretary –  
Indian Affairs