



# Western Regional Partnership

## June 2021 Updates

WRP sends out monthly updates on agency efforts relevant to the WRP Mission. This includes publicly available information from WRP Partners and agency news releases, etc. to assist to create greater awareness of current WRP Partner actions. If you have any updates you would like to share, please email that information to [amyduffy@westernregionalpartnership.org](mailto:amyduffy@westernregionalpartnership.org).

### In this edition of WRP Monthly updates:

#### Table of Contents

WRP Updates.....	1
Energy.....	2
<i>Federal Updates</i> .....	2
<i>State Updates</i> .....	3
Natural Resources.....	4
<i>Federal Updates</i> .....	4
<i>State Updates</i> .....	6
<i>Tribal Updates</i> .....	7
<i>Regional Updates</i> .....	7
Military Readiness, Homeland Security,.....	8
Disaster Preparedness and Aviation.....	8
<i>Military Readiness</i> .....	8
REPI.....	9
USAF.....	9
Army.....	9
Navy.....	10
USMC.....	10
Space Force.....	10
Guard.....	10
<i>Homeland Security/Disaster Preparedness</i> .....	11
<i>Aviation</i> .....	13
GIS.....	15
Miscellaneous.....	16

## WRP Updates

Deep-dive calls, in support of current **WRP Priority on Building Resilience**, are being held with subject matter experts on resilient energy infrastructure, resiliency of airspace, disaster mitigation and water security. Other webinar and Committee calls are in process of being confirmed; details forthcoming. [Upcoming WRP Activities \(please contact amyduffy@westernregionalpartnership.org for more information\):](mailto:amyduffy@westernregionalpartnership.org)

- July 22: WRP SC Call with Committee Co-Chairs and GIS Liaisons

- July 23: WRP Resiliency of Airspace call to more fully scope Gap 1: Ensuring the military has sufficient airspace to meet DoD readiness requirements
- July 27: WRP Resiliency of Airspace call to more fully scope Gap 2: Integration of UAS into the NAS
- July 30: WRP Tribal Engagement Temporary Working Group Call

#### Past WRP Webinars:

- **May 12: Water Security Data webinar:** <https://bah16f18.adobeconnect.com/px7wl4lktpew/>
- **February 4<sup>th</sup> Water Resource Management Strategies Webinar:** <https://bah16f18.adobeconnect.com/paaydnqwd88p/>
- December 14: **Water Security Policy Planning and Implementation Webinar:** <https://bah16f18.adobeconnect.com/p40giu27h4yq/>
- **December 8: Western Regional Partnership (WRP) webinar featuring Tribal Resilient Energy Infrastructure**
- **Oct 15: Fort Huachuca Sentinel Landscape/Partnership Water Efforts Webinar:** <https://bah16f18.adobeconnect.com/pghxl2u51kw2/>
- **Oct 22: Collaborative Tools for Resolving Water Disputes Webinar:** <https://bah16f18.adobeconnect.com/p2xo9dnevhuq/>
- **June 11: Resiliency of Airspace Webinar:** <https://bah16f18.adobeconnect.com/pu2gu1ldj21e/>
- **June 12: WRP's June 12th webinar on Disaster Mitigation:** <https://bah16f18.adobeconnect.com/pg9huy66zgwq/>

## Energy

### Federal Updates

- [U.S. Administration Sets Stage for Offshore Floating Wind Turbines](#)

#### FERC

- [States, Transmission Providers May Enter Into Voluntary Agreements, FERC Says](#)
- [FERC, NARUC to Establish Joint Federal-State Task Force on Electric Transmission](#)

#### DOE

- The drop in U.S. fossil fuel consumption — the largest annual decline since at least 1949 — brought total consumption down to its lowest level since 1991, EIA said in a research [note](#)
- [DOE Welcomes New Biden-Harris Appointees](#)
- ["Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Resources for State and Local Leaders"](#) provides an overview of new and high-impact energy efficiency and renewable energy resources for states, local governments, and K–12 school districts.
- [What We Know—and Do Not Know—About Achieving a National-Scale 100% Renewable Electric Grid](#)
- [U.S. Department of Energy Announces \\$14.5 Million to Accelerate Deployment of Geothermal Electricity](#)
- [Partnerships Amplify Velocity of Offshore Wind Innovation](#) Collaboration Increases Reach and Impact of NREL R&D
- [Secretary Granholm Launches Energy Earthshots Initiative to Accelerate Breakthroughs Toward a Net-Zero Economy](#)

## DOI

- [Oil and Gas: Interior Should Strengthen Management of Key Data Systems Used to Oversee Development on Federal Lands](#) GAO-21-209, May 27
- [President Biden's Budget Invests \\$2.8 Billion to Support Economies, Outdoor Recreation and Access to Public Lands](#)

## DOI-BLM

- [BLM to host public meetings for SunZia Southwest Transmission Project](#)
- [Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Resource Management Plan Amendments for the SunZia Southwest Transmission Project, New Mexico](#) Submit written comments online at the Project's ePlanning site: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2011785/510> Please submit comments by **July 6**, 2021.
- [BLM seeks public input on geothermal lease sale parcels in Southwestern Utah](#)
- [Renewable energy generated on BLM-managed public land comes online to power resorts in Las Vegas](#)

## State Updates

### CA:

- [Amid Extreme Heat Wave Stressing Energy Grids Across Western U.S., Governor Newsom Acts to Increase Energy Capacity](#)
- California Energy Commission's (CEC) quarterly e-newsletter. [Issue 134, April - June 2021](#)
- CEC [announced](#) the release of its latest annual report on the Electric Program Investment Charge program highlighting how public-interest research is helping California meet its goal of decarbonizing the electrical system by 2045 and supporting technologies that help address the effects of climate change. A summary is available [here](#). For more information [here](#).
- [Report Shows California Needs 1.2 Million Electric Vehicle Chargers by 2030](#) For details on the report, [view the full report](#).

### NV:

- [Governor Sisolak signs legislation to create thousands of jobs, invest in Nevada's New Energy Economy](#)
- PUCN report summarizes investigation of electric capacity constraints resulting from 2020 heat wave. The full report approved on June 15 is included in the order filed in Docket No. 20-08014 and is available on the PUCN website: [puc.nv.gov](http://puc.nv.gov). From the top navigational bar on the home page, select Dockets, followed by Investigation and Rulemaking Dockets. Scroll to Docket No. 20-08014 and click View.
- [Nevada passes clean energy bill requiring state to join RTO, accelerating \\$2B transmission project](#)

## Tribal Updates

- [BIA Issues Final EIS for Moapa Band's Proposed Southern Bighorn Solar Project](#)
- [BIA Announces Over \\$6.5 Million in Energy and Mineral Development Grants Awarded to 34 Tribes and Alaska Native Corporations](#)

## Regional

- [Texas Power Companies Are Remotely Raising Temperatures on Residents' Smart Thermostats](#)
- TC Energy, the developer of the long-contested Keystone XL oil pipeline, is pulling the plug on the project, the company announced after Josh [first reported](#) the decision yesterday afternoon.
- Initial capacity allocation process begins for interregional TransWest Express Transmission Project. The TWE Project Open Solicitation website at [www.transwestexpress-os.com](http://www.transwestexpress-os.com) includes extensive project and process details. A Statement of Interest form also is available for potential transmission customers to submit to PA Consulting within 60 days. The allocation process was approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in a [Feb. 26 order](#). Two-thirds of the TWE Project route lies on federal land primarily managed by the BLM. States and counties along the route participated in the federal environmental analysis process as cooperating agencies. They provided critical local knowledge to inform the preparation of an [Environmental Impact Statement](#) from 2009-2015 and the selection of the final route, as documented in the TWE Project [Record of Decision published by BLM](#) in December 2016 and the [Record of Decision published by WAPA](#) in January 2017. See: [www.transwestexpress.net](http://www.transwestexpress.net) and [www.transwestexpress-os.com](http://www.transwestexpress-os.com)
- How Texas Can Avoid Future Blackouts. In a [report](#) released by the Energy Foundation and the Cynthia and George Mitchell Foundation, the former PUC officials say the legislation is a good first step, but might not be enough to ensure natural gas delivery infrastructure is also adequately and quickly weatherized.

## Natural Resources

### Federal Updates

- [EPA, Army Announce Intent to Revise Definition of WOTUS](#)
- [Taking Action to Conserve and Restore the Lands and Waters Upon Which We All Depend](#)
- [CEQ Extends Deadline for Agencies to Propose Updates to National Environmental Policy Act Procedures](#)
- [Readout of the Fourth National Climate Task Force Meeting](#)
- Congressional Western Caucus and Senate Western Caucus Members, sent a [letter](#) to U.S. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland in response to BLM's announcement to initiate a review of land management plans for the greater sage-grouse. The letter urges the Administration to consider the successful recovery efforts currently underway and to enhance cooperation and coordination with states, local communities, tribes, and private conservation partners.

### DOI-BLM

- [Bureau of Land Management Extends Public Comment Period on Lithium Exploration Project Near Wikieup](#)
- BLM and U.S. Forest Service are [seeking nominations to fill three positions on the National Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board](#). The Board plays an important role in the efforts of both agencies to be good neighbors in states where the BLM and USFS oversee wild free-roaming horses and burros.
- BLM [seeks public input](#) on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Whitewater River Groundwater Replenishment Facility Project located in Riverside County.

- BLM Ridgcrest Field Office, in partnership with the Inyo National Forest, is [seeking public comments](#) on a Comprehensive River Management Plan for the Cottonwood Wild and Scenic River in Inyo County.
- [BLM #SagebrushEcosystem series continues](#)
- [America the Beautiful: Our Work to Conserve at Least 30% of Lands and Waters by 2030](#)
- [BLM Releases Draft Environmental Analysis for the Whitewater River Groundwater Replenishment Facility Project](#)

## DOI-USFWS

- [Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Revision of a Nonessential Experimental Population of Black-Footed Ferrets \(\*Mustela nigripes\*\) in the Southwest](#)
- [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries to Propose Regulatory Revisions to Endangered Species Act](#)
- [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Publishes Birds of Conservation Concern 2021](#)
- [Service Completes Initial Reviews on Endangered Species Act Petitions for Two Species](#)
- [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Publishes Birds of Conservation Concern 2021. Report Identifies 269 Species for Highest Conservation Priorities](#)
- In a proposed rule published 05 MAY 21, FWS has proposed to remove the San Clemente Bell's sparrow, San Clemente Island bush-mallow, San Clemente Island paintbrush, San Clemente Island lotus, and San Clemente Island larkspur from the Federal Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants ([86 FR 23882](#)). Written comments are due **6 JUL 21**.
- FWS is conducting five-year status reviews under ESA of 76 animal and plant species in California and Nevada ([86 FR 27462](#)). A five-year status review is based on the best scientific and commercial data available at the time of the review. Written comments are due **19 JUL 21**.
- Tiehm's Buckwheat at proposed Rhyolite Ridge Lithium-Boron project. [86 FR 29975 - Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Finding on a Petition To List the Tiehm's... Federal Register. Proposed Rules. Notification of 12-month petition finding. PDF TEXT DETAILS](#)

## DOI-NPS: [National Park Visitor Spending Contributed \\$28.6 Billion to U.S. Economy in 2020](#)

## EPA

- [EPA Request for Grant Applications - 2021 Capacity Building for Nonpoint Source, Wetlands, Monitoring, Assessment and Listing Programs](#). Key Dates:
  - All applications must be received by electronic submission through Grants.gov by 11:59 P.M. ET **August 10**, 2021.
  - Questions about this RFA must be submitted in writing via e-mail and must be received by the Agency Contact identified in Section VII before **July 30**, 2021.
- EPA says it plans to revise [a certification rule](#) in the 2020 Clean Water Act after determining that it erodes State and tribal authority - [news release](#).

## USDA

- [USDA Seeks New Partnerships to Safeguard, Restore Wetland Ecosystems](#)
- [USDA to Invest \\$10 Million to Support Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry through Voluntary Conservation](#)
- To support conservation practices that help producers recover from the impacts of drought while building resiliency. Due: **July 12**, 2021 [Learn more](#) [News release](#)

- [USDA to Invest \\$41.8 Million in Conservation Assistance for Producers in Drought-Impacted States](#)
- [USDA to Invest \\$5 Million in Wetland Mitigation Banks](#)

**NASA:** [California Reservoirs Reflect Deepening Drought \(Image from Jun 9, 2021; Posted Jun 17, 2021\)](#)

**NOAA:** [US NOAA launching model to predict rip currents up to six days in advance](#)

## State Updates

### AZ:

- The Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management (DFFM) - Invasive Plant Grant Program is now accepting [project applications](#). DFFM, with funding provided by the State of Arizona and USDA Forest Service is soliciting proposals from \$10,000 to \$200,000 for projects that use an Integrated Weed Management (IWM) approach when treating areas of nonnative invasive plants. Projects may occur on state, federal, tribal and private lands in Arizona. All projects will require a minimum of 10% match contribution. Applications are due **July 30**, 2021.
- [ADEQ & Governor Ducey Announce PFAS Funding for Tucson Water](#)
- 29th Annual Arizona Water Law Conference [More Info](#)

### CA:

- DWR has scheduled [four informational webinars](#) on the [Delta Conveyance Project](#). They will provide background information related to preparation of the draft environmental impact report. The series begins Wednesday, **July 14**, with a webinar on [operations of the State Water Project and Delta conveyance](#). Other webinars will cover [fisheries](#), [climate change](#), and [environmental justice](#).
- State Water Resources Control Board will begin accepting concept proposals for Round 3 of the [Proposition 1 Groundwater Grant Program](#). The funding is for projects that cleanup or prevent aquifer contamination. Certain water projects serving disadvantaged communities will also be considered. Proposals will be accepted from **Tuesday, July 6, through Tuesday, Sept. 7.**
- DWR's [Flood-Managed Aquifer Recharge \(Flood-MAR\) program](#) will feature the [Central Valley Flood Protection Plan \(CVFPP\)](#) during the **July 7 Lunch-MAR meeting**.
- [After Dry Wells, Relief for Some California Families](#)
- DWR's [Water Use Efficiency data portal](#) is now available for water suppliers to submit their 2020 [urban water management plans \(UWMPs\)](#). A series of [video training modules](#) and the [Urban Water Management Plan Guidebook 2020](#) are available to help in the development of plans. UWMPs must be submitted to DWR every five years. They support the suppliers' long-term resource planning to ensure that adequate water supplies are available.
- [State Adaptation Strategy Regional Workshops Open for Registration](#)

### CO:

- The Colorado Watershed Restoration Program provides grants for watershed/stream restoration, flood hazard mitigation, stream management plans, and monitoring. A special release of \$4M for the 2020 wildfires must be fully spent by June 30, 2022. Applications are being reviewed on a monthly basis until funding is fully allocated. Apply [here](#).
- Efficiency and Sustainability in Water Treatment Plants, Wednesday, **August 4**, 2021, 12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M. This webinar will offer both innovative and increasingly more commonplace methods

for water treatment plants to reduce energy use and costs while increasing water use efficiency. We'll cover methane capture, alternative fuels, and more while showcasing examples from here in Colorado, including the City of Longmont. This webinar is part of the [CRO Climate Adaptations and Futures series](#). Register [here](#).

## Tribal Updates

- [EPA Announces \\$6 Million for Tribes to Support Wetlands and Healthy Watersheds](#)
- [Utah pipeline would tap water promised to the Utes](#)
- [California Tribes Call Out Degradation of Clear Lake](#)

## Regional Updates

- [Elephant Butte water levels](#)
- [2021 Symposium on the Settlement of Indian Reserved Water Rights Claims](#), WSWC/NARF 8/24-25, [Zoom Webinar Registration](#)
- [Western Drought Crisis Webinar](#), NOAA/NIDIS 7/20/21 11:00 am - 1:00 pm MDT, [Register Here](#)
- [WSWC Fall 2021 \(197th\) Meetings](#), WSWC 9/14-16/21
- Southwest Drought Briefing/Webinar held on [June 21, 2021](#): The most recent United States Drought Monitor indicates that all of the Southwest is experiencing some level of drought, and forecasts indicate these conditions are expected to continue through summer. <https://www.drought.gov/webinars/southwest-drought-briefing-june-21-2021>
- [September 27, 2021](#) (11:00 am - 12:00 pm PDT) California-Nevada Drought & Climate Outlook Webinar The [California-Nevada Drought Early Warning System](#) (CA-NV DEWS) September 2021 Drought & Climate Outlook Webinar is part of a series of regular drought and climate outlook webinars designed to provide stakeholders and other interested parties in the region with timely information on current drought status and impacts, as well as a preview of current and developing climatic events (i.e., El Niño and La Niña).
- [Solar Power and Wildlife/Natural Resources Virtual Symposium](#), [December 1 - 3](#), 2021
- June WestFAST Newsletter is posted to the WSWC Website at: <https://westernstateswater.org/westfast-newsletters/>
- [Major corporations and foundations commit final funding for landmark water conservation deal that secures nearly 49 billion gallons of water for Lake Mead](#)
- States across the West are at risk of electricity shortages because an extreme drought is crimping the amount of water used to generate hydropower, a dominant energy source in that part of the country see: [story posted](#) - and [according to the Energy Information Administration](#).
- [Western US power grids are straining to keep up as sweltering heatwaves persist](#)
- [Research Suggests Ways to Tackle Water Security Challenges in World's Drylands](#)
- [As temperatures soar, California and Texas urge power conservation](#)
- [Ocean data coalition launches "ocean avatar" for research and management](#)
- [Artificial light may be changing marine ecosystems](#). Cues from natural light help structure many organismal behaviors and ecological processes in marine ecosystems. The Skimmer explores recent research about [how light pollution may be affecting many marine organisms and restructuring marine ecosystems](#).



- [Trust Buys Land for Preservation as Farmland, Wildlife Route](#)
- [Crumbling Water Facilities Need Central Role in Infrastructure Proposals](#)
- [US Southwest, Already Parched, Sees 'Virtual Water' Drain Abroad](#)
- [In Colorado River Basin, Groundwater Is Disappearing Much Faster than Lake Mead](#)
- [Amid Dire Colorado River Outlook, States Plan to Tap Their Lake Mead Savings Accounts](#)
- [AWWI 2019-2020 Progress Report](#). The 2019-2020 Progress Report highlights accomplishments from the past two years.

**WGA:** "Invasive Species Data Collection and Coordination," the latest episode of WGA's *Out West* podcast, delves into the importance of compiling accurate data on invasive species. [Listen](#)

**WRRC:**

- The [WRRC 2020 Annual Report](#) and [WRRC 2020 Highlights](#) are available on our website, along with [appendices and past reports](#).
- The University of Arizona Water Resources Research Center is excited to open registration for the 2021 Annual WRRC Conference, Tribal Water Resilience in a Changing Environment. Held virtually over three days, **August 30-September 1**, the program will offer information, diverse perspectives, networking, and much more. [Register here](#)
- [NFHP – May Newsletter](#)
- [Lake Mead drought impacts](#)

## Military Readiness, Homeland Security, Disaster Preparedness and Aviation

### Military Readiness

**DoD**

- [Hicks Provides Overview of DOD Priorities](#)
- [Leaders Discuss Future Warfighting on an Unpredictable Battlespace](#)
- DCIP Grant Application Deadline Approaches. Applications are due **July 12**. The DOD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation shared [resources](#) Wednesday, including links to the [grants.gov funding announcement](#) and how to get assistance to complete the application online. OLDCC will award up to \$60,000 in grants for infrastructure projects that support communities and the installations that call them home.
- [US Must Do More to Stop AI From Causing Trouble, Pentagon No. 2 Says](#)
- [Is Climate Change America's Greatest Security Threat? // John Conger: Hint: that's not the right question.](#)
- [A first in Navy hypersonics and cuts in the Army budget | Defense News Weekly full episode, 6.12.21](#)
- [DOD Announces Plan to Restore \\$2.2 Billion in Funding Previously Used for Border Barrier Construction](#)
- [The Rendezvous: The FY22 Defense Budget Request](#)
- [Defense Department: US accelerating hypersonic missile development](#)
- [Department of Defense Successfully Demonstrates a 5G Network for Smart Warehouses](#)
- [DOD Requests \\$50M for DCIP in FY22](#)



## REPI

- Please join us for our next webinar, [2021 REPI Challenge Recipient Spotlight](#), scheduled for Wednesday, **July 21** from 1:00-2:30 PM ET. For more information on all of our upcoming webinars, view the [2021 REPI Webinar Series Schedule](#).
- June 2021 REPI Land Management Innovations Webinar: [Please click here to watch a recording of the webinar.](#)
- June 2021 REPI Webinar on Resilience Tools & Technology: [Please click here to watch a recording of the webinar.](#)

## USAF

- [Air Force to bring new rescue and attack missions to Davis-Monthan AFB, retire oldest A-10s](#)
- [Nellis AFB to become 5th generation Center of Excellence](#)
- [Davis-Monthan, Nellis prepare for new missions as A-10 retirements loom](#)
- Hill Air Force Base, Utah and Rocky Mountain Power have completed a 30,000 kilowatt-hour solar array near the base. [Air Force story](#)
- [Air Force plans to cut 45 planes from its workhorse C-130 fleet, upgrade others](#)
- [Cuts to flight hours necessary as aircraft sustainment costs surge, Air Force general says](#)
- [Which Wings Would Lose A-10s Under USAF Plan](#)
- [US Air Force attempts to awaken spectrum ops after decades of waning electromagnetic warfare](#)
- [Air Force seeks bridge tanker available by 2029](#)
- [Development of warfighter decision-making program centers on Nellis AFB, Nev.](#)
- [Brown: DoD needs up to 5% more money, plus aircraft cuts, to compete with China](#)
- [U.S. Air Force Planning Rocket Cargo Delivery Study](#)
- [Milley: A-10 cut is an 'acceptable risk'](#)
- [For Now, 'Over the Horizon' Protection for Afghanistan Will Fly From Existing Hubs, Acting Air Force Secretary Says](#)
- [US Air Force completes tests of swarming munitions, but will they ever see battle?](#)
- [Vandenberg plans commercial space zone to increase launch capability on base](#)
- [The Air Force wants rocket deliveries to anywhere on Earth in under an hour](#)
- [US Air Force wish list includes more F-15EX jets but no F-35s](#)
- The Air Force and the Cibola National Forest near Albuquerque, New Mexico have signed an agreement allowing airmen to train there for the next 20 years, the [Albuquerque Journal reported](#).
- [Air Force proposes cutting most A-10s from Davis-Monthan](#)
- [Air Force, USFWS partner to restore fish habitat](#)

## Army

- [Powering the U.S. Army of the Future](#)
- [New Army training tool will help service weather budget cuts](#)
- [U.S. Army: Addressing Climate Change Threats](#)
- A new National Academies' report [Powering the U.S. Army of the Future](#) explores the power needs surrounding dismounted soldiers, existing vehicle platforms, and forward operating bases, as well as innovations under development that are expected to be in service by 2035. Download the report and report resources using the links: [Download the report](#) - - [Download the 2-page summary \(PDF\)](#) - - [Download the briefing slides \(PDF\)](#) - - [Watch the public briefing video](#) - -

[Read the press release](#) - - and - - [Visit the study page](#)

- [Army says 2025 tactical network will make JADC2 a reality](#)
- [New Army secretary sends first message to the force](#)
- [Where the US Army's Cut List and Wish List Overlap](#)
- [Cockroaches, trains and tanks help Army scientists build better legged robots](#)

## **Navy**

- [The US Navy practiced blasting an aircraft carrier for the first time in 34 years. Here's what it's testing.](#)
- [CNO: Navy to roll out new aviation depot maintenance plan](#)
- [Navy seeks to unleash the potential of unmanned systems](#)
- [Navy releases long-range shipbuilding plan that drops emphasis on 355 ships, lays out fleet design priorities](#)
- [CNO Gilday: Flat or Declining Navy Budgets 'Will Definitely Shrink' the Fleet](#)
- [The Navy is developing "bio-inspired" drones that transition between air and water](#)
- [Navy plans to arm F/A-18E/F, F-35C with Air Force's JASSM-ER cruise missile](#)
- [US Navy receives new Leonardo training helo](#)
- [Navy Drone Refuels Fighter Jet, a Key Step Toward Adding UAVs to Carrier Wings](#)
- [Navy dashboard to track readiness rates](#)
- [The Navy's shrinking patrol boat force](#)

## **USMC**

- [Marine Corps' first carrier-capable F-35 squadron is ready for wartime use](#)
- [Marines shut off power, run base with renewable energy](#)
- [Marine Corps Meets THOR, Verizon's Futuristic 5G-Enabled Response Vehicle](#)
- [Infantry training more intense as Marines Corps makes major changes, commandant tells senators](#)
- [The Marine Corps Is Redesigning Infantry Battalions for the Future](#)
- [At the limits of what I can do:' Marine Corps commandant makes plea for funding](#)
- [Smith: Marine Corps looking for air defense 'sweet spot'](#)
- Self-driven shuttles are on the roads at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar in San Diego for a 90-day pilot program, [NextGov reported](#).
- [US Marines request more missiles, radars in FY22 wish list](#)
- [The Marine Corps needs to restore its amphibious competency, commandant says](#)

## **Space Force**

- [The Space Force wants to use directed-energy systems for space superiority](#)
- Space Force sent its unfunded priorities list to Congress last week. It consists of [\\$831.7 million](#) in projects that did not make the 2022 budget, but that Space Force leaders say are needed to shore up Space Force sites on land and better protect satellites.
- [Can Rockets Deliver Supplies to War Zones? Space Force, Air Force Aim to Find Out](#)

**National Guard:** [Nevada Air Guard activating air tankers early to fight fires](#)

## Homeland Security/Disaster Preparedness

- Homeland Security Preparedness Technical Assistance Program. To improve and/or build state, local, tribal and territorial capabilities to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate major events, including threats or acts of terrorism. Due: **July 30**, 2021 [Learn more](#)
- CO Regional Resiliency & Recovery Roadmaps Program. Read the press release [here](#), and find out more about the program [here](#).
- ['This May Not Be The Big One': Army Scientists Warn of Deadlier Pandemics to Come](#)

## FEMA

- [FEMA to Provide \\$1 Billion in Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Grants](#)
- FEMA is announcing the subapplications selected for the \$700 million being made available in Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) for [Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities](#) (BRIC) and [Flood Mitigation Assistance](#) (FMA) grant programs. For the status of FY20 subapplications, applicants can review grant selections online at:
  - Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities>
  - Flood Mitigation Assistance: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/floods>
- FEMA recently updated the [COVID-19 Resource Roadmaps](#) to assist state, local, tribal and territorial (SLTT) partners with the unprecedented challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.
- FEMA released the funding notice for the [fiscal year 2021 Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program](#). The application period will close at 5 p.m. ET on **July 16**.
- FEMA released the [Incident Complexity Guide: Planning, Preparedness and Training](#). The guide is intended for use during planning, preparedness and training efforts and not as a decision-making tool during a response.
- FEMA Funding to Make Homes More Durable. Applicants who are approved for IHP assistance for home repairs may receive additional funds for [select mitigation measures](#).
- [HMA Now Accepting Applications for the 2022 External Stakeholder Working Group](#)
- [2021 Hazard Mitigation Partners Workshop](#)
- [FEMA Releases Policy and Building Code Decision Tree](#)
- [FEMA Publishes Home Safe Room Design Plans](#)
- [Deanne Criswell Sworn in as FEMA Administrator](#)
- [FEMA Seeks Public Comments on Future Program Delivery](#)

## Cyber

- The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) is pleased to announce the release of the updated [SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum](#) and its supplementary [SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum Frequently Asked Questions](#).
- [CISA Starts Cataloging Bad Practices in Cybersecurity](#)
- *Infrastructure Obstructions to Radio Propagation* has been published on the SAFECOM Technology webpage at <https://www.dhs.gov/safecom/technology> under "Communications and Cyber Resiliency." The [Infrastructure Obstructions to Radio Propagation](#) document aims to equip communications system planners and administrators with knowledge to better prepare for

changes to existing infrastructure by highlighting potential obstructions (e.g., bridges, wind turbines, cranes) and providing examples of prevention and mitigation approaches.

- The Defense Department operates in a world in which cybersecurity threats are ever-present and evolving rapidly. [This eBook](#) takes a look at how the military is meeting the challenge.

## Wildfire

- [FACT SHEET: The Biden-Harris Administration Acts to Address the Growing Wildfire Threat](#)
- [Remarks by President Biden in Meeting on Western Wildfires](#)
- [Readout of President Biden's Wildfire Preparedness Meeting with Cabinet Officials, Governors and Private Sector Partners](#)
- [U.S. West faces little-known effect of raging wildfires: contaminated water](#)
- [NASF, USDA Forest Service announce 2021 Urban Forest Resilience grantees](#)
- USDA/USDOI Joint Fire Science Program. [Learn more](#)
- [USDA to invest \\$10M to support climate-smart agriculture and forestry through voluntary conservation](#)
- [Reminder: Apply for USDA Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production grants](#) Proposals are due **July 30**.
- [NASA takes on wildfires with flight demonstration](#)
- June Recorded Webinar: "DoD Wildfire Hazard Assessment" - - Presented By Andrew M. Beavers, Wildland Fire Program Manager, Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands/Colorado State University: <https://www.denix.osd.mil/nr/resources/webinars/index.html>
- [This map shows in real time how many fires are burning in the West](#)
- [The wildfire one-two: First the burn, then the landslides](#)
- [Farm Service Agency Newsletter: 2021 Arizona Wildfires Edition](#)
- [Good fires vs. bad fires: USU researcher says we can't stop wildfires altogether, but we can try to make sure they're beneficial](#)
- [How satellites can be the first to find wildfires](#)
- [NASF pens letter to White House regarding UAS executive order](#)
- The National Interagency Fire Center or NIFC announced [it's making a big workforce transformation](#). The transformation is to make the typical seasonal job a year-round, full-time one. That's because wildfires are no longer burning during a season but are active year-round.
- [BLM California Wildfire Dashboard](#) provides the public with live wildfire incident information, BLM California fire restrictions, and temporary closures.
- FEMA is issuing its [Fire Management Assistance Grants \(FMAG\) Program and Policy Guide \(PPG\)](#). The FMAG PPG reflects changes to guidance in response to the increase in frequency and intensity of wildland fires affecting communities across the nation.
- [Longtime forest advocate Terry Cosby named head of NRCS](#)
- [Registration has launched for the 2021 NASF Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh](#) The 2021 NASF Annual Meeting — to be held in-person and online **September 7-10**, 2021 — promises to be an outstanding forum on national forestry issues.
- Record drought portends grim wildfire season. Last year was the [worst year on record](#) for wildfires in the American West. Nearly 16,000 square miles [burned](#), killing at least 37 people and causing nearly [\\$20 billion](#) in property damage and firefighting costs.

- [The area around Arizona's wildfires is so dry, firefighters' heavy equipment is causing small flareups](#)
- This month marks the 20th anniversary of our [Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program \(AFG\)](#). Over the past 20 years, it has provided recipients with more than 79,000 individual awards, totaling more than \$12 billion. Read more about [AFG Success Stories](#).
- [Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force Invests Millions to Protect Communities from Wildfires](#)
- [State Coastal Conservancy Awards \\$10.8 Million for Wildfire Resilience in this Fire Season](#)
- [Bringing Tech Innovation to Wildfires: 4 Recommendations for Smarter Firefighting as Megafires Menace the U.S.](#)
- [Wildland firefighter smoke exposure and risk of lung and cardiovascular disease](#)
- [The West is still recovering from the 2020 wildfire season while preparing for the next](#)
- [The West has all the ingredients for another terrible wildfire season](#). Large wildfires have already burned 981,000 acres this year to date, more than the 766,000 acres burned by the same time last year, according to the National Interagency Fire Center.
- [Interior plans year-round federal firefighter workforce](#)
- [Special report on tribal forestry and conservation](#)
- [States experiencing the most forest growth](#)
- [Western States Prepare for Battle in Historic Wildfire Season](#)
- [Fire restrictions are tightened on federally controlled land in Arizona due to ongoing wildfire danger](#)
- [From Arizona: NAU researchers find forest treatments have long-lasting effects](#)
- [Governor Ducey Signs \\$100 Million Bipartisan Wildfire Relief Package](#)
- [2021 Arizona wildfire season already burning more than 6 of the last 20 years](#)
- [Scientists are trying to make California forests more fire resilient](#)
- ['It's just not reasonable': Federal fire crews struggle to keep stations staffed in California](#)
- [Study: California fire killed 10% of world's giant sequoias](#)
- [In Colorado: Last summer's massive wildfires bring heavy metals to this year's spring runoff](#)
- [From Colorado: Ecologist says intense fires like Calwood endanger regeneration prospects for ponderosa pine forest](#)
- [In New Mexico: Johnson Fire burning nearly 47,000 acres of forest land](#)
- [From Utah: Fuel treatments can reduce fire intensity](#)
- [Six Utah wildfires continue to burn, but firefighters are making progress containing them](#)
- [Gov. Cox announces third drought executive order, fireworks ban on state lands](#)
- [We've heard a lot about fire danger in Utah recently. Is anybody listening?](#)

## Aviation

- [Billionaires race to space](#)
- [Space Development Agency Successfully Launches First Missions](#)
- [U.S. DOT Renews Commercial Space Transportation Advisory Committee](#)
- [FAA, Department of the Air Force Sign Commercial Space Agreement](#)
- [US, EU forge alliance to protect aerospace sector](#)

- [Before the United States House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Aviation concerning Commercial Space Regulation](#)
- [US-EU Safe and Sustainable Aviation Webinar , "Transatlantic Partnership is Strong, Critical to Safe, Green Global Aviation"](#)
- 2021 FAA UAS Symposium. Save the Date! The FAA and AUVSI have one virtual episode left for 2021! Sign up now for registration and agenda updates: [September 14-15 Register](#)
- [Critical Issues in Aviation and the Environment 2021](#)
- *The Boeing-built MQ-25 is to become the first unmanned aircraft added to carrier air wings, for which it will handle some intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance tasks along with its refueling duties - Read that—and watch a Boeing video of the refueling—[here](#).*
- United Airlines said Thursday that [it would buy](#) 15 supersonic passenger jets (with an option for 35 more) from startup Boom Supersonic. The planes, called Overture, will be able to carry 88 passengers and fly at Mach 1.7 roughly 1,300 miles per hour — almost twice the speed of sound.
- NASAO Convention: Early Bird Registration is Open! The Convention will be held at the Cheyenne Mountain Resort from [September 11-15, 2021](#). Our theme this year is "Honoring the Past and Embracing the Future." The main exhibitor and attending dates are [September 12-14, 2021](#). We are committed to hosting a safe and healthy convention in person. [Register](#) today to secure the early bird rate!
- [Ultralight aircraft restrictions lifted at Colo. airport](#)

## FAA

- [FAA Moves to Further America's Cellular-Connected Drone Operations](#)
- [FAA creates committee to advance unmanned operations](#)
- [FAA clears Virgin Galactic for commercial astronaut spaceflight](#)
- [FAA's Drone Advisory Committee report on gender-neutral language](#)
- [FAA Provides \\$8 Billion in Airport Rescue Grants](#)
- [FAA Announces Approved Administrators for Recreational Drone Pilot Safety Test](#)
- FAA released the [Final Environmental Impact Statement](#) (FEIS) for the Spaceport Camden project in Camden County, Ga.
- [Commercial Space Transportation: FAA Continues to Update Regulations and Faces Challenges to Overseeing an Evolving Industry](#) Statement of Heather M Krause, Director, Physical Infrastructure, GAO-21-105268, June 16
- [FAA Forms New Rulemaking Committee to Advance BVLOS Drone Operations](#)

## UAV/Drones

- [Drones Can Help Improve Our Drinking Water](#)
- [FAA, Skyward Sign MOA to Test Cellular-Connected Drones](#)
- [Why U.S. drone strikes are at an all-time low](#)
- [NASA spearheads project to develop hybrid air taxi](#)
- *For at least the past year, CENTCOM's Gen. Frank McKenzie has been sounding the alarm bells over the disruptive and dangerous threat from unmanned aerial systems and armed small drones—not that there are a whole lot of countermeasures [widely available](#), as we've [reviewed](#) in our podcast*
- [Walmart Invests in DroneUp to Offer On-Demand Drone Delivery](#)



- [This enormous drone gun can pluck UAVs right out of the sky](#)
- Anti-drone concept video. A Conex-sized microwave weapon called THOR has downed hundreds of small attack drones in tests, the Air Force said in a June 21 [release](#). You can't watch video of the thing in action yet, but you can get the idea in this two-minute [animation](#).
- [Drone Taxi Company, Archer, Shows Off Its Tech in Latest Video](#)
- [Sony Officially Launches The Airpeak S1 Drone](#)
- [US Will Try Using Lasers to Send Data From Space to Drones](#)
- [Navy looks to develop drones inspired by nature](#)
- [Next DoD 'Gremlins' drone-swarming test coming this fall, general says](#)
- [DARPA's newest system kills drones with stringy streamers](#)
- [The psychic toll of killing with drones](#)
- [Drone Used as Battering Ram to Take Out Another Drone](#)

## Spectrum

- [Who Needs Starlink Internet? These Rural US Counties Top the List](#)
- [SpaceX Starlink wins \\$885M in rural broadband subsidies](#)
- [President's Budget Calls for Investments in Broadband, Securing Supply Chains, and Wireless Research](#)
- [NTIA and FCC Joint Public Notice on Coordination Procedures in the 3.45-3.55 GHz Band](#)
- [Transition Plans and Transition Data for the 3450-3550 MHz Band](#)
- [NTIA Creates First Interactive Map to Help Public See the Digital Divide Across the Country](#)
- [NTIA Comments Regarding 24 GHz Emission Limits](#)
- [USDA, FCC, and NTIA Announce Interagency Agreement to Coordinate Broadband Funding Deployment](#)
- [Air Force activates first of its kind wing for spectrum](#)
- [Bill would tag Ligado for GPS interference costs, damage](#)
- [Why Connected-Device Security Is Key to Expanding DOD 5G Adoption](#)
- [DOD Issues RPP Through the National Spectrum Consortium \(NSC\) to Leverage 5G and Augmented Reality to Save Warfighters' Lives](#)
- [What 5G Will Actually Do for the U.S. Military](#)
- [DoD's 5G bet is already paying dividends](#)
- [FCC sets October start date for 3.45 GHz auction](#)
- Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program. To expand access to and adoption of: (i) broadband service on Tribal Land; or (ii) for programs that promote the use of broadband to access remote learning, telework, or telehealth resources during the COVID-19 pandemic. Due: **September 1, 2021** [Learn more](#)
- [DOD-NTIA Open 5G Challenge Could Lead to New Requirements](#)
- [AASHTO, ITS America Sue FCC to Stop Spectrum Reallocation](#)

## GIS

The third biennial Barry Lawrence Ruderman Conference on Cartography will focus on the theme of Indigenous mapping. The conference, to be held digitally **October 20-22, 2021**, is hosted by the David



Rumsey Map Center at Stanford Libraries, which sits on the ancestral land of the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe. It is sponsored and co-organized by Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc., whose shop is located on the ancestral land of the Kumeyaay peoples. [Register here](#). The online conference is entirely free and available to anyone who wants to attend.

## Miscellaneous

- [Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack Announces Randy Moore as New Forest Service Chief](#)
- [Tommy Beaudreau Sworn In as Interior Department Deputy Secretary](#)
- [Tanya Trujillo Sworn In as Interior Department Assistant Secretary for Water and Science](#)
- [Newland Names Bartholomew "Bart" Stevens BIA's Deputy Bureau Director for Field Operations, Kimberly Bouchard as Eastern Regional Director](#)
- [White House Announces Additional Nominations to Interior Leadership](#)
- [USDA Forest Service Chief Christiansen announces August retirement](#)
- [10th United States – Mexico Defense Bilateral Working Group Discuss Bilateral Defense Cooperation](#)
- [Funding Opportunity No: W81EWF-21-SOI-0019](#) CFDA No: 12.630, Statutory Authority: 10 USC 2358, Program Title: Developing an Engineering With Nature® (EWN) Approach for Resilience Through Military Installation and Community Engagement, Announcement Type: Initial announcement Issue Date: 8 June 2021, Statement of Interest/Qualifications Due Date: **8 July** 2021, 1600 hrs, Central, Full Application Package Due Date, if Invited: **8 August** 2021, 1600 hrs, Central, Estimated Award Ceiling: \$1,500,000, Estimated Total Program Funding (optional): \$4,500,000 total over 3 years; \$1,500,000 for base and each option year.

### DOI:

- [This Week at Interior July 2, 2021](#)
- [This Week at Interior June 25, 2021](#)
- [This Week at Interior June 11, 2021](#)
- [This Week at Interior June 4, 2021](#)
- Secretary Haaland Announces \$529.3 Million to Support Vital Community Services. A full list of funding by state and county is available at the Department of the Interior's [Payments in Lieu of Taxes page](#).

### Infrastructure/Transportation:

- [Caltrans Awards Funds for Sustainable Transportation Projects](#)
- [Arizona DOT Gains Approval for Five-Year Construction Program](#)
- [U.S. Department of Transportation Releases Spring Regulatory Agenda](#)
- [New 'Out West' podcast explores economic upside of developing EV charging stations](#)
- [Nevada Department of Transportation prepares to begin \\$40M U.S. 95 project](#)
- [Colorado's \\$5.4 billion transportation funding plan signed into law](#)
- DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), and DOE's Office of Electricity (OE), announced a request for information (RFI) seeking feedback from industry, academia, research laboratories, government agencies, and other stakeholders on issues related to integrating electric vehicles (EVs) with the grid. [Read more](#)
- [The Benefits and Challenges of Electric Car Policy](#)

- [FTA Making Grants Available for Tribal Transit Projects](#)
- [Nuria Fernandez Confirmed as FTA Administrator](#)
- [Electric Vehicles: What U.S. Market Looks Like Now](#)
- [Utah lawmakers considering charging for miles driven on the road](#)
- [NHTSA: Crash Deaths Up in 2020 Despite Less Driving](#)
- [CDOT celebrates beginning of \\$159 million road safety project to Colorado Springs military posts](#)

**States:** [Utah's Economy Weathering Pandemic Far Better Than Hawaii's](#)

**WGA:**

- Western Governors formally approved five policy resolutions at their virtual [2021 Annual Meeting](#). They included: Disaster Preparedness and Response, Transportation Infrastructure in the Western United States, Water Resource Management in the West, Cleaning Up Abandoned Hardrock Mines in the West, and Water Quality in the West.
- WGA just launched the [Western Prosperity Roundtable](#) to advance the Governors' vision for expanded prosperity throughout the West.