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from sdc

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Snow, snow, snow

No deal on Colorado River operations means federal takeover imminent

Interior Department moves forward on guidelines for Colorado River absent full state consensus

TODAY: Opportunities with the Ocean Protection Council for Tribal Stewardship 3 to 4pm.

How many California schools are in the 3,200-foot buffer zone where the state bans new drilling?

Supreme Court to decide on throwing out dozens of climate change lawsuits

Republicans want to use the farm bill to kill a California law they hate

Tribes, environmental advocates reject Delta Tunnel certification

Tahoe is not Tahoe without public lands

California's top environmental official explains the conundrum over the Colorado River

Colorado River water debacle intensifies amid risk 'human systems failing'

CAP, cities launch campaign to protect Arizona's Colorado River water

Editorial: All states should share in Colorado River cutbacks

Hoover Dam needs urgent repairs. It just got a \$52Mboost

Thousands of fish are hard at work keeping Arizona canals clean

Bipartisam majorities in Western States oppose T's rollback of public land protections

Would you pay \$49 a month to drink recycled wastewater?

BLM plans sale of Anaconda Mine land near Yerington

Scientists reveal first generation ever to be less intelligent than their parents

Articles from Britebond (formerly American Student Assistance)

Supreme Court - Marbury v. Madison - The Power to Say NO

Supreme Court backs congressional power in tariff ruling

From Native Organizers Alliance

Arizona Territory carved out of New Mexico territory - February 24, 1863



Over the five days from Feb. 16 to Feb. 20, a total of 111 inches of new snow fell at the University of California's Central Sierra Snow Lab near Donner Summit off Interstate 80. That deluge — more than 9 feet in 120 hours — is the most snow to accumulate in any five-day period since April 1982,

No deal on Colorado River operations means federal takeover imminent, from the Courthouse News Service

Interior Department moves forward on guidelines for Colorado River absent full state consensus, press release from the Department of the Interior

TUESDAY: WEBINAR: Opportunities with the Ocean Protection Council for Tribal Stewardship from 3pm to 4pm. Join this webinar to hear more about the work that the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) is doing to support tribal stewardship of the coast and ocean, and opportunities for your tribe to get involved. Speakers from both tribes and OPC will highlight tribally-led research, monitoring, and restoration efforts, efforts to advance co-management and collaborative stewardship, and funding opportunities. [Click here to register.](#)

How many California schools are in the 3,200-foot buffer zone where the state bans new drilling?

EDSOURCE, JUSTIN ALLEN: "The Trump administration is suing California over a law preventing new oil and gas wells from being located too close to schools, homes and other sensitive sites. The 2022 law, Senate Bill 1137, prevents new drilling within a safety zone of 3,200 feet, a little over half a mile, around schools, hospitals and parks, based on public health recommendations.

In the suit filed in January in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California, the U.S. Department of Justice said SB 1137 violates federal law and hampers domestic energy development. "SB 1137 would knock out about one-third of all federally authorized oil and gas leases in California," said the Department of Justice in a press release. The government's request for a preliminary injunction stopping the enforcement of SB 1137 is scheduled to be heard on March 20."

Supreme Court to decide on throwing out dozens of climate change lawsuits

LAT, DAVID G. SAVAGE: "The Supreme Court agreed Monday to decide on shielding energy producers from dozens of lawsuits seeking to hold them liable for costs of global climate change.

In the past decade, dozens of cities, counties and states, including California, have joined state-based lawsuits that seek billions of dollars in damages, and they have won preliminary victories in state courts."

Republicans want to use the farm bill to kill a California law they hate

CHRONICLE, ALEXEI KOSEFF: "Sometimes a Supreme Court ruling is not the final word.

After years of legal battles over interstate commerce that reached the nation's highest court, a voter-approved California law mandating more space for breeding pigs finally took effect in 2024."

Tribes, environmental advocates reject Delta Tunnel certification



An aerial view of Highway 12 cutting through Bouldin island and crossing the South Mokelumne River in San Joaquin County, California. Photo by Ken James / DWR

“A coalition of tribes and environmental advocates are calling on the Delta Stewardship Council to reject the California Department of Water Resources Certification of Consistency for the proposed Delta Conveyance Project. “The coalition includes the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, the Winnemem Wintu Tribe, San Francisco Baykeeper, Center for Biological Diversity, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance, Little Manila Rising, Friends of the River, California Indian Environmental Alliance, Sierra Club California and Restore the Delta,” the coalition said in a statement. ...” [Read more from the Daily Republic.](#)

Tahoe is not Tahoe without public lands

Julie Regan writes, “There’s nowhere on Earth like Lake Tahoe, and the public lands that surround Big Blue are the heart and soul of life in our community. They are also integral to the plan to protect and restore the Tahoe Basin. Measurable progress is being made on environmental goals that were set at a time when many of these open spaces were still privately owned and subject to development. Last week, I had the honor of testifying in Washington, D.C. before a congressional committee on preserving Lake Tahoe’s public lands at the invitation of U.S. Senator Catherine Cortez Masto. As a leader in the partnership known as Team Tahoe, the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) and many partners, including the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, have been working for years on legislation to modernize a law called the Santini-Burton Act. Since its enactment in 1980, the law has provided funds for the USDA Forest Service (USFS) to acquire more than 16,000 acres of sensitive lands in the Tahoe Basin. You may best know the lands acquired with Santini-Burton funds by the open lots in our local neighborhoods. The USFS owns 3,500 of these parcels in the Tahoe Basin. You may even be lucky enough to have one next door to you, providing open space. ...” [Read more from the Tahoe Daily Tribune.](#)

California's top environmental official explains the conundrum over the Colorado River

The Colorado River supplies water to more than 40 million people as it snakes through seven U.S. states, including the part of southeastern Utah seen in this photo snapped by an astronaut aboard the International Space Station. Credit: NASA

“The seven Western states that rely on the Colorado River for water supply have yet to reach an agreement on how to share the shrinking resource. “The big challenge is, how do we split up a smaller pie across seven states and Mexico? And that’s very, very difficult,” Crowfoot said. “Each of our states could make an argument to protect our status quo allocations, but we can’t.” Crowfoot noted that because states have yet to figure out how to share, the issue will likely be up to the federal government. The disagreement between states has nothing to do with political affiliation and is based on region. Crowfoot said the breakdown is between lower basin states California, Arizona and Nevada versus the upper basin states of Colorado, Utah, Wyoming and New Mexico. “It’s refreshing there isn’t political polarization that’s the challenge,” Crowfoot said. “The fact is, from our perspective, we all have to make sacrifices and contribute to keep water in these reservoirs.”... ” [Watch the full interview at KCRA.](#)

Colorado River water debacle intensifies amid risk ‘human systems failing’

“After a coalition of seven states failed to reach a consensus on how to jointly manage the Colorado River watershed, the federal government has stepped in to help select a plan that will guide decisions about water use in the region over the next 20 years. The intervention comes just a day after the newest spring runoff projections, which paint a dire picture of conditions in the West. The Colorado River watershed — a sprawling network of waterways that supplies water to 40 million people and power to 700,000 homes — is today jointly managed by California, Nevada and Arizona (which make up the lower basin) and Utah, Colorado, Wyoming and New Mexico (which represent the upper basin). Together, the two groups make management decisions guided by a set of compacts, laws, court decisions and regulatory guidelines collectively known as the “Law of the River.” ... ” [Read more from SF Gate.](#)

CAP, cities launch campaign to protect Arizona's Colorado River water

“A Central Arizona Project-backed advocacy group called the Coalition for Protecting Arizona’s Lifeline has begun rolling out television ads and online videos defending the water supplier’s rights to a Colorado River that is under serious hydrological and political strain. “Arizona is being unfairly targeted for reductions of Colorado River water that would cripple our state, flatten our economy and weaken our nation’s defense,” an ad aired by the coalition warns. It goes on to note that Arizona communities have done their part, committing more water for conservation in Lake Mead than those in other states, and that several options that the federal government is weighing for managing the river would fall hardest on the state. One such alternative under review, CAP General Manager Brenda Burman recently said, would essentially dry up the agency’s canal from the river to Phoenix and Tucson. ... ” Read more from the Arizona Republic.

Editorial: All states should share in Colorado River cutbacks

The Las Vegas Review-Journal editorial board writes, “It takes two to tango — and to reach a compromise. The federal government’s Valentine’s Day deadline for an agreement on the Colorado River has come and gone. The seven states connected to the river failed to reach a deal

on future water allocation. They also missed a deadline last November. Previous agreements will expire at the end of the year. A new arrangement is essential because there isn't enough water to meet demand. The river was over-allocated in the Colorado River Compact of 1922. An extended drought has further reduced the amount of available water. The three Lower Basin states offered significant concessions in negotiations with their Upper Basin counterparts. ... ” [Read more from the Las Vegas Review-Journal.](#)

Hoover Dam needs urgent repairs. It just got a \$52M boost

“For almost a century, Hoover Dam has stood tall, delivering water and reliable hydropower to cities throughout the American West. But even the most impressive feats of human engineering need maintenance — \$200 million of it over the next decade, to be exact, according to estimates from the Bureau of Reclamation, the federal agency in charge of water and dams in the West. “Sadly, even a structural achievement like the Hoover Dam is not immune from aging, and its maintenance needs have been mounting for quite some years,” said Rep. Susie Lee, D-Nev. Lee and Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto, D-Nev., joined Colorado River Commission of Nevada Chairwoman Puoy Premssirut at a Lake Mead outlook Friday to celebrate the release of \$52 million to the Bureau of Reclamation for necessary work. ... ” [Read more from the Las Vegas Review-Journal.](#)

Thousands of fish are hard at work keeping Arizona canals clean

“In the cool dawn of a February morning, a crew is assembling to do maintenance work on a water canal in Tempe. This crew will spend the rest of its life in the canal, removing the plants that stop water from flowing. That's because the workers aren't human — they're fish. The Salt River Project, which operates this canal, estimates that about 44,000 of these fish live in its canal system. This morning, it's adding about 1,000 more. The fish are a species of carp called white amur. They're native to Asia and especially adept at eating the aquatic vegetation that grows along the walls of the canal. Those plants can slow down the water and make it harder to send to faraway users of the canal or gum up the intakes that divert water in different directions. ... ” [Read more from KJZZ.](#)

Nevada Current: [Bipartisan majorities in Western states oppose Trump's rollback of public lands protections](#)

Grist: [Would you pay \\$49 a month to drink recycled wastewater?](#)

“The Library is an arena of possibility, opening both a window into the soul and a door onto the world.
—Rita Dove

BLM plans sale of Anaconda Mine land near Yerington



**A Nevada Department of Environmental Protection aerial photo of the Anaconda Mine.
Tuesday, February 24, 2026**

The Bureau of Land Management proposes to convey 2,062 public acres within the Anaconda Mine Site near Yerington in Lyon County to Atlantic Richfield Co. to facilitate clean-up of the site.

The BLM worked with the [Environmental Protection Agency](#), the [Nevada Division of Environmental Protection](#), and Atlantic Richfield on a plan to remediate the site.

“In order to better ensure successful remediation, Atlantic Richfield requested to acquire five parcels of public lands and underlying federal mineral estate through a direct sale, as provided for in Section 203(f) of [Federal Land Policy and Management Act](#),” according to the agency. “The lands would be sold at fair market value as appraised under the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice.”

A [notice will publish](#) in Monday’s Federal Register to open a 45-day comment period, which will close April 9, 2026. Additional information, including the final environmental assessment and draft [finding of no significant impact](#), is available at the [BLM National NEPA Register](#).

Comments may be emailed to kddow@blm.gov or delivered to: BLM Carson City District Office, District Manager, 5665 Morgan Mill Road, Carson City, NV 89701.

For more information, contact BLM Realty Specialist Mary Feitz at mfeitz@blm.gov or 775-885-6000.

[Scientists reveal first generation ever to be less intelligent than their parents](#)

It's complicated, but necessary to continue the research.

from Britebond

We have been busy behind the scenes working on an exciting rebranding project. American Student Assistance is now **Britebound™**! While our mission remains the same, our new name reflects an even stronger vision and clearer dedication to helping all people find their pathways to bright futures and successful careers. **(Read about our new brand launch.** And, if you had our old newsletter location bookmarked, you can find the new URL **here.**

Parents Embrace Career and Technical Education (*Inside Higher Ed*, January 21, 2026)

The New American Dream Has Parents Easing Up On College Expectations for Their Kids: 35% Are Now Open to Trade School Instead (*Yahoo! News*, December 19, 2025)

3 Reasons Younger Generations Aren't Ready for the Workforce – and the Skills They Need To Get There (*Yahoo! Life*, January 15, 2026)

Let's Focus on Scaling Career and Future Readiness Programming for All Students (*Medium.com*, January 7, 2026)

Wolf River Youth Apprenticeship Program Gives High School Students a Head Start (*TCH Daily News*, January 12, 2026)

The US Wants More Apprenticeships. The UK Figured Out How to Make Them Coveted Roles (*Hechinger Report*, December 15, 2025)

Peering Into the Future: Look for These K-12 Education Trends in 2026 (*EdSurge*, January 15, 2026)

Colorado District Teaches Cutting-Edge Skills Needed for a Changing Workplace (*The 74*, January 7, 2026)

How 'Open Mic' Activities Can Improve Writing, Social Skills (*K-12 Dive*, January 14, 2026)

:Help us plant the seeds of awareness about the importance of self-discovery and career-connected learning for kids by sharing this newsletter with people in your network. ” ==

The Power to Say No

On February 24, 1803, Chief Justice John Marshall delivered the Supreme Court's opinion in *Marbury v. Madison*, a case that began with partisan politics and ended by fundamentally reshaping American government. William Marbury, appointed justice of the peace by outgoing President John Adams, sued when the new administration refused to deliver his commission. Marshall faced a dilemma: rule for Marbury and the Jefferson administration might simply ignore the Court, exposing its weakness; rule against him and validate executive overreach. Marshall found a third path that was nothing short of brilliant.

Marshall declared that while Marbury deserved his commission, the law allowing him to sue directly in the Supreme Court was itself unconstitutional—and therefore void. In doing so, Marshall established judicial review: the Supreme Court's authority to declare laws unconstitutional. The decision gave the Jefferson administration its immediate victory while claiming for the Court a power not explicitly mentioned in the Constitution. It was a masterstroke of judicial statesmanship. Marshall transformed the Supreme Court from the weakest branch of government—it had no enforcement power, no budget control—into the ultimate interpreter of constitutional meaning. Two centuries later, judicial review remains the foundation of American constitutional law, all from a case about an undelivered commission for a minor judgeship.

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### **Supreme Court backs congressional power in tariff ruling**

The Supreme Court stuck up for congressional power in a ruling Friday invalidating most of President Donald Trump's worldwide tariffs, a decision that gave insight into where the justices stand when it comes to how much presidents can do without getting lawmakers involved. [Read more...](#)

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From Native Organizers Alliance

Ahead of Donald Trump's State of the Union address this coming Tuesday, I wanted to share with you some reflections on the [State of Indian Nations address](#) that I attended with several members of the Native Organizers Alliance at the recent National Congress of American Indians' (NCAI) winter session.

NCAI President Mark Macarro spoke before more than 400 Tribal leaders, allies, partners, and Native-led organizations, discussing the threats to Native peoples in this political moment. He emphasized the need to organize and push back against attacks on Tribal sovereignty, stating:

"The sovereignty movement must be a people-powered movement rooted in the same spirit that carried us through the 1970s. And here in 2026, that spirit must show up as organized civic

power locally, regionally, and nationally ... This sovereignty movement cannot rest solely on the shoulders of its leaders. It must come from the people, the heart of this movement."

We heard from NCAI's Youth Co-Presidents who talked about the administration's attacks on Tribal Colleges and Universities, and the racial profiling of Native students by ICE agents on college campuses.

We heard from the U.S. Senator from Minnesota, Tina Smith, who discussed threats to our democracy and the role Native communities are playing in protecting our communities from masked federal agents. Sen. Smith also celebrated the impact of Deb Haaland as the first Native person to serve as Secretary of the Interior and the release of Native activist and the longest serving political prisoner in U.S. history Leonard Peltier, after decades in federal prison.

Being among the leaders of our Tribal Nations, we felt the weight of seven generations of thinking and the long-term vision of our ancestors.

This semi-annual convening of Tribal leaders shows that Tribal and Native communities are organized and ready for the challenges ahead.

Hawwih (*thank you*) for being part of our movement that is defending our rights in the face of relentless attacks.

Judith LeBlanc (Caddo) Executive Director

Arizona

Arizona, formerly part of the Territory of New Mexico, was organized as a separate territory on **February 24, 1863**. The U.S. acquired the region under the terms of the [1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo](#) and the [1853 Gadsden Purchase](#). Arizona became the forty-eighth state in 1912.



[Remains of the Homes of Ancient Cliff Dwellers in Canyon de Chelly...](#) Carol M. Highsmith, photographer, April 15, 2018. [Highsmith \(Carol M.\) Archive](#). Prints & Photographs Division
By the 1880s, the Arizona Territory was bustling with fortune seekers hoping to strike it rich. The discovery of gold in 1863 near [Prescott](#), which became the territorial capital in 1864, and the

1877 discoveries of silver at [Tombstone](#), near Tucson, and copper at [Bisbee](#), brought back many of those who had traveled through Arizona in 1848 on their way to the goldfields of California.

Traveler Emma H. Adams, of Cleveland, Ohio, visited [Tucson](#) in 1884. She described it as “a queer old town,” but was struck by the cosmopolitan atmosphere of the desert outpost:

Americans, Mexicans, Germans, Russians, Italians, Austrians, Frenchmen, Spaniards, Greeks, the Chinese, Japanese, Portuguese, the African, Irishman, and Sandwich Islander are all here, being drawn to the spot by the irresistible mining influence.

To and Fro in Southern California, by Emma H. Adams. New York: Arno Press, 1976[c1887], 55-56. [“California as I Saw It.” First-Person Narratives of California’s Early Years, 1849 to 1900.](#) General Collections

Adams spent ten days in Tucson before traveling on, via the Central Pacific Railway, to Los Angeles. She describes her journey from New Mexico through the desert to Tucson, including a visit to the Mission San Xavier del Bac, in chapters eight and nine of her travel journal, which documents rail trips to the west taken from 1883 to 1886.



[San Xavier Mission, Tucson, Arizona](#). West Coast Art Co., c1913. [Panoramic Photographs](#). Prints & Photographs Division

The [San Xavier del Bac Mission](#), completed in 1797, is one of the most famous monuments to the early Spanish presence in Arizona. Jesuit missionary [Eusebio Kino](#) laid the foundations for a church on the site around 1700. Spanish missionaries first ventured into Arizona in 1539. With the exception of occasional forays among the Native Americans living in the northern part of the state, the Spanish presence in Arizona was limited to scattered missions, ranches, and forts in the Santa Cruz Valley south of Tucson. By the time the United States acquired Arizona, many remnants of Spanish influence in the state were gone. Most persons of Hispanic descent living in Arizona today immigrated to the state from Mexico after 1900.

[Phoenix](#) is the capital of Arizona’s nearly 114,000 square miles. The state has one of the fastest growing economies and is home to a diverse population. Native Americans maintain a strong presence in Arizona with twenty-two distinct tribes including [Navajo](#), Hopi, [Maricopah](#), Apache, and [Pima](#).



[Hopi Woman Making Pottery](#). c1910. [Detroit Publishing Company](#). Prints & Photographs Division

Learn More

- The [Arizona: State Resource Guide](#) provides access to digital materials related to the state of Arizona at the Library of Congress, as well as links to external websites and a selected print bibliography.
- How hot was it? Read a story of Arizona's hottest days in "[Them Petrified Buzzards](#)", a tall tale told by Uncle Steve Robertson and transcribed by interviewer Earl Bowman on December 15, 1938. Also read recollections of encounters with Native Americans in Arizona and other parts of the Southwest. Search on tribal names such as *Navajo*, *Hopi*, and *Apache* in [American Life Histories: Manuscripts from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936 to 1940](#). This collection offers the life stories of men and women from a variety of regions, occupations, and ethnic groups.
- Listen to guitarist Jack Bryant play his composition "[Arizona](#)" as recorded on August 17, 1940, at the Firebaugh FSA Camp. The recording and a [transcript of the lyrics](#) are found in [Voices from the Dust Bowl: The Charles L. Todd and Robert Sonkin Migrant Worker Collection, 1940 to 1941](#).
- When President Theodore Roosevelt visited Arizona in 1913, the Hopi Indians honored him with a performance of one of their tribal dances. It was recorded on film and can be found under the title [Hopi Indians Dance for TR at \[Walpi, Ariz.\], 1913](#) in [Theodore Roosevelt: His Life and Times on Film](#).
- View more images of Arizona's striking landscape. Search the [pictorial collections](#) on *Arizona*, *Grand Canyon*, or *petrified forest*. A similar search on the term *mission* will produce a variety of images and documentation related to Spanish missionaries' efforts in the Southwest.
- Native American tribes and their culture are documented in the following collections:
 - [Curtis \(Edward S.\) Collection](#)
 - [Grabill Collection](#)
 - [Ancestral Voices](#)
 - [Edward S. Curtis's The North American Indian](#)*External*
 - [Denver Public Library Digital Collections](#)*External*
- Use the search tools provided with the collections to focus in on tribal names and locations.
- View nineteenth-century railroad maps and U.S. Geological Survey maps of Arizona in the [Maps Collections](#). Many of these maps can be viewed with technology that permits the viewer to "zoom in" or magnify points of interest. "Bird's-eye" views of cities such as [Phoenix](#) are also part of this collection.