



# 2018 Top Policy Goals

## Fish and Wildlife Service

- Revised rule and EA to allow Alaska 1002 exploration and issue permits
  - Transferred to BLM per legislation
- MBTA changes
- ESA Sections 4, 6, 7, and 10 reforms
- Mitigation policy reforms
- Hunting and fishing chiefs to open 250,000 acres
- Refuge maintenance backlog
- Continue delistings
- King Cove land exchange (completed)
- Bison Range
- State FWS Commissioner Summit (canceled)



# Major Actions in Next 30 Days

## Fish and Wildlife Service

- Refuge maintenance backlog
  - In FY2019 President's Budget Request, in process
- MBTA changes
  - New guidance issued to FWS that implements M opinion
- ESA Sections 4, 6, 7, and 10 reforms
  - Sent to OMB for review.
- Continue delistings
  - Black-capped vireo (final delisting)
  - Lesser long-nosed bat (final delisting)
  - Kuenzler hedgehog cactus (downlisting to threatened)
  - Tobusch fishhook cactus (proposed downlisting to threatened)
- Mitigation policy reforms
  - Plan for revisions submitted to Assistant Deputy Secretary; awaiting approval



# Major Actions in Next 6 Months - 1 Year

## Fish and Wildlife Service

- MBTA changes
  - Possible regulation change; SOL discussions
- Hunting and fishing chiefs to open 250,000 acres
  - 186,500 acres announcement in Federal Register
  - Proposal to eliminate 1,400 regs; simplify 700 additional regs (2,100 total regs affected)
- Continue delistings
  - Hidden Lake bluecurls
  - Wild buckwheat gypsum
  - Hawaiian hawk ('lo)
  - Northern Continental Divide Grizzly
  - Grey Wolf
- Bison Range
  - On hold due to litigation



# Special Projects

## Yellowstone Bison

- Players: NPS, USDA-APHIS, Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes
- ~800 bison captured in the Stephens Creek facility
  - 1168 removed from population as of 4/3 (last treaty hunt
  - state and treaty hunt harvest
  - entered in to NPS quarantine
  - 1070 sent to slaughter or killed in treaty hunts
- 2018 Target Population: 3,600 before calving; 4,200 after



# Special Projects

## Yellowstone Bison

- Quarantine Update
  - Stephens Creek is considered certified, letter forthcoming
  - 98 in NPS quarantine; 3 tested positive: 95 remaining
- Transfer of yearlings to Ft. Peck, CY2018
  - APHIS will review data, generate time schedule
  - 24 hr LE presence has been in place at Stephens Creek