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Geoscience Policy Monthly Review: January 2014

The Monthly Review is part of a continuing effort to improve communications about the role of geoscience in policy. Current and archived monthly reviews are available online.

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January 2014

Budget

• January budget update

Congress

• Schweikert to assume Environmental subpanel chairmanship

Energy

- Oil and gas regulators in Texas turn to seismology
- Groups demand US export crude oil
- Governor calls for drillers to follow new defunct water regulations
- New developments in seismic exploration and OCS future
- Southernmost leg of Keystone XL open

Environment

- House bill amends CERCLA, expanding state rights
- Update on OSM stream protection rule
- EPW Committee evalutates President Obama's Climate Action Plan
- EPA releases outline of decision to raise the price of the Social Cost of Carbon

Federal Agencies & Administration

- Suzette Kimball nominated to lead U.S. Geological Survey
- Navy to update Arctic Strategy

Natural Hazards

- New legislation would further delay FEMA Flood Insurance Program
- Human-induced earthquakes up, USGS reports
- Simpson to introduce companion wildfire legislation in the House

Natural Resources

• EPA releases assessments on mining in Bristol Bay

Space

• Research set to continue at International Space Station

Water

• World Bank starts Thirsty Energy Initiative

Federal Register

Monthly Review prepared by: Maeve Boland, Geoscience Policy Director; Abby Seadler, Geoscience Policy Associate; and Scott Miller, AGI/AAPG Spring Intern.

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Compiled February 10, 2014