

## Geoscience Policy Monthly Review: December 2017

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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### December 2017

#### **congress**

- Senate Commerce Committee votes to advance earthquake and drought bills and NOAA nominee
- Congress ends session by passing tax reform and continuing federal funding into January, but delays disaster aid

#### **education**

- House passes three bipartisan bills to advance science, technology, engineering, and mathematics

#### **energy**

- USGS releases new assessment of oil and gas resources in Alaska's North Slope, following annual lease sale
- Trump administration moves to revise Obama-era energy regulations through rulemaking process

#### **federal agencies & administration**

- Trump administration slashes 2 Utah monuments, with ongoing reviews to spur more reductions

#### **natural hazards**

- Congress reauthorizes U.S. Fire Administration and grant programs in wake of recent wildfire disasters

#### **natural resources**

- House lawmakers discuss Grand Staircase-Escalante during Natural Resources subcommittee hearing
- House Natural Resources hearing revisits U.S. dependence on foreign minerals
- President Trump and Secretary Zinke sign orders to advance domestic production of critical minerals

#### **federal register**

- Federal Register - December 2017

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