

President Joe Biden Vice President Kamala Harris Administration Information

[Transition Website - Build Back Better](#)

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/>

[National Strategy for COVID-19 Response](#) January 21

[FACT SHEET: Interior Department Welcomes Day One Executive Orders to Restore Public Lands and Waters, Combat Coronavirus](#) January 21

[Biden-Harris Day 1 Executive Actions](#) USET SPF Alert January 21

[Executive Order on Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis](#) January 20

The Biden Administration released an initial list of items for agency review (i.e. reconsideration and likely withdrawal) pursuant to one of the new Admin's anticipated first Executive Orders, "Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis." Here is a [link](#) to the release on the list of items for review.

Here are some highlights:

- "Update to the Regulations Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act," 85 Fed. Reg. 43304 (July 16, 2020).
- "The Navigable Waters Protection Rule: Definition of 'Waters of the United States,'" 85 Fed. Reg. 22250 (April 21, 2020).
- "National Primary Drinking Water Regulations: Lead and Copper Rule Revisions," 86 Fed. Reg. 4198 (January 15, 2021).
- "Review of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter," 85 Fed. Reg. 82684 (December 18, 2020).
- U.S. Department of the Interior, M-37056: Status of Mineral Ownership Underlying the Missouri River within the Boundaries of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation (North Dakota) (May 26, 2020).
- "National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures for the Bureau of Land Management (516 DM 11)," 85 Fed. Reg. 25472 (May 1, 2020).
- **U.S. Department of the Interior, M-37055: Withdrawal of Solicitor's Opinion M-37029, "The Meaning of 'Under Federal Jurisdiction' for Purposes of the Indian Reorganization Act" (March 9, 2020).**

Another [release](#) on Day-1 Executive Actions to, “Deliver Relief for Families Across America Amid Converging Crises.” Items of interest include:

- **Launch a “100 Days Masking Challenge” and Leading by Example in the Federal Government**

Today, President-elect Biden is launching his “100 Days Masking Challenge,” asking the American people to do their part — their patriotic duty — and mask up for 100 days. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has found that masks “are a critical tool in the fight against COVID-19 that could reduce the spread of the disease.” President-elect Biden is also doing his part by issuing an Executive Order today requiring masks and physical distancing in all federal buildings, on all federal lands, and by federal employees and contractors. He is also asking the Department of Health and Human Services and Center for Disease Control to engage with state, local, Tribal, and territorial officials to implement masking, physical distancing, and other CDC public measures to stop the spread of COVID-19.

- **Structure Our Federal Government to Coordinate a Unified National Response**

The federal government must act swiftly and aggressively to combat COVID-19. President-elect Biden will sign an Executive Order creating the position of COVID-19 Response Coordinator, who will report directly to the President and be responsible for coordinating all elements of the COVID-19 response across government, including managing efforts to produce, supply, and distribute personal protective equipment, vaccines, and tests. In addition, this Executive Order restores the NSC Directorate for Global Health Security and Biodefense to focus on domestic and global biological threats, play a critical role in stopping the COVID-19 pandemic, and prevent future biological catastrophes.

- **Launch a Whole-of-Government Initiative to Advance Racial Equity**

The president-elect will sign an Executive Order beginning the work of embedding equity across federal policymaking and rooting out systemic racism and other barriers to opportunity from federal programs and institutions. The Executive Order will define equity as the consistent and systematic fair, just, and impartial treatment of all individuals, including individuals who belong to underserved communities, such as Black, Latino, Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and other persons of color; LGBTQ+ persons; people with disabilities; religious minorities, persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise affected by persistent poverty or inequality. The president-elect will:

- Establish that advancing equity for all — including people of color and others who have been historically underserved and marginalized — is the responsibility of the whole of our government;
- Direct every federal agency to undertake a baseline review of the state of equity within their agency and deliver an action plan within 200 days to address unequal barriers to opportunity in agency policies and programs;
- Launch a new equitable data working group to ensure that federal data reflects the diversity of America;

- Task the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) with working to more equitably allocate federal resources to empower and invest in communities of color and other underserved communities;
 - Improve the delivery of government benefits and services to ensure that families of all backgrounds across the country can access opportunity, for example by reducing language access barriers;
 - Study new methods that federal agencies can use to assess whether proposed policies advance equity;
 - Direct agencies to engage with communities who have been historically underrepresented, underserved, and harmed by federal policies.
 - In this Executive Order, the president-elect will also rescind the Trump Administration's 1776 Commission, which has sought to erase America's history of racial injustice. And, he will revoke President Trump's damaging executive order limiting the ability of federal government agencies, contractors and even some grantees from implementing important and needed diversity and inclusion training. Additional actions in the coming weeks will restore and reinvigorate the federal government's commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility.
- **Regulatory Process Executive Order and Presidential Memorandum**
Regulations are an important tool for the federal government to address the crises facing the nation. The Trump Administration unnecessarily hamstrung this critical tool by creating arbitrary obstacles to regulatory action. Today, the president-elect will issue a Presidential Memorandum withdrawing the Trump Administration's regulatory process executive orders to remove those needless obstacles to regulating in the public's interest. And, the president-elect will direct the Director of the OMB to develop recommendations for improving and modernizing regulatory review. These recommendations will create a process to advance regulations that promote public health and safety, economic growth, social welfare, racial justice, environmental stewardship, human dignity, equity, and the interests of future generations.

Today, the White House Chief of Staff will also issue a regulatory freeze memo that will pause any new regulations from moving forward and give the incoming Administration an opportunity to review any regulations that the Trump Administration tried to finalize in its last days. The memo directs all agencies to confer with the Director of OMB before renewing any regulatory activity. This action will allow the Biden Administration to prevent any detrimental so-called "midnight regulations" from taking effect, while ensuring that urgent measures in the public's interest can proceed.

[Interior Department Announces Members of Biden-Harris Leadership Team](#) – January 20

[Biden's Cabinet and Senior Adviser Nominees](#) NYT Article January 12

[USET SPF Initial Priorities for Biden-Harris Administration – December 18, 2020](#)

[PRESS RELEASE | USET SPF Statement on Historic Nomination of Congresswoman Deb Haaland for Secretary of Interior December 17, 2020](#)

- [Getting Ready for January: Notes on the 117th Congress](#) National Law Review Article December 17
- [History again! Deb Haaland tapped for Interior](#) Indian Country Today Article December 17
- [With historic picks, Biden puts environmental justice front and center](#) Washington Post Article December 17
- [These are the experts who will lead Biden's transition at federal agencies](#) Online article November 10
- [President Elect Biden First 100 Days Plan](#) NPR Article December 9
- [Meet the 13 members of Biden's COVID-19 task force](#) Online article November 9

Top Administration Picks by President Biden

Will need Senate Confirmation:

Agriculture – Tom Vilsack

Deputy Agriculture Secretary - Jewel H. Bronaugh

Commerce – Gina Raimondo

Defense – General Lloyd Austin III - CONFIRMED

Education – Miguel Cardona

Deputy Education Secretary – Cindy Marten

Energy – Jennifer Granholm

EPA Administrator – Michael S Regan

Food & Drug Administration -

Health and Human Services – Xavier Becerra

Assistant Health Secretary – Rachel Levine

Deputy Health and Human Services Secretary – Andrea Palm

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services -

Homeland Security – Alejandro Mayorkas

Housing and Urban Development – Marcia Fudge

Interior –

Secretary of Interior – Deb Haaland (Laguna Pueblo)

Deputy Interior Secretary – Elizabeth Klein

Justice – Judge Merrick Garland

Labor – Martin Walsh

National Intelligence – Avril Haines – CONFIRMED

OMB Director – Neera Tanden

State – Anthony Blinken

Transportation – Pete Buttigieg

Deputy Transportation Secretary – Polly Trottenberg

Treasury – Janet Yellen

Veterans Affairs – Denis McDonough

FEDERAL AGENCY LEADERSHIP UNTIL SENATE CONFIRMATIONS:

The following individuals will serve in acting capacities across the Biden-Harris administration until permanent leadership can be confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

Central Intelligence Agency, David Cohen
Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Dave Uejio
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Kevin Shea
Department of Commerce, Wynn Coggins
Department of Defense, David Norquist
Department of Education, Phil Rosenfelt
Department of Energy, David Huizenga
Department of Health and Human Services, Norris Cochran
Department of Homeland Security, David Pekoske
Department of Housing and Urban Development, Matt Ammonn
Department of Interior, Scott de la Vega
Department of Justice, Monty Wilkinson
Department of Labor, Al Stewart
Department of State, Dan Smith
Department of Transportation, Lana Hurdle
Department of Treasury, Andy Baukol
Department of Veterans Affairs, Dat Tran
Office of the Director of National Intelligence, Lora Shiao
Environmental Protection Agency, Jane Nishida
General Services Administration, Katy Kale
National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Steve Jurczyk
National Endowment for the Arts, Ann Eilers
National Endowment for the Humanities, Adam Wolfson
Office of Management and Budget, Rob Fairweather
Office of National Drug Control Policy, Regina LaBelle
Office of Personnel Management, Kathy McGettigan
Peace Corps, Carol Spahn
Small Business Administration, Tami Perriello
Social Security Administration, Andrew Saul
U.S. Agency for Global Media, Kelu Chao
U.S. Agency for International Development, Gloria Steele
U.S. International Development Finance Corporation, Dev Jagadesan
U.S. Mission to the United Nations, Rich Mills
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, Maria Pagan

Do not need Senate Confirmation:

Senior Strategist –
Advisor, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management - Marissa Knodel
Chief of Staff - Jennifer Van der Heide
Communications Director - Melissa Schwartz
Counselor to the Secretary - Janea Scott
Deputy Chief of Staff – Policy - Kate Kelly
Deputy Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation - Maria (Camille) Touton
Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs - House - Paniz Rezaeero
Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs – Senate - Morgan Gray
Deputy Solicitor for Energy and Mineral Resources - Travis Annatoyn
Deputy Solicitor for General Law - Ruchi Jain
Deputy Solicitor for Indian Affairs - Ann Marie Bledsoe Downes
Director of Congressional Affairs - Andrew Wallace
Director for Intergovernmental and External Affairs - Shantha Ready-Alonso
National Security Advisor – Jake Sullivan
Press Secretary - Tyler Cherry
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary - Land and Minerals Management - Laura Daniel Davis
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary - Fish and Wildlife and Parks - Shannon Estenoz
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget - Rachael Taylor
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary - Water and Science - Tanya Trujillo
Principal Deputy Director, Fish and Wildlife Service - Martha Williams
Principal Deputy Solicitor - Robert Anderson
Special Presidential Envoy for Climate – John Kerry
UN Ambassador – Linda Thomas-Greenfield
United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Administrator – Samantha Power
US Trade Representative – Katherine Tai
White House Climate Coordinator – Gina McCarthy
White House Counsel – Dana Remus
White House Domestic Policy Council – Susan Rice
White House Liaison - Maggie Thompson

[President Elect Joe Biden Website](#)

Transition Meeting and Inaugural Events

Memorial and Nationwide Tribute to Remember and Honor the Lives Lost to COVID-19

5:30 pm ET

January 19

WEBINAR: NCAI Presidential Transition Series - Indian Country's Participation in the Appointment Process

3:30 - 5:00 pm ET

January 14

December 10, 2020 1:00 pm ET

Join agency transition leaders for an update on transition efforts

Agenda: Welcome and Introduction of Agency leads, Transition Update, Q&A

If you would like to submit questions in advance please email cpratte@jbrpt.org with "Tribal Transition Question" in the subject line.