

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1967

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

The committee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:07 a.m., in room 3110, New Senate Office Building, Senator Henry M. Jackson (chairman) presiding.

Present: Senators Jackson, Anderson, Moss, and Hansen.

Also present: Jerry T. Verkler, staff director; Stewart French, chief counsel; William J. Van Ness, special counsel; and James H. Gamble, professional staff member.

The CHAIRMAN. The meeting will come to order.

The purpose of this morning's hearing is to review recent scientific and technological developments within the Department of the Interior.

The scope and scale of change resulting from advances in science and technology in the past few years is unprecedented. Ninety percent of all the scientists and skilled technicians who ever lived are living now. The amount of technical information doubles every 10 years.

Many of the changes caused by science and technology are fundamental. They influence our lives and influence the formulation of public policies. Some advances and developments will require new and amendatory legislation. We see examples of this in connection with recent advances in weather modification and in our ability to economically recover and process our vast reserves of oil shale.

The Congress has a duty to keep abreast of the implications and the impact of the Interior Department's and the Nation's rapidly expanding technological and scientific capabilities. I believe that today's hearing can serve this purpose.

We are pleased to commence our hearing this morning with an introductory statement by the distinguished Secretary of the Interior, Stewart L. Udall.

Mr. Secretary, will you come forward? We will be very pleased to have your statement.

He will be followed by Dr. Thomas F. Bates, the science adviser to the Secretary.

Mr. Secretary.

STATEMENT OF HON. STEWART L. UDALL, SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

Secretary UDALL. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I have a short prepared statement I will read in a moment. I should like to make some observations as well as summarize some of the highlights in it, if I may.