

A presentation of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, National Conservation Training Center, providing leadership in learning, to conserve fish, wildlife and natural resources.

Welcome, ladies and gentlemen to weth news.

I'm Ed McDonnell from the departmental ethics office.

And I'm Donna Huston with minerals management service.

And we are at the national conservation training center studios to bring you some the latest news in the world of ethics.

To start off our program today, we'd like to hear a message from Melinda Loftin, the designated ethics agency for the Department of the Interior.

Good afternoon.

It's great to be here in West Virginia on such a lovely fall day.

It's been a pleasure working with the over 67,000 employees of the Department of Interior who serve such a great mission.

Secretary Salazar has been committed to enhancing the ethics culture of the department.

He requested that I put together an action plan and that action plan led to the implementation of the sectoral order 3288.

I want to take a moment and explain some of the content of the secretarial order.

Everyone will have a G.S. or higher full-time ethics counselor dedicated to serving the bureau employees.

Second, there will be increased access to resources, both technical and employees.

There will be enhanced training for the ethics counselors.

Also the bureau heads to be soliciting feedback from you, every employee who wishes to provide feedback, on what they see as ethics concerns.

Also, every employee does have the responsibility under

this secretarial order to read the ethics departmental ethics guide.

This is a great guide that has a lot of information that's very helpful to you in here.

Also, all employees must continue to maintain the high ethical standards that we find important in the Department of Interior, honesty, impartiality, integrity, and conduct.

Also seek guidance from an experienced ethics counselor if you have any ethics concerns.

Also, the assistant secretaries have increased responsibility for management and oversight of the bureau ethics program.

And lastly, I want to mention an exciting new practice of best practices that we have.

It's a new working group of senior leaders, both career and noncareer and we will be starting our work on developing new best practices this Friday.

Thank you very much and back to you, Ed.