Date: February 29, 2012 Contact: Adam Fetcher, DOI (202) 208-6416

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Secretary Salazar to Convene National Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform

WASHINGTON, D.C. – As part of President Obama's commitment to fulfilling this nation's trust responsibilities to American Indians and Alaska Natives, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar will convene the first meeting of the Commission established to undertake a forward-looking, comprehensive evaluation of Interior's trust management.

The first meeting of the National Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform will be a two-day event held on Thursday and Friday, March 1-2, 2012, in Washington, DC. [Please note the new location in the details below.] Each day's session will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Attendance is open to the public, but limited space is available. Members of the public and media who wish to attend should RSVP to: trustcommission@ios.doi.gov.

The meeting will mark the first time the <u>five recently-named members</u> of the commission meet to move forward on their comprehensive evaluation of Interior's management and administration of the nearly \$4 billion in trust assets, as well as recommendations for improvement. Building upon the progress made with the historic Cobell Settlement, the reform commission will help usher in a new era of trust administration, stressing responsive, customer-friendly, accountable and transparent management of these substantial funds and assets.

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar

Deputy Secretary of the Interior David J. Hayes

WHO: Interior Solicitor Hilary Tompkins

Commission Chair Fawn R. Sharp and members Dr. Peterson Zah,

Stacy Leeds, and Bob Anderson

WHAT: Inaugural meeting of the National Commission on Indian Trust Administration

and Reform

WHEN: Thursday, March 1, 2012 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, March 2, 2012,

from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

National Park Service, Conference Room 202

WHERE: 1201 Eye Street, NW

Washington, DC 20005

Please note this is a new location

Attendance is open to the public, but limited space is available. Members of

the public who wish to attend should RSVP by February 29, 2012 to:

trustcommission@ios.doi.gov

MEDIA: Members of the news media are invited to attend the meetings. For further

information, contact: trustcommission@ios.doi.gov

The Commission website and meeting agenda is at: http://www.doi.gov/cobell/commission/index.cfm

PUBLIC:

Information and images of the Commission members are at:

http://www.doi.gov/cobell/Commission-Bios.cfm

The public notice of the Commission is <u>here</u>.