

## Morning Consult

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**From:** Morning Consult  
**Sent:** Monday, September 9, 2019 4:20 PM  
**To:** <keli.pirtle@noaa.gov>  
**Subject:** Washington Afternoon Update, Presented by the American Hotel & Lodging Association: Wilbur Ross Reportedly Threatened to Fire NOAA Employees After Agency Contradicted Trump on Hurricane Dorian



By [Eli Yokley](#)

## Top Stories

- Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross threatened to fire top employees at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration after its office in Birmingham, Ala., contradicted President Donald Trump's claim last week that Hurricane Dorian might hit Alabama, according to three sources. The NOAA's acting top scientist notified staff today that he is probing any

"potential violations" of agency policy in its decision to back Trump's statements rather than its own scientists' findings. ([The New York Times](#))

- Trump said that discussions between the Taliban and the United States are "dead" following the collapse of planned talks with the group and Afghan President Ashraf Ghani at Camp David. The two sides had reportedly agreed "in principle" to an arrangement that would have withdrawn 5,400 American troops from Afghanistan, but that deal fell apart after the Taliban claimed responsibility for a bombing in Kabul last week that killed an American service member. ([Axios](#))
- The House Foreign Affairs, Intelligence and Oversight committees began an investigation into reports that Trump and his attorney, Rudy Giuliani, worked to pressure the Ukrainian government to help the president's re-election campaign. The chairs of the three committees sent a letter to the White House and State Department demanding documents regarding alleged efforts to lean on the Ukrainian government to help Trump's former campaign manager Paul Manafort and target former Vice President Joe Biden. ([The Washington Post](#))

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