

From: Swift, Heather
To: [Bowman, Randal](#)
Cc: [Aaron Moody](#)
Subject: Re: Bears Ears
Date: Monday, May 22, 2017 3:00:04 PM

Thanks for the clarification, Randy.

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Heather Swift
Department of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov | Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

On Mon, May 22, 2017 at 3:29 PM, Bowman, Randal <randal_bowman@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Regs.gov says in the comment box that the overall comment period closes at 11:59 Eastern time on July 10, so 11:59 pm eastern time would be the cut-off time for us to consider comments on May 26.

For your awareness, Exec Sec set the comment docket up as a single docket, whereas ideally it would have been two - one with the Bears Ears cut-off date and one with the July 10 date for everything else. I was completely ignorant of [regs.gov](#) at that point, in the rush to get the FR notice out did not have time to check into it, and so did not know to ask them to set up 2 dockets. (Not a criticism of Exec Sec, as we would have needed two FR notices to do this) As a result, the site will still receive comments on Bears Ears until July 10, but we will not process or review any submitted after 11:59 pm May 26, except for written ones as noted in my earlier reply.

On Mon, May 22, 2017 at 2:57 PM, Bowman, Randal <randal_bowman@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Since this is not a rule-making process, I would say we will accept them as long as they show up in Reg.gov as received any time on the 26th, and for mailed comments, if post marked by then and received here by June 1, so we have time to review them and incorporate them into the decision-making process. I am asking our [regs.gov](#) experts how that system dates comments and will get back to you on that.

On Mon, May 22, 2017 at 2:48 PM, Swift, Heather <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
Randal, I have a question: see red please.

To ensure consideration, written comments relating to the Bears Ears National Monument must be submitted before **May 26, 2017**. **[[Does this mean midnight May 25? Is that East-Coast time?]]** Written comments relating to all other National Monuments must be submitted before July 10, 2017.

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On Fri, May 19, 2017 at 8:24 AM, Bowman, Randal <randal_bowman@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Naturally, the name came in as soon as I sent the last message. The program manager is likely a career GS-14 technical type, so don't suggest contacting him directly

Edward Cottrill, Program Director
—eRulemaking Branch Chief
•202-564-5002; Cottrill.Edward@epa.gov

On Thu, May 18, 2017 at 8:16 PM, Laura Rigas <laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
Overnight perhaps?

Laura Keehner Rigas
Communications Director
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 897-7022 cell
@Interior

On May 18, 2017, at 7:53 PM, Downey Magallanes
<downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Randy- can we reschedule the outage for another time why does it have to happen that day?

Sent from my iPhone

On May 18, 2017, at 5:30 PM, Bowman, Randal
<randal_bowman@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Sorry for the delay but just got back to the office from the monument team meeting. Here is the answer I received from our FWS expert. Notwithstanding this, extending the comment period for Bears Ears is entirely a political/public relations decision. It will not impact our ability to review comments. I don't see a need to extend the longer comment period for this.

Answer - This is routine maintenance. The outage is from 6 am to 6 pm. We don't extend the comment period because of these outages. There is ample time for commenter outside of this 12 hour window.

On Thu, May 18, 2017 at 1:48 PM, Downey Magallanes
<downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Let's confirm this is true - Randy?

Sent from my iPhone

On May 18, 2017, at 1:43 PM, Heather Swift
<heather_swift@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Downey and Dan - Regulations.gov will be
down one day this weekend. Do we plan to
extend the deadline for comment a day?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jennifer Yachnin
<jyachnin@eenews.net>
Date: May 18, 2017 at 1:40:21
PM EDT
To: Heather Swift
<heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Bears Ears

Hi Heather - Any idea if the
comment period on Bears Ears will
get an extra day since the
Regulations.gov site looks like it will
be down part of this weekend?
Thanks - Jennifer

303.355.2979 office
202.907.9649 mobile