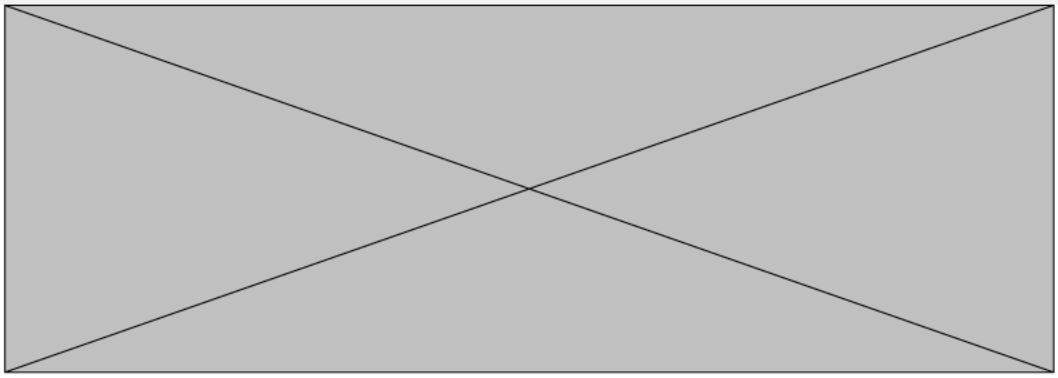
To: nmoore@blm.gov[nmoore@blm.gov]
From: Sam Goldman, Conservation Lands Foundation
Sent: 2017-06-15T09:35:47-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Call today: New CLF staff, defending monuments, your updates
Received: 2017-06-15T09:35:58-04:00

Join us today at Noon Mountain/11 Pacific



Please join us today for the Friends Grassroots Network Call:

Thursday, June 15, 2017
Noon (MDT)/11:00 AM Pacific

Call-in information:
(855) 212-0212 or (530) 881-1212
Access Code: 573-616-683

Agenda:

- Welcome new CLF staff: Brian Sybert, Executive Director and David Feinman, Director of Government Affairs
- Bears Ears "Review Period" update from Utah and next steps
- Substantive comments submission on all monuments under review
- Updates from partners working on other important efforts outside of defensive campaigns

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More Information:

A new, informative press release from Friends of Organ Mountain-Desert Peaks can be found here. To adapt for your local area, just fill in your own information and add in local quotes and you have a terrific press release about the ongoing "review period" and how people can stand up against this attack on all of our National Monuments. Let us know

if you need assistance.

Remember, it is important that people know that if this ill-informed recommendation can be made for Bears Ears, the national monuments in your state could be next.

For more information on the legal rationale on **why shrinking or rescinding monuments is illegal**, please take a look at this informative document.

The deadline to submit public comments for the other national monuments highlighted in the Executive Order is **July 10**. Let people know they can still go to www.MonumentsforAll.org to make their voice heard.

Social Media Guidance:

Below are some sample social media posts that you can use, as well as talking points if you want to send an email to your board or volunteers, or submit a letter to the editor of your local paper.

- Google folder of additional images: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B1y3vwBbZ-cFbmEyX0FlWWp0UWc?usp=sharing
- Facebook profile photo tool (put the Bears Ears logo over your profile picture this week!): https://actionsprout.io/F0A06F
- Twitter tool (brings up a sample tweet to Zinke): http://bit.ly/2mRibsD

Sample tweets:

READ: #BearsEars Inter-Tribal Coalition condemns @SecretaryZinke plan to eviscerate monument: http://bit.ly/2rc9BpH#StandWithBearsEars

Tearing apart #BearsEars would be an illegal act - and a slap in the face to sovereign Tribal Nations. #StandWithBearsEars! #MonumentsForAll

Monuments "review" officially a sham: 1 million+ comments support #MonumentsForAll but @SecretaryZinke refuses to #StandWithBearsEars

#StandWithBearsEars! Change your Facebook profile photo to oppose the Administration's attack https://actionsprout.io/F0A06F #MonumentsForAll

Sample Facebook post:

Protected landscapes where we hunt, fish, camp and hike are part of what makes our country great. Tearing apart Bears Ears National Monument would be against the wishes of more than 1 million public comments in support of our #MonumentsForAll. We can't stay silent when America's heritage is at stake. Change your Facebook profile photo to stand with Bears Ears. https://actionsprout.io/F0A06F

Sample Instagram post:

An attack on our national monuments is an attack on all of our public lands and America's national heritage. The #BearsEars landscape contains tens of thousands of cultural sites, spectacular natural features, and world-class opportunities for outdoor recreation. But will future generations have the chance to experience its wonders? #MonumentsForAll @usinterior @whitehouse @usinterior @mypubliclands @usdagov

Talking Points:

To be clear, Zinke is recommending that President Trump eliminate important parts of Bears Ears National Monument - a move that is illegal, undermines tribal sovereignty and ignores the will of the American people.

National parks and protected public lands and waters help define who we are as a nation. Attempts to rip apart the fabric of national monuments are an assault on our nation's historical, cultural and natural heritage.

Utahans and the majority of Americans support national monuments and oppose removing protections.

- Despite the woefully short initial 15-day comment period, the response from Utah and across the nation was loud and clear. More than 700,000 Americans voiced support for the Bears Ears, with 99% of the comments in support of the national monument. Click here to read this article regarding the outpouring of support generated.

- National parks, monuments, public lands and waters are a critical part of the nation's economy - especially for rural and Western communities that benefit from the tourism, outdoor recreation and quality of life associated with healthy public lands.

An Attack on Bears Ears is an Attack on All Monuments

- With all national monuments designated since 1996 still under "review" this recommendation confirms the Trump Administration is on a disturbing path to undermine our National Conservation Lands. We still have until July 10 to make our voices heard in support of our other national monuments.

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STAY CONNECTED:

Conservation Lands Foundation, 835 E. 2nd Ave., Suite 314, Durango, CO 81301

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Zinke Recommends Shrinking Bears Ears Monument In Utah

Share us on: By **Michael Phillis**

Law360, New York (June 13, 2017, 2:04 PM EDT) -- Department of the Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke has recommended that Bears Ears National Monument in Utah be reduced and “right sized” in an interim report to the White House on the land protected late in President Barack Obama’s term by his power under the Antiquities Act.

Zinke’s initial recommendation submitted Saturday goes against the century-old status quo of presidents using the Antiquities Act to expand land protections but not reverse them. Environmental groups called foul, saying that the 1906 act does not provide President Donald Trump with the authority to reduce designated areas. If the president moves to formally shrink the approximately 1.35 million-acre monument, a legal battle is likely.

The recommendation follows an **April executive order** signed by Trump that launched a review of major land and marine national monuments designated under the act going back to 1996. The order instructed Zinke to provide an interim report within 45 days on Bears Ears, which is named after two buttes that shoot up over the rocky land in southeast Utah. The area has special significance to local tribes.

“I spent a lot of time on the ground in Utah, talking with people and understanding the natural and cultural significance of the area,” Zinke said in a statement. "There is no doubt that it is drop-dead gorgeous country and that it merits some degree of protection, but designating a monument that — including state land — encompasses almost 1.5 million acres where multiple-use management is hindered or prohibited is not the best use of the land and is not in accordance with the intention of the Antiquities Act."

According to the DOI announcement, the formal comment period for Bears Ears will be extended until July 10. Zinke said his report recommends reducing the monument's size but that Congress should act to protect some of it. He also said part of the area should be co-managed by tribal nations.

Trump has criticized previous administrations’ use of the Antiquities Act, which allows presidents to protect historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures and other objects

of historical or scientific interest.

“In December of last year alone, the federal government asserted this power over … land in Utah, known as Bears Ears — I’ve heard a lot about Bears Ears, and I hear it’s beautiful — over the profound objections of the citizens of Utah,” Trump said at a signing ceremony for the executive order. “The Antiquities Act does not give the federal government unlimited power to lock up millions of acres of land and water, and it’s time we ended this abusive practice.”

The DOI opened a public comment period for certain national monument designations, including Bears Ears, with Zinke saying at the time that the process “finally gives a voice to local communities and states when it comes to Antiquities Act monument designations."

But it is unclear whether the president has the legal authority to rescind protections. In May, 86 Democratic U.S. representatives told Zinke that Congress, not the president, **has the authority** to revoke or shrink national monuments. The letter said Congress has “not delegated the authority to significantly diminish or abolish an existing national monument.”

A central figure in the move to shrink the monument is Republican Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah, who called Zinke's report an unquestionable victory for Utah. Hatch has long been an advocate for scaling down protections for Bears Ears and was called out by name when President Trump signed the executive order that initiated the Antiquities Act review. He has repeatedly advocated for fewer protections.

“In passing the Antiquities Act more than 100 years ago, Congress did not intend to cede undue authority to the executive branch. And they certainly did not intend for future presidents to proclaim the massive land grabs of recent past,” Hatch said on the Senate floor earlier this year.

Environmentalists are not pleased. The National Resources Defense Council called the move an “unabashed assault” on the nation’s national monuments that will open them up to oil and gas development.

“This strikes at a core American value — our commitment to set aside special places that preserve our heritage, enrich our lives and honor the people who forged our history,” Rhea Suh, the NRDC’s president, said in a Monday statement. “It’s an affront to the tribes who

forged an historic proposal to co-manage these sacred areas. And it sends a chilling signal about the Trump administration's intent to hand over irreplaceable American landscapes to mining and fossil fuel interests."

The Native American Rights Fund, which provides legal assistance to tribes, said the tribes that worked **with the Obama administration** to protect Bears Ears called Zinke's report wrong. The rights fund agreed that the president did not have the authority to reduce the monument's area, which it said was important to protect important structures, sites and objects.

"Bears Ears has been targeted because it holds resource potential that the oil and gas industry wants to access. Opening the monument to development will threaten cultural and natural resources that can never be replaced," Natalie Landreth, attorney for the rights fund, said in a statement. "Our national parks, public lands and waters protect a shared history and culture that are worth more than the minerals beneath them."

--Additional reporting by Christine Powell. Editing by Sara Ziegler.