

**From:** Bowman, Randal  
**To:** [Downey Magallanes](#); [Kaster, Amanda](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: DCN: EST-00001822 - concerns about DOI review of national monument designations  
**Date:** Thursday, May 25, 2017 4:55:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [1822i.pdf](#)  
[EST00001822.docx](#)

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Here is my initial draft to the Palone/9 others letter. Because of the nature of the letter, the time it has bounced around here, and all of the signatories being the Ranking Member of a committee or subcommittee, I drafted a detailed reply rather than a general one. Since I'm not sure if that is how the Secretary does business with his former colleagues, I'm sending it to you two for initial review rather than for general surnaming. The pdf 1822i is the incoming, the doc file my draft. The numbers are Exec Sec's system

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <[Kashieka\\_Minor@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Kashieka_Minor@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Wed, May 24, 2017 at 7:54 AM  
Subject: DCN: EST-00001822 - concerns about DOI review of national monument designations  
To: [Randal\\_Bowman@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Randal_Bowman@ios.doi.gov)

For response.

# Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

April 26, 2017

003560

The Honorable Ryan Zinke  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Zinke:

We write with concerns regarding your agency's review of national monument designations, as instructed by executive order today.

The Antiquities Act of 1906 authorizes the President to "declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest ... to be national monuments."<sup>1</sup> Both Democratic and Republican Presidents have designated a total of 157 national monuments<sup>2</sup> of unique significance to the culture, environment, and history of our nation. According to an April 24, 2017 report by the *Washington Post*, three Presidents over the past 21 years have made decisions to set aside these important national treasures.<sup>3</sup>

We are gravely concerned that the misguided actions contemplated by the Trump Administration would cause irrevocable harm to these national treasures and erase the progress, protections, and wisdom that served as the underpinnings for these decisions. We therefore request a briefing, as well as responses to the following:

1. The Department of the Interior (DOI) "protects and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage; provides scientific and other information about those resources; and honors its trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and affiliated island communities."<sup>4</sup> How does this exercise help the agency fulfill this obligation?

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<sup>1</sup> 54 U.S.C. § 320301.

<sup>2</sup> Congressional Research Service, *National Monuments and the Antiquities Act* (Jan. 2017).

<sup>3</sup> *Trump to Issue New Order Calling Into Question Two Decades of National Monument Designations*, The Washington Post (Apr. 24, 2017).

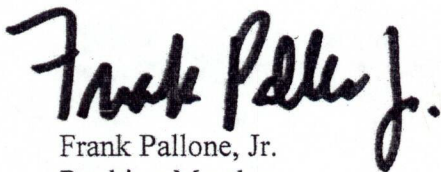
<sup>4</sup> Department of the Interior, *Mission Statement* ([www.doi.gov/whoweare/Mission-Statement](http://www.doi.gov/whoweare/Mission-Statement)).

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2. How does this exercise ensure that areas currently designated as monuments will be preserved and protected?
3. The March 16, 2017 budget blueprint calls for a \$1.5 billion, or 12 percent reduction, to DOI's fiscal year 2018 budget.<sup>5</sup> How would these proposed cuts impact the ability of DOI to manage these monuments?
4. National monuments are designated with extensive public review and participation. Was the public involved in determining that this review was necessary? If this review goes forward, how will public input be used to inform any recommendations?
5. Please immediately provide all reports of your assessments as they become available.

We appreciate your prompt attention to this issue of unique national significance, and look forward to your response.

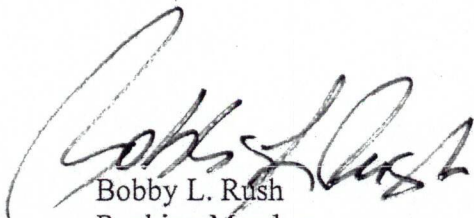
Sincerely,



Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Energy and Commerce



Raúl M. Grijalva  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Natural Resources



Bobby L. Rush  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Energy



Alan S. Lowenthal  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Energy  
and Mineral Resources

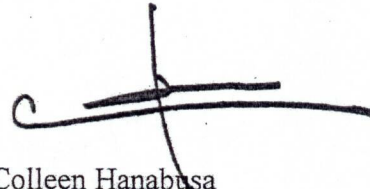
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<sup>5</sup> Office of Management and Budget, *America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again* (Mar. 2017).

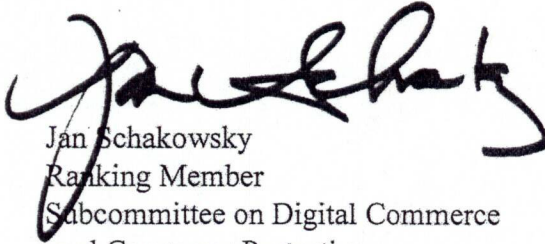




Diana DeGette  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Oversight  
and Investigations



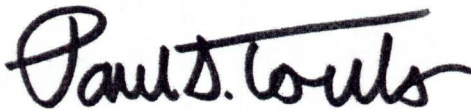
Colleen Hanabusa  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Federal Lands



Jan Schakowsky  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Digital Commerce  
and Consumer Protection



Norma J. Torres  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Indian, Insular  
and Alaska Native Affairs



Paul D. Tonko  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Environment



Jared Huffman  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Water, Power  
and Oceans

Cc: The Honorable Greg Walden  
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rob Bishop  
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources  
1324 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515



EST – 00001822 Honorable Frank Palone AND 9 others

Honorable Frank Palone

Ranking Member

Committee on Energy and Commerce

House of Representatives etc

Dear Ranking Member Palone:

(b) (5) DPP [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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