

**To:** Doyle, James[james\_doyle@nps.gov]  
**Cc:** Ireland, Jim[jim\_ireland@nps.gov]; Lacayo, Vanessa[vanessa\_lacayo@nps.gov]; Melissa Kuckro[melissa\_kuckro@nps.gov]; Powell, Christine[chris\_powell@nps.gov]  
**From:** Colvin, Chris  
**Sent:** 2017-12-15T18:31:13-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: UT Maps  
**Received:** 2017-12-15T18:31:45-05:00

For those who didn't have time to watch the whole hearing, here is a decent summary:

## **Bill to let locals make plans for Utah sites draws fire**

**Jennifer Yachnin, E&E News reporter**  
*Published: Thursday, December 14, 2017*

The House Natural Resources Committee today debated a bill on the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. Jeff Hollett/Flickr

House Natural Resources Chairman Rob Bishop (R) today rejected suggestions that legislation to create a new national park and trio of monuments in his home state of Utah amounts to a de facto transfer of federal lands to local officials, who would develop management plans for the sites.

He emphasized that federal agencies would be responsible for day-to-day management of the areas.

Bishop's remarks came during a subcommittee hearing on Rep. Chris Stewart's (R-Utah) proposal, which would codify reductions President Trump made to Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument earlier this month and establish a sixth national park in the state (*E&E News PM*, Dec. 4).

Democrats and environmental advocates have criticized the legislation, the "Grand Staircase Escalante Enhancement Act" (**H.R. 4558**), for establishing a seven-member "management council" dominated by state and local officials.

"That just flies in the face of the way any federal public lands have been managed to date in this country," National Wildlife Federation Associate Vice President for Public Lands Tracy Stone-Manning told E&E News ahead of the hearing. "The feds would be beholden to whatever management plans would be created by this council. Trump stood in the Statehouse in Salt Lake and said, 'You're going to get your land back,' and he wasn't kidding."

She added, "They may as well turn the deed over to the state of Utah. This would become federal land in name only."

Under Stewart's proposal, the council would be charged with developing and implementing management plans for the new Escalante Canyons National Park and Preserve, as well as the Grand Staircase National Monument, Kaiparowits National Monument and Escalante Canyons National Monument.

That council would be dominated by five local and state officials — including two Garfield County and two Kane County commissioners and one state legislator representing those counties — and would also include one Interior Department representative and one nonfederal "at-large representative."

The legislation also would require federal land managers to "adhere to the management plans created by the Management Council."

Bishop criticized suggestions that local officials would effectively be in charge of the new park and monuments, arguing that day-to-day operations and funding still reside with the federal government.

"You're using the same word, but you're using it with different definitions," Bishop said, referring to arguments over the term "management."

"When you're talking about [the] management plan, you're talking about coming up with the rules of engagement of how the monument will be run; you won't actually be running it," Bishop said to Garfield County Commissioner Leland Pollock, who testified before the Subcommittee on Federal Lands. "The federal government will still be running it, and the federal government will still be paying for it."

Garfield County, Utah, Commission Chairman Leland Pollock testified today at a hearing on Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument legislation. House Committee on Natural Resources

A Natural Resources spokeswoman noted that the legislation would still require the Bureau of Land Management and the National Park Service to implement the management plan.

In a verbal spat with Arizona Rep. Ruben Gallego (D), Pollock disputed the idea that the management council would control the federal lands, because BLM would continue to "bear the burdens of the cost."

"We will not be managing those lands. ... The government's BLM and the Park Service would be managing them. The county wouldn't be managing the lands," Pollock said. "You want to transfer me that land? Do it right now. Transfer me that land and I'll manage it, I'll tax it."

Gallego criticized the proposed management council, asking Pollock about the funding the county had designated for management activities as well as whether he possessed the "skills ... to manage a national park."

National Parks Conservation Association Director of Legislation and Policy Ani Kame'enui told E&E News that Stewart's proposal would establish a new kind of management structure, particularly in the case of NPS lands.

"We're certainly concerned about the precedent it sets and the message it sends," Kame'enui said. She also noted that while the management council would set policy for both BLM and NPS lands — which have distinct missions — the legislation would allow for only one federal representative, possibly excluding one of the agencies.

"It's very discouraging to see Mr. Stewart deviating from the expertise we find reassuring in our National Park Service," she added.

## **Hole in the Rock**

Hawaii Rep. Colleen Hanabusa, the subcommittee's top Democrat, also took aim at a provision in Stewart's bill to transfer ownership to Utah of the Hole-in-the-Rock Road, a 55.5-mile historic road constructed by Mormon settlers migrating to the state in the 19th century.

Hanabusa said the measure would further advance "the deeply unpopular federal lands transfer movement," in which opponents of public lands would like to see the federal estate dispersed to state ownership.

Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance Executive Director Scott Groene also criticized the Hole-in-the-Rock Road proposal, asserting that the provision would eliminate "public involvement on

decisions affecting this corridor through the heart of the monument."

"In addition to tearing apart the Grand Staircase, this legislation is also a giant step as precedent towards surrendering America's public lands to local parochial interests determined to drill and mine," Groene told E&E News.

On Tue, Dec 12, 2017 at 3:45 PM, Doyle, James <[james\\_doyle@nps.gov](mailto:james_doyle@nps.gov)> wrote:

Thanks Chris. This is bound to get very interesting in a big hurry.

James Doyle  
National Park Service  
Chief - IMR Communications and Legislation  
303-969-2321

The National Park Service tells America's story.

On Tue, Dec 12, 2017 at 10:23 AM, Colvin, Chris <[christopher\\_colvin@nps.gov](mailto:christopher_colvin@nps.gov)> wrote:

Witness list and hearing memo  
([https://naturalresources.house.gov/uploadedfiles/hearing\\_memo --  
fl leg hrg on hr 4558 12.14.17.pdf](https://naturalresources.house.gov/uploadedfiles/hearing_memo_-_fl_leg_hrg_on_hr_4558_12.14.17.pdf)) have been posted  
to <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=403557>  
There are not many clarifying details in the hearing memo--as to how NPS might be  
involved in the national park and preserve.

The only map referenced looks to be the same or similar  
to [https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/gsenm\\_12022017.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/gsenm_12022017.pdf)

Ms. Susan Hand  
General Manager and Outdoor Goods Buyer  
Willow Canyon Outdoor  
Kanab, UT

The Honorable Mike Leavitt  
Former Governor  
State of Utah  
Salt Lake City, UT

The Honorable Leland Pollock  
Commission Chairperson  
Board of Commissioners  
Garfield County, Utah  
Panguitch, UT

Ms. Vicki Varela  
Managing Director

Utah Office of Tourism, Film and Global Branding  
Salt Lake City, UT

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 1:48 PM, Ireland, Jim <[jim\\_ireland@nps.gov](mailto:jim_ireland@nps.gov)> wrote:

Thanks, Chris. I just left you a VM. Give me a call if I can help with this one in any way.  
Jim

Jim Ireland, Superintendent, Timpanogos Cave National Monument / NPS Utah State Coordinator  
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Web: [www.nps.gov/tica](http://www.nps.gov/tica) Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/timpanogoscavenps> Twitter: @TimpCaveNPS

On Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 7:58 AM, Colvin, Chris <[christopher\\_colvin@nps.gov](mailto:christopher_colvin@nps.gov)> wrote:

+ Melissa Kuckro and Chris Powell.

Yep, committee staff notified us of the hearing on 12/7.  
Here's the hearing page, where a hearing memo, witness list, webcast, etc. will be  
posted: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=403557>  
And the E&E news article about the hearing from this am:

## Lawmakers to debate monuments bill, new Utah national park

**Kellie Lunney, E&E News reporter**  
*Published: Monday, December 11, 2017*

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. Azuki350/Wikipedia

A House Natural Resources subcommittee this Thursday will discuss legislation to create a sixth national park in Utah and codify President Trump's reduction of the 1.9-million-acre Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

The "**Grand Staircase Escalante Enhancement Act**," introduced by Rep. Chris Stewart (R-Utah) last week, would establish the Escalante Canyons National Park and Reserve, comprising roughly 100,000 acres within the newly created Escalante Canyons Unit of the monument.

President Trump last week issued two proclamations shrinking the size of Grand Staircase-Escalante and the Bears Ears National Monument, both in Utah, sparking controversy and several lawsuits from groups that view the move as illegal under the 1906 Antiquities Act and as part of an overall assault on public lands ([Greenwire](#), Dec. 5).

The executive proclamation reduces Grand Staircase-Escalante, designated in 1996 by President Clinton, by about 50 percent, subtracting 862,000 acres.

Stewart's bill would codify those new boundaries consisting of three new units: the Escalante Canyons National Monument, where the new park would be located; Grand Staircase National Monument; and Kaiparowits National Monument.

Stewart's proposal seeks to enhance access to hunting, fishing, trapping and grazing within the park and national monument land. The legislation would prohibit mineral extraction within the new park and preserve.

The Grand Staircase-Escalante area is rich in energy and mineral resources. Oil, gas and coal leasing is expected to increase significantly on the lands left out of the monument's redrawn boundaries.

"I love these lands. I want to preserve them," Stewart said during a press conference last week, while also emphasizing he wanted to create more economic opportunities for his constituents.

"I love tourism," he said, "but it's difficult to raise a family in the tourism industry when you're working from May to October. There needs to be a foundation for other economic foundations for those families."

The Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance called Stewart's bill "a brazen handout" to those who want to get rid of federal control of public lands.

"Though it purports to protect these landscapes, by handing control almost exclusively to development interests in Kane [County] and Garfield County, it is clear the remnants of Grand Staircase-Escalante would become playgrounds for destructive recreation, poor lands management and dirty energy," said Scott Groene, executive director of the SUWA.

"The bill, with its throw away national park designation, is a bait and switch," he said. "No one should bite."

Stewart's legislation seeks to give local leaders a more prominent voice in management of federal lands in Utah by creating a council of local officials to oversee a management plan for the new park and monument units within the Grand Staircase-Escalante footprint.

Another provision in H.R. 4558 would transfer authority from the federal government to Utah to manage Hole-in-the-Rock Road, a 55.5-mile historic road constructed by Mormon settlers migrating to the state in the 19th century.

House Natural Resources Chairman Rob Bishop and other Utah Republicans, Mia Love and John Curtis, are co-sponsors of the bill.

**Schedule:** The hearing is Thursday, Dec. 14, at 9:30 a.m. in 1334 Longworth.

**Witnesses:** TBA.

On Sun, Dec 10, 2017 at 8:15 PM, Doyle, James <[james\\_doyle@nps.gov](mailto:james_doyle@nps.gov)> wrote:

Thanks Jim. They will have to do a lot of work to shape this up for then IMHO.

James Doyle  
National Park Service  
Chief - IMR Communications and Legislation  
303-969-2321

The National Park Service tells America's story.

On Sat, Dec 9, 2017 at 1:40 PM, Jim Ireland <[jim\\_ireland@nps.gov](mailto:jim_ireland@nps.gov)> wrote:

Looks like this bill is scheduled for its first hearing on Thursday, Dec 14.  
Jim

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 7, 2017, at 4:07 PM, Colvin, Chris <[christopher\\_colvin@nps.gov](mailto:christopher_colvin@nps.gov)> wrote:

Thanks Vanessa and Jim.  
Good to have confirmed that there are no more maps specific to HR 4558,  
beyond the NM maps DOI posted.

I'll let you know if folks back here in DC have any additional questions.

Chris

On Thu, Dec 7, 2017 at 6:04 PM, Jim Ireland <[jim\\_ireland@nps.gov](mailto:jim_ireland@nps.gov)> wrote:

Thanks. I left a VM for James this morning. Had a good talk with Gary Webster, Stewart's District Director, and a brief talk with BLM state director just now.  
No map yet, because they're waiting for "locals" (not sure who) to decide on proposed park area and draw map.

Give me a call if you or OCLA folks want to discuss further.

Jim

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 7, 2017, at 3:57 PM, Lacayo, Vanessa <[vanessa\\_lacayo@nps.gov](mailto:vanessa_lacayo@nps.gov)> wrote:

Here is the map from the announcement Monday, which is also referenced (not map, but unit) in Stewart's bill:

[https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/gsenm\\_12022017.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/gsenm_12022017.pdf)

Also, Bear's Ear's map:

[https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/benm\\_12012017.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/benm_12012017.pdf)

All pulled from here:

<https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/president-trump-and-secretary-zinke-announce-modification-utah-monumentsresulting-5>

Meant to send this earlier today.....sorry!

Thanks!

Take Care,  
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