

**From:** Williams, Timothy  
**To:** [Downey Magallanes](#); [Bowman, Randal](#); [Howarth, Robert](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Central Valley Partnership Comment Letter related to National Parks, National Monuments and Public Lands  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 22, 2017 6:10:20 AM  
**Attachments:** [CVP National Monuments Letter](#) [Dept of the Interior.pdf](#)

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

**From:** Daniel O'Connell <[agrariandemocracy@gmail.com](mailto:agrariandemocracy@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Mon, Aug 21, 2017 at 3:01 PM  
**Subject:** Central Valley Partnership Comment Letter related to National Parks, National Monuments and Public Lands  
**To:** [timothy\\_williams@ios.doi.gov](mailto:timothy_williams@ios.doi.gov)

Timothy Williams,

As Deputy Director of the Office of External Affairs, I am submitting the attached comment letter to the Department of the Interior in order to maintain and protect the status of our national parks, national monuments and public lands.

Best regards,

Daniel O'Connell, Ph.D.  
Executive Director, Central Valley Partnership  
Field Director, Community Governance Partnership  
Email: [agrariandemocracy@gmail.com](mailto:agrariandemocracy@gmail.com)  
Cell: 559-967-1940

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**Tim Williams**  
Deputy Director External Affairs  
Office of the Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Desk: (202) 208-6015  
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NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.



## CENTRAL VALLEY PARTNERSHIP

P.O. Box 5014 • Fresno, CA 93755

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

Secretary Zinke,

The Central Valley Partnership represents a coalition of environmental organizations, labor unions and community groups with a mission to improve civic engagement and make government more responsive to community needs in the San Joaquin Valley of California. We submit this letter on the administration's current review of public lands urging you to retain the integrity and status of already established national parks, national monuments and public lands.

National parks and monuments are the foundation of our region's identity, culture and economy. The Central Valley and Sierra Nevada Mountains of California include Yosemite, Kings Canyon and Sequoia National Parks, in addition to two utterly unique landscapes that are in jeopardy under the administration's review – the Sequoia National Monument and Carrizo Plain National Monument. These lands have profoundly positive economic impacts, both direct and indirect, on the economy of our region.

Research shows that numerous categories of employment and personal income rise in conjunction with national monument designations. Counties in the West with monuments had healthier economies than those lacking them, adding more than \$35 billion annually to the economy from outdoor recreation and employment in sectors as diverse as transportation to construction. We do not believe there is any way that development of these landscapes for any other use would remotely replace the cultural, environmental and economic benefits that they currently provide, and promise to do so for generations to come.

We urge the administration to carefully consider this array of negative impacts in addition to honoring the years of due diligence and public process that went into their original designated status as public lands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D. O'Connell".

Daniel O'Connell, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Central Valley Partnership