

**To:** Moody, Aaron[aaron.moody@sol.doi.gov]  
**Cc:** Magallanes, Downey[downey\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov]; Heather Swift[heather\_swift@ios.doi.gov]; Newell, Russell[russell\_newell@ios.doi.gov]; Alex Hinson[alex\_hinson@ios.doi.gov]; Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]  
**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**Sent:** 2017-12-04T14:11:14-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: President Trump and Secretary Zinke Announce Modification to Utah Monuments, Resulting in 5 Unique National Monument Units Totaling More Than 1.2 Million Acres: TEST  
**Received:** 2017-12-04T14:11:23-05:00

Thanks, Aaron. Alex, please load in these edits and send around again.  
About to send an updated Secretary quote.

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

On Mon, Dec 4, 2017 at 2:06 PM, Moody, Aaron <aaron.moody@sol.doi.gov> wrote:

Laura-

I just realized that this went to Dan's old email. Looping his new one here. Attached are my comments/edits; I haven't been able to touch base with Dan on them, but given the short timeline I wanted to make sure you got these. I'll let him weigh in as well if he has further thoughts.

-Aaron

Aaron G. Moody  
Assistant Solicitor, Branch of Public Lands  
Division of Land Resources  
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202-208-3495

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On Mon, Dec 4, 2017 at 1:22 PM, Rigas, Laura <laura\_rigas@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Aaron/Dan -- can you please approve this version, below asap? We need to get it out at 2:30 ET. Thanks.

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

From: **Matulka, Rebecca** <rebecca\_matulka@ios.doi.gov>

Date: Mon, Dec 4, 2017 at 11:48 AM

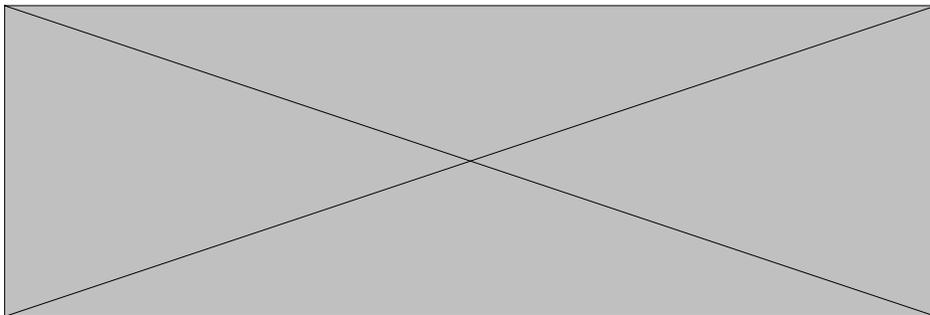
Subject: Re: President Trump and Secretary Zinke Announce Modification to Utah  
Monuments, Resulting in 5 Unique National Monument Units Totaling More Than 1.2  
Million Acres: TEST

To: Laura Rigas <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)>, Russell Newell <[russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:russell_newell@ios.doi.gov)>

Cc: "Hinson, Alex" <[alex\\_hinson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:alex_hinson@ios.doi.gov)>, "Adams, Nathan"  
<[nathan\\_adams@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nathan_adams@ios.doi.gov)>

I put edits in red. Most are grammar issues, but I did change the # of monuments managed by  
NPS to three. NPS manages Katahdin and co-manages with BLM Craters of the Moon and  
Grand Canyon-Parashant.

On Mon, Dec 4, 2017 at 11:26 AM, U.S. Department of the Interior  
<[interior\\_news@updates.interior.gov](mailto:interior_news@updates.interior.gov)> wrote:

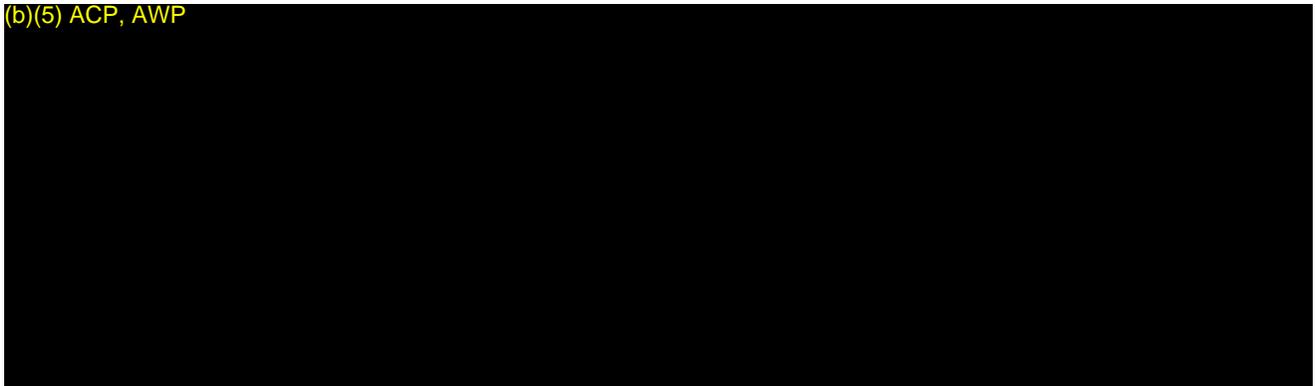


Date: December 4, 2017

Contact: [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**President Trump and Secretary Zinke Announce Modification to  
Utah Monuments,  
Resulting in 5 Unique National Monument Units Totaling More Than  
1.2 Million Acres**

(b)(5) ACP, AWP



Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM). The proclamations modify the boundaries of those monuments and result in five unique monument units within the two monuments, which protect important objects of historical and scientific interest.

#### POTUS STATEMENT

#### ZINKE STATEMENT

"By acting on Secretary Zinke's thoughtful recommendations, President Trump has restored balance to our public lands discussion," **said Governor Gary Herbert of Utah.** "We are pleased that Utahns once again have a voice in the process of determining appropriate uses of these public lands that we love. By reducing these super-sized monuments to a size consistent with the intent of the law, new doors of dialogue have opened up that will allow thoughtful, long-term protection of these federal lands. Federal, state, local and tribal officials can now convene to craft legislation for appropriate special protections and responsible recreational uses.

#### BENALLY STATEMENT

"I'm thrilled and grateful to President Trump and Secretary Zinke for giving Utahns a voice in the protection of Utah lands," **said Senator Orrin Hatch.** "The President's proclamation represents a balanced solution and a win for everyone on all sides of this issue. It also represents a new beginning in the way national monuments are designated, paving the way for more local input, and taking into account the actual letter and intent of the Antiquities Act, which calls for the 'smallest area compatible with proper care and management of the objects to be protected.'"

**Bears Ears National Monument:** The BENM will now encompass two monument units, Shah Jaa and Indian Creek, which will continue to be jointly managed by the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service. Shah Jaa is approximately 129,980 acres and Indian Creek is approximately 71,896 acres. Collectively, at approximately 201,876 acres in size, Bears Ears remains larger than both Utah's Bryce Canyon National Park and Zion National Park combined. The new proclamation allows for increased public access to the land and restores traditional use allowance for activities like cattle grazing and motorized recreation, and tribal collection of wood and herbs. Objects that remain within monument boundaries include: the "Bears Ears" buttes, Lime Ridge Clovis Site, Moon House Ruin, Doll House Ruin, Indian Creek Rock Art, and Newspaper Rock. The federal lands not included in the new monuments will continue to be managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Forest Service.

In addition, the President's proclamation provides that the Bears Ears Commission will provide guidance and recommendations for the Shash Jaa unit of the monument and will be expanded to include a Native American San Juan County Commissioner elected by the majority-Native American voting district in that County. The President and Secretary also requested that Congress formally allocate Tribal co-management of the monument.

**Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument:** The GSENM will now consist of three distinct monument units, the “Grand Staircase” (209,993 acres), “Kaiparowits” (551,034 acres), and “Escalante Canyons” (242,836 acres), and all three will be managed by the BLM. The three new monument areas collectively total 1,003,863 [6] acres, which is larger than the entire state of Rhode Island. The federal lands not included in the new monuments will continue to be managed by the BLM.

In the 20 years since designation of the GSENM, the objects identified by the proclamation have been more thoroughly examined and mapped, which offered the opportunity to examine the significance of the objects previously identified and determine the proper size of the reservation necessary to protect those objects. The modified monument includes important objects identified in the original designation, including those areas with the highest concentration of fossil resources, important landscape features such as the Grand Staircase, Upper Paria Canyon System, Kaiparowits Plateau, Escalante Natural Bridge, Upper Escalante Canyons, East Kaibab Monocline, Grosvenor Arch, Old Paria Townsite, Dance Hall Rock, and relict plant communities such as No Mans Mesa.

#### **FACT VS FICTION: Antiquities Act and Monument Review**

**Myth:** No president has shrunk a monument.

**False:** Monuments have been reduced at least eighteen times under presidents on both sides of the aisle. Some examples include Pres. John F. Kennedy removing 2882 acres from Bandelier, Presidents Taft, Wilson, and Coolidge reducing Mount Olympus National Monument, and President Eisenhower reducing Great Sand Dunes National Monument in Colorado.

**Myth:** The monument review will sell/transfer public lands to states.

**False:** This is not true. The Secretary adamantly opposes the wholesale sale or transfer of public lands. The Antiquities Act only allows Federal land to be reserved as a national monument. Therefore, if any monument is reduced, the land would remain federally owned and would be managed by the appropriate Federal land management agency, such as the BLM, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or the National Park Service (NPS).

**Myth:** Removing the monument designation from land will leave Native American artifacts and paleontological objects subject to looting or desecration.

**False:** This is not true. Whether these resources are found on land designated as a monument, national forest, BLM-managed public land, or other federal land, it is generally illegal to remove or disrupt these resources without a permit issued by the federal government.

**Myth:** The monument review will close/sell/transfer national parks.

**False:** No national parks are under review. Of the 27 national monuments that are under review, only three are managed by the NPS and none of them were recommended for rescission or boundary adjustments. The Secretary has continually committed he is against the sale/transfer/privatization of public lands, especially national parks. While three of the monuments are managed by the NPS - much like historic sites, national recreation areas, and national seashores - none of them are National Parks.

**Myth:** The review was done without meeting advocates for national monuments.

**False:** The Secretary visited eight monuments in six states and personally hosted more than 60 meetings attended by hundreds of local stakeholders. Attendees included individuals and organizations representing all sides of the debate ranging from environmental organizations like the Wilderness Society and the Nature Conservancy to county commissioners and, residents, and ranchers who prefer multiple use of the land.

**Myth:** Tribal Nations were not consulted.

**False:** This is patently false. Before traveling to Utah, the Secretary met with Tribal representatives in his office. On his first day in Utah in May, the Secretary met with the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition in Salt Lake City, for just under two hours. Throughout the four-day survey of the Utah monuments, the Secretary also met with local Tribal representatives who represent different sides of the debate. The Secretary also met with Tribal representatives for their input on several other monuments from Maine to New Mexico to Oregon and everywhere in between. Additionally, the Department hosted several Tribal listening sessions at the Department and across the country, including a four hour session with the Acting Deputy Secretary on May 30th.

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