

To: Caroline Boulton[caroline_boulton@ios.doi.gov]
From: Jolene Catron
Sent: 2017-07-31T13:21:45-04:00
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Subject: follow up from Friday's meeting
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[discussionpoints_Zinke_g2g_07282017_final.pdf](#)
[Publiclands_Zinke_g2g_07282017_final.pdf](#)
[APCG 9-16.pdf](#)
[APCG Letter to Secretary Zinke Re National Monuments Review.pdf](#)
[APCG Resolution 2014.pdf](#)

Good morning Caroline,

I hope this note finds you well and rested. If you are back in DC, I hope your travels went well. It was a whirlwind week, that's for sure!

As a follow up to Friday's meeting with Secretary Zinke, I wanted to email you the two position papers given to Secretary Zinke. In the folder given to him by Governor J. Michael Chavarria, Santa Clara Pueblo, were three other documents, which are the past APCG resolutions and a letter in support of Bears Ears, Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks, Rio Grande del Norte, and Canyons of the Ancients. I have also included these documents in this email.

There has yet been no formal response from the All Pueblo Council of Governors to Friday's meeting with Secretary Zinke. However, it is my assumption that Friday's meeting will hopefully lead to further communication and meetings with the Secretary. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Have a wonderful week.

Jolene Catron

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ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

Officers:
E. Paul Torres, Chairman
Governor Val Panteah, Sr., Vice Chair
Governor J. Michael Chavarria, Secretary

July 10, 2017

Acoma

Cochiti

Isleta

Jemez

Laguna

Nambe

Ohkay Owingeh

Picuris

Pojoaque

Sandia

San Felipe

San Ildefonso

Santa Ana

Santa Clara

Santo Domingo

Taos

Tesuque

Ysleta Del Sur

Zia

Zuni

Honorable Secretary Ryan Zinke
Department of the Interior
1849 C St. NW
Washington, DC 20240
Dear Secretary Zinke:

I am writing on behalf of the All Pueblo Council of Governors in united, absolute support for keeping the Organ Mountain Desert Peaks (OMDP), Río Grande del Norte (RGDN), Bears Ears and Canyons of the Ancients National Monuments. I also write to express our serious concerns about the national monument review process that the Department of Interior has undertaken to implement the President's Executive Order 13792 to selectively review a significant number of national monuments for the purpose of developing findings and recommendations for Presidential actions, legislative proposals, or other actions affecting those monuments. We strongly support all of the recently established national monuments subject to this review. We also believe there are a number of significant issues that call into question the legitimacy of your review.

The All Pueblo Council of Governors (APCG) is comprised of the nineteen sovereign Pueblos of New Mexico including the Pueblos of Acoma, Cochiti, Isleta, Jemez, Laguna, Nambe, Ohkay Owingeh, Picuris, Pojoaque, San Felipe, San Ildefonso, Sandia, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Santo Domingo, Taos, Tesuque, Zia and Zuni; and 1 sovereign Pueblo, Ysleta Del Sur, located in the state of Texas.

Our Organ Mountain Desert Peaks (OMDP), Río Grande del Norte (RGDN), Bears Ears and Canyons of the Ancients National Monuments represent landmarks in the deeply rooted history of our shared Puebloan ancestral ties to our culture and way of life, and in the American public lands system. Together, we the 19 Sovereign Pueblos of New Mexico and one Sovereign Pueblo of Texas supported OMDP, RGDN, Bears Ears and Canyons of the Ancients in order to protect our tribal and cultural resources. We participated in boundary discussions, helped build overwhelming support locally and nationally, and carried our support back to Washington, DC.

These lands are our homeland. They always have been and will always be. Our culture and stories are everywhere captured in the canyons, rivers, mountains and in the desert peaks. Our culture is connected to these areas in which our sacred sites live. Families still gather for dances, ceremonies and travel to and use these lands for our cultural purposes. We are the ancestors of our future generations, and maintain remnants of our adobe and stone dwellings, sacred petroglyph sites and trails, testaments to our elders, to teach our youth our past. Our ancestors are buried there, and we can hear their songs and prayers on every mesa and in every canyon. For us the very landscape is part of all that is sacred.

Any reduction or rescission of OMDP, RGDN, Bears Ears or Canyons of the Ancients through executive action would be illegal and undermine our tribal sovereignty. Our National Monuments enjoy overwhelming popularity nationally and extensive and passionate support from all 20 of our sovereign nations in the State of New Mexico and Texas. This review and potential for any change, is a slap in the face to the members of our Tribes and an affront to Indian people all across the country. We did not bring forth grievances. We brought a solution: the permanent protection of a great natural and cultural landscapes. When the President of the United States created each Monument, he accepted our solution and promised that the lands within the Monument would be protected for us and the generations that come after us. Our OMDP, RGDN, Bears Ears and Canyons of the Ancients are too important, and our cultures and values too dignified and worthy, to backtrack on the promises made in the Presidential Proclamations.

Reviewing Past National Monument Is Legally Questionable

The President's Executive Order directing a review of 27 existing monuments is a questionable action, with no defensible legal outcome at the hands of the President alone. As a preliminary matter, this review should not have been ordered without first obtaining legal confirmation that the President even has the authority to modify or revoke a prior President's designation. A U.S. Attorney General's opinion concludes that the President does not possess this authority. *See* 39 Op. Att'y Gen. 185, 185 (1938). There is no established legal precedent to the contrary. The Antiquities Act can be read as providing only a "one-way" delegation of authority from Congress; the President has the power to designate national monuments, but lacks the corresponding power to modify or unwind past monument designations. In this context, undertaking a review that calls into question past presidential actions, and demands revision or recession of those actions is completely inappropriate to proceed with a review that second guesses the actions of prior administrations is to go down a dead end path with no plausible or defensible outcome.

Notably absent from the Administration's decision documents for this review is any articulation as to why this review was needed and the factual and legal basis to support this review beyond mere accusations and conclusory statements. The parameters of the review itself are questionable. There is no clear rational reason as to why the Administration felt compelled to review over twenty national monuments covering over a two-decade time period. The majority of the designations have drawn no opposition or controversy, until now. There is also no clear articulation as to why the size of 100,000 acres is the appropriate trigger for review. There is no size component in the Antiquities Act. Finally, the Antiquities Act that provides for reconsideration of past Presidential designations based on an alleged "lack of public outreach" or "proper coordination" with local governments and stakeholders, or the lack of sufficient funding or a desire to reconsider impacts on other uses both within and beyond the monument. The courts have also been extremely deferential to past Presidential monument designations, rejecting complaints that the designation went beyond the smallest area compatible or should have only included objects and not landscapes. *See, e.g., Mtn. States Legal Fdn. v. Bush*, 306 F.3d 1132 (D.C. Cir. 2002) and *Tulare County v. Bush*, 306 F.3d 1138 (D.C. Cir. 2002).

What is most disturbing is that it appears the Administration has pre-determined the outcome of their review. When President Trump made public remarks in April upon signing the Executive Order at the Interior Department, he stated that he was signing the Order to “end another egregious abuse of federal power,” and “... this massive federal land grab. It’s gotten worse, and worse, and worse and now we’re going to free it up.” These monument designations were not land grabs. All of the lands in questions were already federal lands. No private lands were taken to create these national monuments. It is deeply troubling that the President would make these conclusions at the outset of the review, with no specific evidence in the record to support his accusations. Equally disturbing was the President’s reference to numerous calls from Senator Hatch, Governor LePage and others to undertake this action and that he was taking this action in response to those calls, despite the fact that an overwhelming majority of people support these national monuments. Such a remark smacks of undue political influence as opposed to a thoughtful, well-reasoned executive branch decision-making. As a result, we do not have any confidence that the outcome will be based on a well-reasoned and legally-supportable analysis.

Transparency and Giving People a Voice

In light of the serious concerns identified above, it is all the more critical that what remains of this review consists of an open and trustworthy process that allows for careful and informed input from affected stakeholders. At the April 25, 2017 press briefing concerning President Trump’s Executive Order, you emphasized that the review process would be transparent, and that you will “give Americans a voice and make sure their voices are heard.” We agree that these principles are extraordinarily important, however, we are not convinced that you are using widely accepted procedural mechanisms that federal agencies and departments have routinely used for many years to ensure that transparency and genuine public involvement are thoroughly imbedded in the Department’s review process. Of deep concern to the sovereign Pueblos is your abject failure to engage with us as sovereigns through government-to-government consultation, even those such consultations have been requested, and when requests were ignored, demanded.

In any public process in which opposing viewpoints and competing factual assertions are put forward, it is critical that all participants have timely access to the submissions made by others. As you put it, the “facts on the ground” are of paramount importance in this review. The Department should expose factual assertions to the light of day to ensure that errors, biases, and unfounded assertions of fact do not color your conclusions and recommendations, and to ensure that you possess the requisite information to support your findings and any recommendations. Federal agencies and Departments usually meet this objective by establishing a public docket where all public comments are promptly made available to the public. We urge you to take this action as soon as possible after the comment period has closed. Public dockets give all stakeholders access to the “facts on the ground” proffered to you. With the public docket, you should set forth a period for the filing of responses and replies. This is the crucible that produces the true facts in a fundamentally fair way: giving all a meaningful opportunity to respond, with the emphasis on “meaningful”. We urge you to avoid any appearance that your findings and recommendations are founded upon uninformed and unsupported generalizations provided to you in private meetings and to heed the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act and the Freedom of

Information Act in carrying out the Department's review. In addition to public notice, the Executive Order requires you to consult with state, tribal and local interests, but as noted above, you have NOT consulted with the most affected Indian tribes, but have consulted with select congressional delegations. Real government-to-government consultation is not a general listening session. It is a process of give and take in discussing possible alternatives, and attempting to reach consensus where possible. This failure to consult magnifies the lack of transparency in your process.

We believe these procedures represent the minimum requirements of a process that guarantees transparency and truly ensures that Americans' voices will be heard.

Compliance with Legal Obligations Imposed by Proclamation 9558

The imposition of the President's new review cannot be used to unsettle existing law, including the legal import of the existing national monuments. It appears that your review of our OMDP, RGDN Bears Ears and Canyons of the Ancients National Monuments will include consideration of the boundaries established by Proclamation 8946 and Proclamation 9131 to ensure that, as required by the Antiquities Act, those boundaries enclose the "smallest area compatible with proper care and management of the objects to be protected." From your April 25, 2017 press briefing, we also gathered that you intend to consider providing recommendations that would allow various uses of lands within the boundary of some national monuments, perhaps in line with the Executive Order's reference to considering the effects of the designation of "available uses" within the monument in light of FLPMA's multiple use policy. There are at least two significant problems with this approach.

First, you will not be in a position to judge whether changes to the established Monument boundaries are necessary to enclose only the smallest area compatible with proper management of the designated objects unless a management regime has been established for each Monument. Nothing has changed to call into question the proclamations which uniformly state that the official boundaries of the Monument, as delineated, enclose the smallest area compatible with proper care and management. These proclamations are existing law and bar any new entries or other disposition of lands therein and proclaims that the monuments are the dominant purpose for these public lands. Only after developing the management plan for a monument and finding a bona fide, unauthorized inclusion of an area can the Department justify any finding that conflicts with the present boundary based upon an assertion that a smaller monument area could be compatible with proper management.

When Congress enacted the Antiquities Act, it was well aware that the Department and others must actively manage national monuments through the implementation of processes, restrictions and licensing of activities, and that the appropriate level of resources are committed to actually carry out the management regime. Similarly, Proclamation 8946 and Proclamation 9131 do not use the term "management" in some vague or unspecified manner. The Proclamations direct you to prepare an actual management plan and to develop any necessary regulations to implement it. In doing so, you are directed to "provide for maximum public involvement." These existing legal requirements are not affected by

President Trump's Executive Order; in fact, the Order provides that it "shall be implemented consistent with applicable law."

For the same reasons, the Department will be in no position to recommend the nature or extent of any "multiple uses" that are allowed for valid existing rights within a Monument boundary. If you act without a management plan being in place, it will appear as though the Department has pre-judged and preempted the plan itself, an action that could not within 120 days be undertaken with "maximum public involvement," and therefore would not be "consistent with applicable law." In addition, as discussed below, Proclamation 8946 and Proclamation 9131 include special requirements for government-to-government consultation with tribal nations in the development of the management plan; any recommendations for allowing uses of Monument lands without meeting those requirements would violate "applicable law" and the directive of President Trump's Executive Order.

In order for you to formulate a legitimate judgment as to the boundaries necessary for the proper care and management of a Monument or the allowance of uses on Monument lands, you must understand the nature and importance of the threats posed to hundreds of thousands of objects across a landscape by a wide variety of human activities, including mineral development, energy exploration and development, grazing and uncontrolled access. A suitable understanding of a Monument and basis for its designation cannot be developed and analyzed within the short time frame demanded in the Executive Order. Without such information, you cannot reach a principled judgment as to whether the current boundaries of a Monument are the smallest necessary for its proper care and management, or whether land uses may be permitted within a Monument without jeopardizing the cultural, spiritual, aesthetic, historic and scientific values that made the designation appropriate in the first instance.

In Conclusion— This "review" of national monuments has not been transparent, has completely failed to adequately engage Pueblos and Tribal Nations, and completely ignored the relationship between our sovereign Nations and the U.S. Government at the government to government level. **LEAVE our Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks, Río Grande del Norte, Bears Ears and Canyons of the Ancients National Monuments as they are.**

Sincerely,



Chairman E. Paul Torres
All Pueblo Council of Governors

Appendix: 2013 report on some of the cultural features that are part of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument for additional reference.



ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

Officers:
E. Paul Torres, Chairman
Governor Val Panteah, Sr., Vice Chair
Governor J. Michael Chavarria, Secretary

Consultation Session with Secretary Ryan Zinke All Pueblo Council of Governors Discussion Points Las Cruces, July 28, 2017

Acoma

Cochiti

Isleta

Jemez

Laguna

Nambe

Ohkay Owingeh

Picuris

Pojoaque

Sandia

San Felipe

San Ildefonso

Santa Ana

Santa Clara

Santo Domingo

Taos

Tesuque

Ysleta Del Sur

Zia

Zuni

On behalf of the 19 Pueblos of New Mexico and Ysleta del Sur in Texas, we would like to thank you for the opportunity to discuss matters of critical importance to our Pueblo communities under the Department of the Interior's jurisdiction. We would also like to express our support for the designation of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks and Bears Ears National Monuments. These cultural landscapes are of vital importance to the preservation of our cultural heritage and contemporary expression as Pueblo People. We thank you for taking the time to experience the wilderness and wonder of these landscapes in person, and we hope that you will share in our deep connection to the land.

A. The Federal Government and Tribal Nations

Federal Trust Responsibility to Tribal Nations. The Federal Government has a trust responsibility to protect the interests of Indian tribes, Pueblos and communities. Federal agencies help fulfill this obligation by ensuring that American Indian and Alaska Natives have access to critical programs and services based on their political status as members of sovereign tribal nations involved in a government-to-government relationship with the United States. In his capacity as head of the Department of the Interior, Secretary Zinke serves as a trustee of the federal trust responsibility. It is his solemn duty to ensure that tribal interests are protected in any action, program, or policy undertaken by the Department. We are here to support Secretary Zinke in that role, as well as to fulfill our own in this unique government-to-government relationship.

Unique Political Status of New Mexico's Pueblos. Our Pueblos have maintained independent political relationships with foreign governments since at least the 16th century, when we treated with the Spanish *conquistadores* during their early explorations of the southwest. The Spanish Crown and the United States each recognized the Pueblos' right to self-rule and declared that all Pueblos be presided over by tribal Governors with full ownership of their land. In acknowledgment of this intimate and time-honored connection to our lands, President Lincoln bestowed a silver-tipped cane to each Pueblo as a symbol of their right to self-governance. The canes have been passed down through the generations. We proudly carry them today as Governors of our people.

B. Reorganization of the Interior under Executive Order 13781

Disproportionate Impact of Reorganization on Tribal Nations. Because of the unique status of tribal nations within our federalist system, we rely on the federal government for support in addressing our peoples' needs. We support the adoption of measures that will





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streamline Interior services and enable the Department to better fulfill its treaty and trust responsibilities. However, increased efficiency should not come at the price of lost programs or the further marginalization of smaller tribal nations. We are concerned the comprehensive restructuring of executive federal agencies without specific consideration or carve-outs for Indian programs will necessarily and disproportionately affect the health, safety, and welfare of our communities, lands, and natural resources. Tribal voices must be heard and appropriately integrated into the decision-making process at the outset to avoid difficult – and perhaps irreversible – changes of course in the future.

Creation of a Tribal Reorganization Workgroup. To better ensure that tribal interests are considered and protected during the reorganization process, the Department through the BIA should convene a Tribal Reorganization Workgroup as soon as possible to review agency programs serving Native populations. The Workgroup would work jointly with BIA officials to identify programs that are not reaching their full potential and propose informed solutions for moving forward. Such an approach would be respectful of our tribal sovereignty. It would also further the Department's duty to consult with tribal nations on federal policies or actions that may impact our communities. The result of the Workgroup's cooperative efforts would be a more cohesive, detailed set of recommendations for Department leadership to consider on ways to improve the effectiveness and accountability of Interior programs serving our communities.

Reductions in the BIA Workforce. We are alarmed by recent reports that the Department is considering eliminating 4,000 positions or roughly 6% of its workforce. Assuming that the alleged cuts would be evenly distributed across the Department, the BIA—which employs approximately 8,000 personnel—would suffer the *loss of 462 positions* or 5.8% of workforce. Such a loss would drastically impair its ability to fulfill its mission to “enhance the quality of life, to promote economic opportunity, and to carry out the responsibility to protect and improve the trust assets of American Indians, Indian tribes, and Alaska Natives.” We urge the Department to exempt the chronically under-staffed BIA from any proposed reductions in the Interior workforce.

C. Protection for Cultural Patrimony

Safeguard Tribal Objects of Patrimony (STOP) Act. Items of cultural patrimony are not simple tangible objects or works of art. They carry the living ceremonies and traditions of our people. Trafficking in sacred cultural items removes those items from our communities and causes irreparable harm to our way of life. Co-sponsored by Secretary Zinke and championed by the New Mexico Congressional Delegation, Congress adopted the PROTECT Patrimony Resolution supporting efforts to stop the illegal trafficking of our cultural heritage in December 2016. The STOP Act, introduced by Senator Martin Heinrich, seeks to advance this achievement by broadening the scope of federal safeguards for tribal cultural property rights and sacred patrimony, particularly in regards to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (ARPA). We urge the Department to support the STOP Act as it progresses through Congress to help protect our heritage and bring these sacred items home. In the spirit of these bipartisan efforts, we strongly encourage the Department to work with



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other agencies on the return of the Acoma shield to the Pueblo of Acoma, which has been waiting generations to fill the cultural and spiritual hole left by its absence.

Cultural Landscapes and the Preservation of Pueblo Identity. As Pueblo People, we do not just reside on the beautiful land of the southwestern United States; we are people of this land. We carry it in the essence of our being. Our heritage is passed down from generation to generation through the running waters of the P'opii Khanu, the sacred slopes of Mount Taylor and the petroglyphs of Chaco Canyon—among countless other sacred sites enriching the entire region. Our ancestral ties to Bears Ears run deep beneath the soil of the greater Cedar Mesa. Reducing its boundaries necessarily impacts our cultural and spiritual expression as Pueblo People. Meaningful tribal consultation with the Pueblos on Bears Ears and other cultural landscapes is therefore required by federal law and essential to the preservation of our identities as Pueblo People.

Identification of Sacred Sites. Tribal sacred sites are not simply remnants of ancient civilizations. They are living testaments of our cultural heritage, marking the paths of our existence and shaping our worldviews from time immemorial to today. To an outside observer, the sites may look unassuming ruins or natural features. However, to Pueblo and Native people, these are sites of tremendous spiritual importance and cultural associations. In most, if not all, situations the only way to identify these sacred sites, which may exist miles from our villages, is through Native eyes. We must be involved in Section 106 and NEPA decision-making processes from the outset. Otherwise, there is a heightened risk that outside evaluators will misidentify sacred sites and contribute to the loss of irreplaceable aspects of our cultural identity.

D. Effective Natural Resources Management

Continuation of the Land-into-Trust Program. As sovereign tribal governments, the exercise of our self-determination is strengthened by the ability of the federal government to take land into trust on behalf of tribes. Trust lands enable us to provide a homeland for our people as well as a base from which to offer essential governmental services, such as housing, education, healthcare, and economic development opportunities. Trust lands also facilitate the expression of our identity as Pueblo people by protecting the natural and cultural resources that form the bedrock of our traditional practices and ceremonies. We urge the Department to provide continued support for tribal self-determination through the implementation of the land-into-trust program.

Support for Innovation—Deriving a Potable Water Source from Uranium Mining. The renewal of uranium mining on Mount Taylor—a mountain sacred to many Pueblo People—remains deeply concerning. Personal experience teaches us that uranium mining is dangerous to people, land, and natural resources. Uranium mining, processing, and reclamation have the potential to affect soil, air, and water quality for generations. One company, Roca Honda, is seeking to promote positive outcomes for communities impacted by uranium mining by constructing a pipeline that will deliver water produced by mine dewatering and treated to potable standards to the Rio San Jose, thus, supplementing a precious resource for Pueblo and other water users in the southwest. We encourage the Department to work with tribal nations on the development of off-reservation infrastructure and water resources. We stand ready to partner with you and other entities on such beneficial initiatives.



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Effective Tribal Management of Forest Resources. The trees and shrubs of our southwestern national forests play critical roles in regional economic development, disaster mitigation efforts, recreation, and ecological habitats for many local wildlife and plant species. Cuts in federal funding for national forest management, particularly under the National Forest Service, threaten the delivery of services in each of these areas. To fill these gaps, we believe that tribal stewardship of forest resources is the key. The Tribal Forest Protection Act (Pub. L. 108-278), for example, provides authorities to tribal governments to co-manage federal lands bordering or adjacent to Indian Forest Lands or Rangelands. It also advances tribal and federal interests in the development of land resource and management plans. We support Interior forestry programs and policies that enable tribal nations to assume greater control of our shared natural resources. Such endeavors strengthen tribal sovereignty and maximize the use of limited federal resources.

E. Increased Support for Tribal Self-Governance

Adequate Funding for the Office of Self-Governance (OSG). Self-governance is the cornerstone of modern tribal sovereignty. OSG plays a pivotal role in supporting the exercise of tribal sovereignty by providing resources to all 277 tribal nations currently operating self-governance programs. However, OSG constantly operates at a deficit because it receives just \$1.5 million annually when the need is at least \$1.9 million. We urge the Department to reinforce its investment in tribal self-governance by providing adequate funding for the OSG. We recommend that the Department internally transfer funds for a minimum OSG budget of \$2,250,000 as a directed reallocation of current funds from the BIA and AS-IA Office. The transfer would be consistent with the increased workload that the OSG has assumed on behalf of BIA regional staff as tribes continue to convert from self-determination contracts to self-governance compacts.

Expansion of Self-Governance within the Interior. Reorganization could provide a meaningful opportunity to expand tribal self-governance within the Interior. Public Law 93-638 compacting and contracting enables tribal nations to assume responsibility for the administration of certain federal functions within their communities. This transfer of authority generally reduces agency inefficiencies and maximizes the use of resources at the local level. As tribal leaders, we have a deep understanding of our peoples' pressing needs, as well as their immense potential to succeed if given the appropriate level of resources and support. We urge the Department to consider expanding the list of Interior programs that are eligible for self-governance compacting and contracting. Authorizing such an expansion would not impose additional financial or personnel requirements on the Department.

It is critical to note that the expansion of tribal self-governance should not translate into reduced programming for direct services tribes. Nor should it result in the reduction of services provided through the OSG. The interests of tribes necessarily reflect the diversity of our cultures, governing structures, and communities. Support for one form of tribal self-determination should not result in reduced support for another.



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Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you on these important issues. We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to visit Pueblo Country to gain a deeper understanding of our people and their needs. It would be an invaluable opportunity for you to see first-hand the achievements we have made and the challenges we continue to face as tribal nations. If you are able, we invite to return to share in a Pueblo feast day. Feast days mark a time of reverence and great celebration, with traditional dances, bountiful meals, and the warm hospitality of the Pueblo People on display. On behalf of our communities, we look forward to welcoming you back to the Southwest where our doors are open in welcome to you.

All Pueblo Council of Governors

Officers

Governor: *Paul Torres, Chairman*

Vice Governor: *Val Fontana, Vice Chairman*

Secretary: *Michael Fontana, Secretary*

2401 12th Street NW Suite 200 N Albuquerque NM 87104

Acoma

RESOLUTION

Cochiti

ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

Isleta

RESOLUTION NO. APCG 2016-14

Jemez

SUPPORT FOR THE PASSAGE OF THE ORGAN MOUNTAINS-DESERT PEAKS CONSERVATION ACT

Laguna

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors ("APCG") is comprised of the Pueblos of Acoma, Cochiti, Isleta, Jemez, Laguna, Nambe, Ohkay Owingeh, Picuris, Pojoaque, San Felipe, San Ildefonso, Sandia, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Santo Domingo, Taos, Tesuque, Zia and Zuni, and one pueblo in Texas, Ysleta del Sur, each having the sovereign authority to govern their own affairs;

Nambe

Ohkay

Owingeh

WHEREAS, the purpose of the All Pueblo Council of Governors is to advocate, foster, protect, and encourage the social, cultural & traditional well-being of the Pueblo Nations; and

Picuris

Pojoaque

WHEREAS, through their inherent & sovereign rights, the All Pueblo Council of Governors will promote the language, health, economic, and educational advancement of all Pueblo people; and

Sandia

San

Felipe

WHEREAS, the 20 Pueblos possess government authority and sovereignty over our lands and which include the protection of our language, culture, and tradition; and

San

Ildefonso

WHEREAS, the APCG recognizes the outstanding cultural and historical resources in the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks region of south-central New Mexico; and

Santa Ana

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors believes these cultural and historical resources have special importance to all Native Americans in New Mexico; and

Santa Clara

Santo

Domingo

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors appreciates Senator Tom Udall and Senator Martin Heinrich's Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks Conservation Act (S. 3049), which would protect sacred sites throughout the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks region; and

Taos

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors appreciates United States President Barack Obama's designation of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument on May 21st, 2014; and

Tesuque

Ysleta Del Sur

Zia

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors believes the Organ Mountain-Desert Peaks region has wilderness quality lands which deserve the wilderness designation, only possible through Congressional legislation and the signature of the United States President; and

Zuni

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors Council desires to preserve all valuable tribal and cultural resources that originated on these lands, and

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors Council believes wilderness designation for lands included in the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks Conservation Act, S. 3049 introduced by Senator Tom Udall and Senator Martin Heinrich gives needed protection to sensitive and valuable tribal, cultural, and natural resources that originated on these lands, and

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors desires to allow our children and future generations the opportunity to understand and appreciate the bounty and beauty of their cultural heritage, sacred cultural sites, and aboriginal homeland; and

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors believes Native tribes should participate in the management of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument based on their cultural, historical and modern day connection to the Organ Mountains and surrounding former tribal lands;

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that the All Pueblo Council of Governors supports the passage of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks Conservation Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the All Pueblo Council of Governors welcomes the permanent protection of these historical and cultural resources to be preserved now and for all future generations as a national monument; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the President of the United States Barack Obama, the United States Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, the Governor of New Mexico Susana Martinez, and the entire New Mexico Congressional Delegation to show support for the passage of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks Conservation Act.

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned officials of the All Pueblo Council of Governors hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. APCG 2016-14 was considered and adopted at a duly called council meeting held on the 15th day of September 2016, and at which time a quorum was present and the same was approved by a vote of 11 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstain, and 9 absent.

ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

By: E. Paul Torres
Governor E. Paul Torres, APCG Chairman

ATTEST:

J. Michael Chavarria
Governor J. Michael Chavarria, APCG Secretary





ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

Officers:
E. Paul Torres, Chairman
Governor Val Panteah, Sr., Vice Chair
Governor J. Michael Chavarria, Secretary

All Pueblo Council of Governors Statement on Secretary Zinke's Visit to Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument

Acoma

Cochiti

Isleta

Jemez

Laguna

Nambe

Ohkay Owingeh

Picuris

Pojoaque

Sandia

San Felipe

San Ildefonso

Santa Ana

Santa Clara

Santo Domingo

Taos

Tesuque

Ysleta Del Sur

Zia

Zuni

Native communities throughout New Mexico continue to maintain a distinct culture and lifestyle based on a strong connection to the land, the environment, and the cultural landscape. The lands within and surrounding the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument (OMDP) are considered important cultural sites to tribes in New Mexico. The All Pueblo Council of Governors (APCG), will continue to advocate for the complete protection of Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument and all sacred and cultural properties in the southwest.

Our people continue to make pilgrimages to sacred sites and culturally significant areas throughout our traditional homelands in the southwest. We would like to reiterate the importance of protecting significant spiritual and cultural resources including those within the boundaries of both Organ Mountain-Desert Peaks and Rio Grande del Norte National Monument (RGDN). And while we believe that these sites should be protected because of their historical and cultural value in telling our shared human story we also appreciate the impact our public lands have on jobs and the economy in our state.

Public lands are one of the primary economic drivers in our state. Outdoor recreation provides the state of New Mexico with more than \$450 million in state and local tax revenue and employs 68,000 people each year. In a rural state like ours any reduction or rescission to our public lands would have enormous detrimental effects on the local economy.

The All Pueblo Council of Governors has voiced its clear support for these monuments in APCG Resolution No. 2014-05 and APCG Resolution 2016-14 (attached) and will continue to call for complete protection of our national monuments and sacred sites throughout the southwest United States.

Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument

The Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument includes over 200 identified archaeological sites and is believed to contain as many as 5,000 cultural sites. OMDP also holds significant game species including javelina, mule deer, pronghorn and quail particularly in the Potrillo and Sierra de Las Uvas mountains. APCG stands in support of maintaining and conserving the Organ Mountains Desert Peak Monument as it was designated in 2014.

Rio Grande del Norte National Monument

The Rio Grande del Norte National Monument is part of an ancient landscape that has been continuously inhabited for over 11,000 years. The deep history of the region is conserved and protected within the boundary of the RGDN as is the diverse plant and animal species including bear, cougar, elk and big horn sheep. APCG continue to support Rio Grande del Norte National Monument as it was designated in 2013.



Organ Mountains Desert Peaks



The Ysleta de Sur Pueblo is happy to share the news that the All Pueblo Council of Governors, at its March 19, 2014 meeting, unanimously passed a resolution supporting protection of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks as a national monument

**ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS
RESOLUTION NO. APCG 2014-05**

“Requesting to Protect the Organ Mountain-Desert Peaks Region and the establishment of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument”

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors (APCG) is comprised of the nineteen Sovereign Pueblos of New Mexico including the Pueblos of New Mexico including the Pueblos of Acoma, Cochiti, Isleta, Jemez, Laguna, Nambe, Ohkay Owingeh, Picuris, Pojoaque, San Felipe, San Ildefonso, Sandia, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Santo Domingo, Taos, Tesuque, Zia and Zuni; and 1 Sovereign Pueblo, Ysleta Del Sur, located in the State of Texas, and;

WHEREAS, the 20 Pueblos possess inherent government authority and sovereignty over our lands and which include the protection of our language, culture, and tradition; and

WHEREAS, the APCG recognizes the outstanding cultural and historical resources in the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks region of south-central New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the APCG believes these cultural and historical resources have special importance to all Native Americans in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the APCG appreciates Senator Tom Udall and Senator Martin Heinrich’s Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks Conservation Act (S. 1805), which would protect sacred sites throughout the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks region; and

WHEREAS, the APCG appreciates United States Interior Secretary Sally Jewell’s visit to Las Cruces and tour of the some of the most beautiful parts of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks region; and

WHEREAS, the APCG believes the Organ Mountain-Desert Peaks region should be permanently protected with a national monument designation; and

WHEREAS, the APCG desires to preserve all valuable tribal and cultural resources that originated on these lands, and

WHEREAS, the APCG desires to allow our children and future generations the opportunity to understand and appreciate the bounty and beauty of their cultural heritage, sacred cultural sites, and aboriginal homeland; and

WHEREAS, the APCG believes Native tribes should participate in the management of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument based on their cultural, historical and modern day connection to the Organ Mountains and surrounding former tribal lands;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the APCG supports the establishment of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the APCG welcomes the permanent protection of these historical and cultural resources to be preserved now and for all future generations as a national monument; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the President of the United States Barack Obama, the United States Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, the Governor of New Mexico Susana Martinez, and the entire New Mexico Congressional Delegation to show support for the establishment of the national monument.

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned officials of the All Pueblo Council of Governors hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. APCG 2014-05 was considered and adopted at a duly called council meeting held on the 19th day of March 2014, and at which time a quorum was present and the same was approved by a vote of 13 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstain, and 7 absent.

ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

By: E. Paul Torres
Governor Edward Torres, APCG Chairman

ATTEST:

Terry Aguilar
Governor Terry Aguilar, APCG Secretary

