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**From:** Conservation Lands Foundation  
**Sent:** 2017-04-06T17:41:11-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Monthly Update from Conservation Lands Foundation - April 6, 2017  
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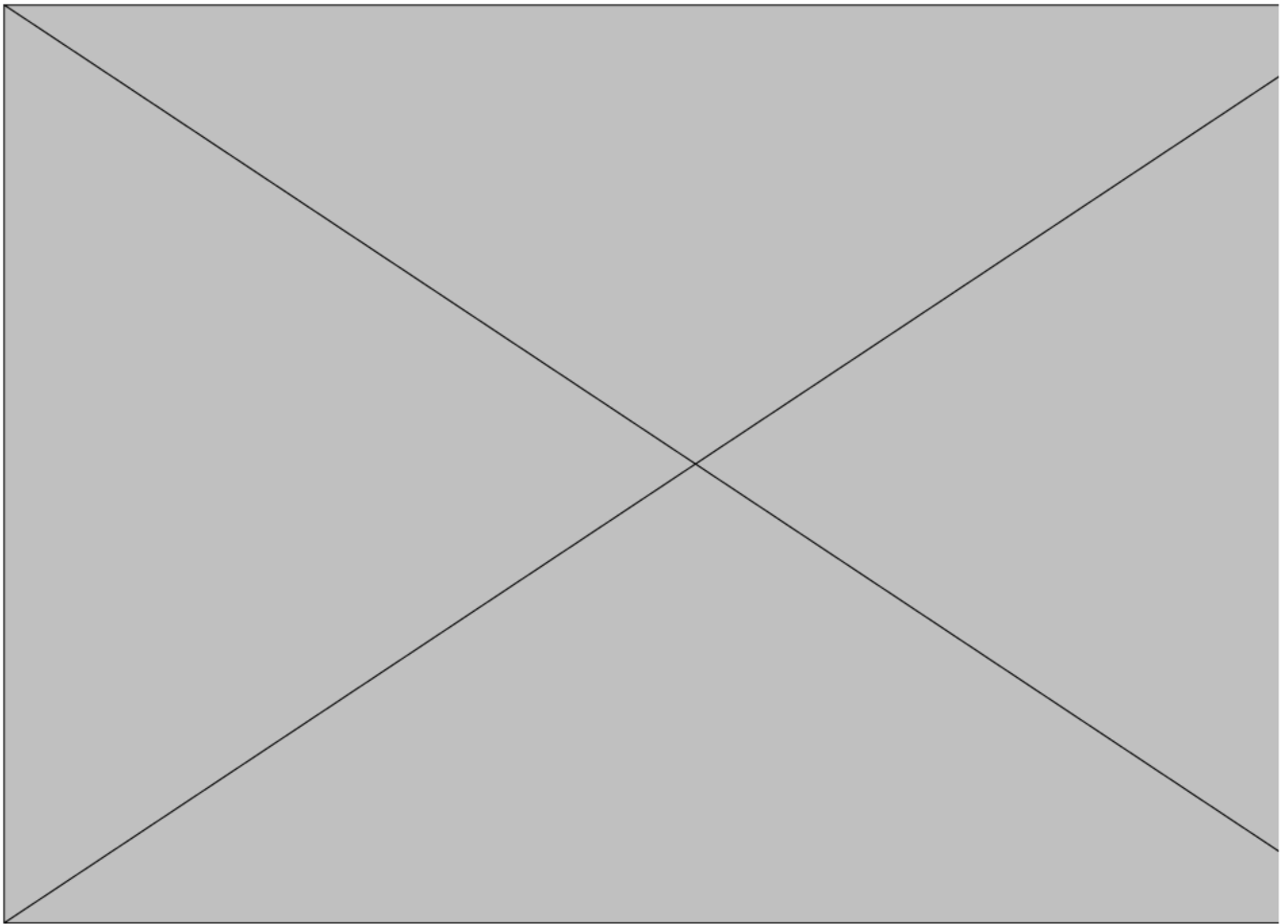
Monthly Update - April 6, 2017

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"

*To ease the fearful, restless soul--'Courage and Peace,' the desert speaks."*

*- June LeMert Paxton,  
poet and  
author of  
My Life on the Mojave (via Mojave Desert Land Trust)*

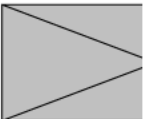


*News from the National Conservation Lands and Friends Grassroots Network--more than 60 local groups working to protect, expand and restore these treasured public lands owned by all Americans. (Photo above: The Rio Grande del Norte National Monument in Northern New Mexico, which celebrated its 4th anniversary on March 25th. By Adriel Heisey.)*

## **Around the National Conservation Lands:**

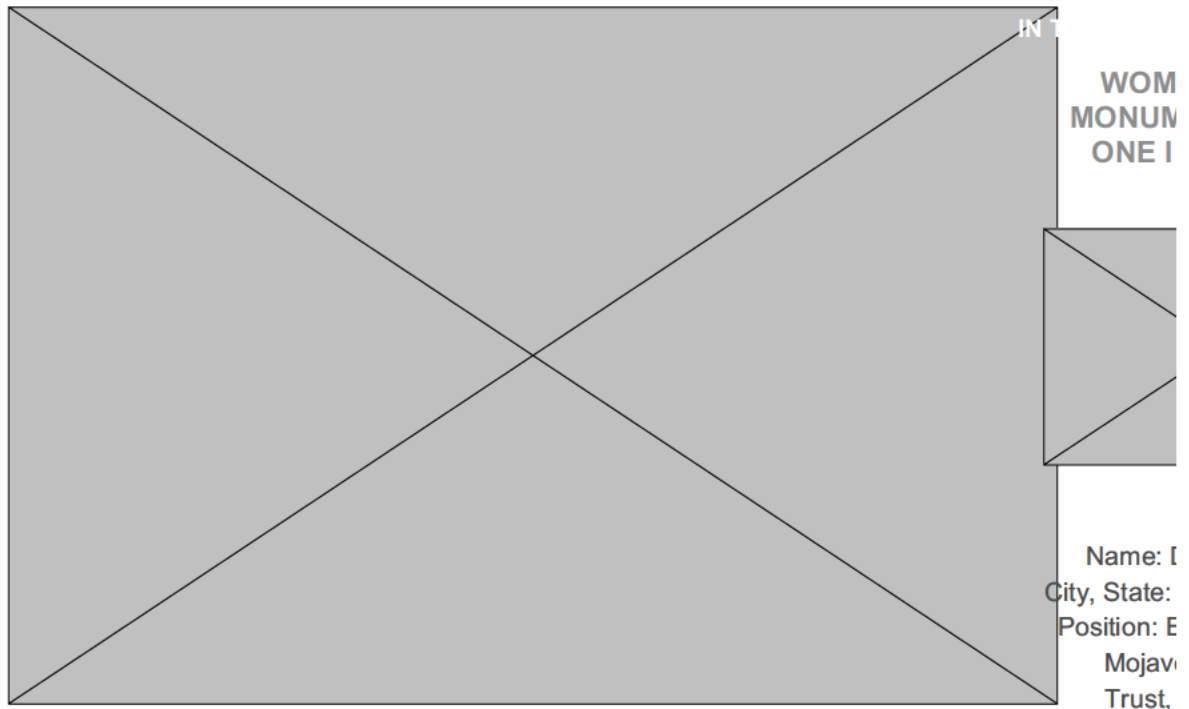
**Groups join forces to defend the Red Cliffs and Beaver Dam Wash NCAs in southern Utah**

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On March 24, 2017, Conserve Southwest Utah (CSU), the Conservation Lands Foundation (CLF) and The Wilderness Society (TWS) filed a motion to intervene in the Washington County, Utah appeal of the Final Resource Management Plans (RMP) for the Red Cliffs and Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Areas (NCA).

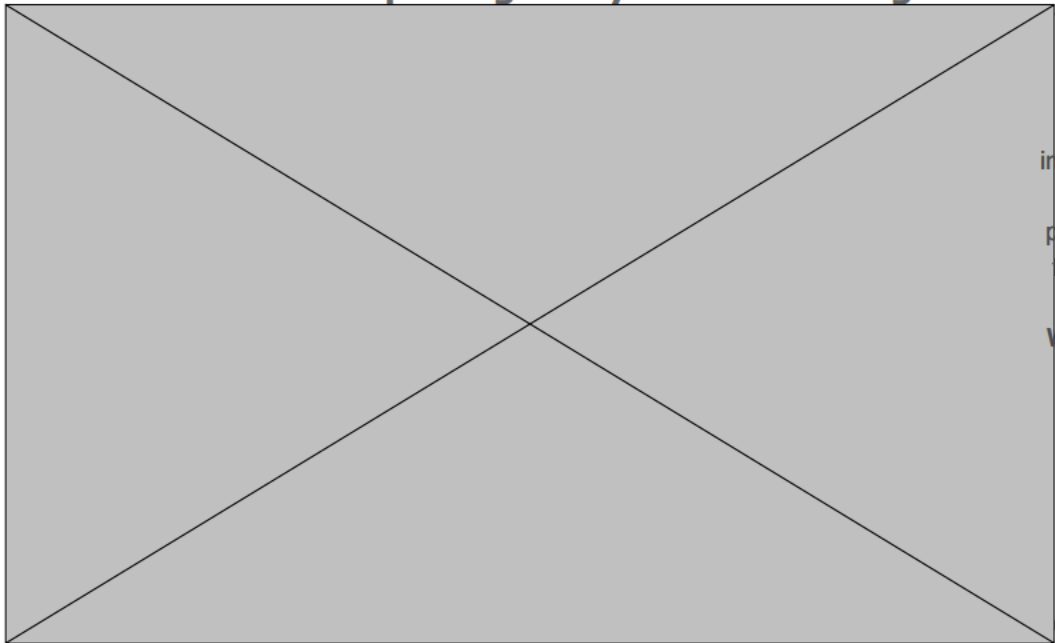
On February 23, 2017, Washington County, Utah filed an appeal with the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA), contesting the final RMP for the Red Cliffs and Beaver Dam Wash NCAs. At the heart of the appeal is Washington County's claim that BLM failed to consider and approve the construction of a highway or northern corridor through the Red Cliffs NCA.

"The Red Cliffs and Beaver Dam Wash NCAs are extraordinary landscapes, sustaining not only the native habitat but also the recreation and tourism critical to our local economy and the signature vistas of our county's visual appeal," stated Tom Butine, Board President of Conserve Southwest Utah, the local citizen-based conservation non-profit headquartered in St. George Utah. "CSU and our members have invested heavily over the past 11 years to establish these protected lands and care deeply about their value to those who live and visit here. We hope to continue the dialog with our county commission to understand and resolve the issues."

[Read the complete press release here...](#)

**Patagonia's multimedia experience "This Is Bears"**

## Ears" tells a compelling story with stunning video



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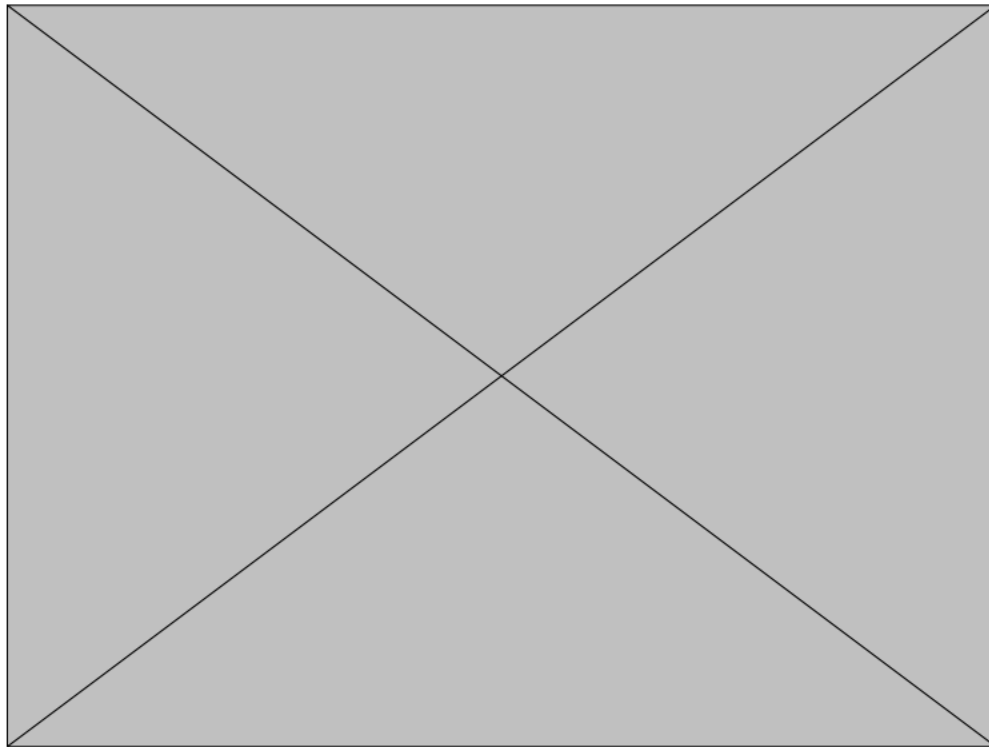
The outdoor gear company Patagonia got engaged in the battle to protect Bears Ears National Monument early on, as [our blog post from two years ago](#) this month shows. They have already used video effectively to share the story and images of the place with others. But last month Patagonia launched a new multimedia experience, "[This is Bears Ears National Monument](#)," that raises the video bar using cutting-edge technology and allowing users to explore the land with 10 short virtual-reality films narrated by Native American tribal leaders, archaeologists and athletes. [Watch the videos](#), and read more about the initiative as covered by [Men's Journal](#) and [Mashable.com](#).

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## In The News:

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***Salt Lake Tribune:***  
**Op-ed: Grand Staircase is a huge economic driver, and it shouldn't shrink**

*March 7, 2017, by Nicole Croft, Executive Director, Grand Staircase Escalante Partners*

"Our elected officials have offered ungrounded assertions on the impact of the monument, while turning their back on the vibrant and growing industry that already exists there.

The facts tell a very different story, and represent what those of us living in these communities know - the monument has been very good us. According to the Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the 2010 U.S. Census, Garfield County has seen improved property values, household income and per-capita income."

[Read the complete Salt Lake Tribune op-ed here...](#)

***The Hill:***  
**Trump's budget jeopardizes America's public lands heritage**

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*March 27, 2017, by CLF Senior Dir. of Conservation Ryan Bidwell*

"President Trump's proposed FY 18 budget would cause enormous damage to the nation's public lands, environment and more. This proposal is deeply troubling to all Americans who enjoy fishing, hunting and recreation on their public lands and who favor a balanced approach to managing them.

These lands drive a \$646 billion-with a "b"-outdoor recreation economy nationwide, spurring \$13.2 billion in spending and supporting 124,600 workers in Colorado including hundreds of jobs in Durango-just like in many other Western communities.

The Administration's budget does not put "America First." Instead, it slashes \$11.6 billion from the Department of the Interior's already shoestring budget, threatening the very public lands on which so much of this economic activity depends... "

[Read the complete article in The Hill here...](#)

***McClatchy DC:***  
**Native Americans prepare to battle Trump over Utah national monument**

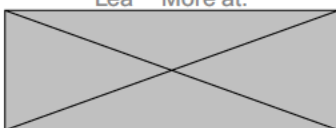
*Published March 20, 2017, by Stuart Leavenworth*

"...We also believe that the majority of residents were, and continue to be, supporters of the monument. That is reflected by the support shown by all of their local elected boards. And, none of the dire consequences that we were warned about by opponents before the designation have come to fruition in the years since."

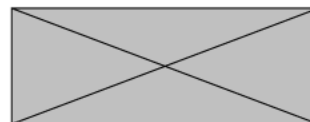
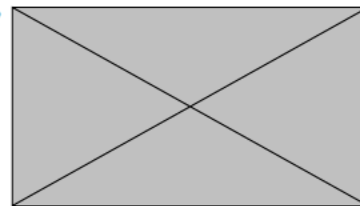
[Read and view the complete article and video here...](#)

***On behalf of all us at CLF, whether you are part of the Friends Grassroots Network, a donor or a supporter - thank you for all you do.***

Lea More at:



Please send questions to:  
[dave@conservationlands.org](mailto:dave@conservationlands.org)



Conservation Lands Foundation, 835 E. 2nd Ave., #314, Durango, CO 81301

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