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From: Roberson, Edwin
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[Pending Actions within Bears Ears National Monument 030817.docx](#)

Dear SOLs,

Here is a summary of some of the action steps we have ahead for BENM. By the way, I asked that you all be granted access to our google drive for all things BENM

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

All,

Attached is a draft list of pending actions in Bears Ears National Monument. I have tried to prioritize them in-terms of importance. Let me know if this is the type of information you are looking for or if you need me to make adjustments.

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Pending Actions within Bears Ears National Monument

Letter to Bears Ears Commission- The BLM and USFS have prepared a letter addressed to the individual tribes identified in the proclamation. The purpose of the letter is to recognize that each of the five tribes has appointed an elected representative to the Bears Ears Commission. This letter is in response to several letters from the Tribes and the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition. The letter has been uploaded to DTS for Washington Office review.

Bears Ears Commission Meeting- In a letter dated March 3, 2017; representatives of the Bears Ears Commission requested an initial meeting with the BLM at the end of March. The BLM has not responded or scheduled the meeting.

Monument Advisory Committee- On January 18, 2017, the former Secretary signed a charter for the Bears Ears Monument Advisory Committee. Subsequently, the BLM-Utah submitted a Federal Register to the Washington Office that included a call for nominations. The Federal Register Notice is still pending.

Public Meetings- On February 24, 2017 the BLM-Utah briefed the Assistant Secretary-Land and Minerals Management, on potential public meetings about the newly designated Bears Ears National Monument. The purposes of these meetings are: 1) to provide accurate information to the public about the monument; 2) to listen to concerns; and 3) to let the public know about future public involvement opportunities. Public commitments were made to conduct open house meetings in January and February to begin engaging with the public and to "answer questions from permittees and other interested stakeholders."

Response to Information Requests- The BLM-Utah has been gathering information in response to a request from the State of Utah. As part of the response, the BLM has collected information regarding existing visitation, permits, and land uses. The BLM is also responding to a FOIA request from the Conservation Lands Foundation.

Visitor Information- The BLM has initiated development of informational materials intended to improve visitor safety, protect resources, and enhance visitor experiences. Completion and release of these materials is pending. Initial outreach materials include recreation opportunity maps in multiple formats, a brochure outlining things to see and do in the Bears Ears National Monument, updated frequently asked on what has and has not changed, and other web materials.

Cultural and Recreation Program Projects- The BLM Monticello Field Office has identified a list of priority projects needed to improve visitor safety, protect resources, and enhance visitor experiences. The BLM is currently working on project planning and implementation. Priority projects include multiple site stabilization and cultural resource protection projects as well as the improvement of recreational facilities (e.g., expansion of an existing campground and site interpretation). The BLM is also working under existing agreements with partners to improve site stewardship programs.

Additional Cultural Resource Projects- The BLM Monticello Field Office is working on several cultural resource projects that will provide the BLM with additional information regarding cultural resources in the National Monument. This information will help the BLM with project-level and land use planning. These projects include an ethnographic study, cultural landscape assessment, and additional inventories.

Watershed Restoration/Hazardous Fuels Reduction Projects- The BLM has several pending or ongoing projects related to watershed restoration and hazardous fuel reduction in the area that is now Bears Ears National Monument. These projects include Dark Canyon, Beef Basin, and the San Juan River. The BLM Monticello Field Office will continue to use existing partnerships to complete these projects.

Seasonal Employment- Seasonal employees are critical to BLM Monticello Field Office. They help the office provide quality and safe experiences for our visitors during peak visitation periods. The BLM is working on hiring seasonal employees in the fire, recreation, and cultural resource management programs. Additionally, the BLM Monticello Field Office is working on projects to update/improve seasonal employee housing.

Service First Agreement-The BLM and USFS have coordinated regarding short- and long-term management needs, including staffing needs, funding, and a potential service first agreement. Development of a service first agreement that allows the agencies to share existing financial and human resources is pending.

Resource, Objectives, and Values- The BLM has initiated discussions of resources, objects, and values identified in the proclamation. This information needs to be reviewed by the BLM Washington Office, USFS, and the Bears Ears Commission.

Administrative Tasks- The BLM-Utah is still working on several administrative task outlined in the National Conservation Lands "New National Monuments and NCAs Checklist" such as identifying funding needs and integrating the new Monument into the BLM's systems.