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**From:** Moore, Nikki  
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[Basin and Range review draft 6 28 17 nikki edits.docx](#)  
[Bears Ears Data Summary 5 19 2017.docx](#)  
[Bears Ears Executive Summary 5 19 2017.docx](#)

sorry - attachments

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On Fri, Jun 30, 2017 at 12:26 PM, Moore, Nikki <[nmoore@blm.gov](mailto:nmoore@blm.gov)> wrote:

Tim/John,

Please let me know what you think about the suggested paragraph for the monument review documents. I've also attached one of the economic reports we are reviewing now and one of the data summaries so that you can see an example of where we would insert the information. We (BLM) created the data summary in response to the Secretaries data request and the Secretaries office created the economic report.

Suggested paragraph:

(b) (5) DPP



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# Basin and Range National Monument

Economic Values and Economic Contributions

*DRAFT*



Basin and Range  
National Monument

DRAFT June 28, 2017

## Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to provide information on the economic values and economic contributions of the activities and resources associated with Basin and Range National Monument (BARNM) as well as to provide a brief economic profile of Lincoln County.<sup>1</sup>

## Background

The Basin and Range National Monument was designated in 2015 to protect cultural, prehistoric, historic, paleontological, and geologic resources in the Great Basin between the Sierra Mountains and Colorado Plateau. Spanning a total of approximately 703,500 acres in southeastern Nevada, about 526,000 acres are in Lincoln County, Nevada, with the remaining 177,000 acres in a remote area of northeastern Nye County, Nevada.<sup>2</sup> Prior to designation, the land was managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ely Field Office, with the exception of approximately 4,400 acres of private inholdings that continue to exist within Monument boundaries. The designation does not affect grazing operations in the Monument, including use of motorized vehicles, construction and maintenance of water infrastructure, and construction of fences and other range improvements relating to grazing operations. Additionally, the designation does not affect U.S. military uses of the airspace and allows continued military access for emergency response and training activities.

Since the passage of the Lincoln County Conservation, Recreation, and Development Act of 2004, there has been over 768,000 acres of designated wilderness as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System in the county.<sup>3</sup> One of these wilderness areas (Worthington Mountains Wilderness) is within the Monument boundary.

## Public outreach

A public meeting regarding a proposal to withdraw land in the area from mining was held in February 2015. Since designation, six scoping meetings have been held in the surrounding communities to identify issues and planning criteria to be considered in the BLM

### Basin and Range National Monument

Location: Lincoln County and Nye County, NV  
 Managing agencies: BLM  
 Adjacent cities: Ely, NV; Caliente, NV; Alamo, NV.  
 Tribes: Shoshone; Paiute  
 Resource Areas:  
☒ Recreation ☐ Energy ☐ Minerals  
☒ Grazing ☐ Timber ☒ Scientific Discovery  
☒ Tribal Cultural

Table 1. Lincoln County and State of Nevada Economic Snapshot

Measure	Lincoln County, NV	Nevada
Population, 2016 <sup>a</sup>	5,194	2,798,636
Employment, December 2016 <sup>c</sup>	1,234	1,307,813
Unemployment rate, April 2017 <sup>b</sup>	3.9%	4.6%
Median Household Income, 2015 <sup>a</sup>	\$44,866	\$51,847

<sup>a</sup>U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey

<sup>b</sup><http://nevadaworkforce.com/>

<sup>c</sup>[https://data.bls.gov/cew/apps/data\\_views/data\\_views.htm#tab=Tables](https://data.bls.gov/cew/apps/data_views/data_views.htm#tab=Tables).

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<sup>1</sup> The BLM provided data used in this paper.

<sup>2</sup> Approximately 4,400 acres (0.6% of the Monument) are private inholdings.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-108publ424/pdf/PLAW-108publ424.pdf>

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Resource Management Plan and as part of complying with the National Environmental Policy Act.<sup>4</sup> [The approved RMP is anticipated to be published in late 2018.<sup>5</sup> In addition, in May 2017 the Nevada Legislature passed an assembly joint resolution (ARJ13) expressing support for the enactment and use of the Antiquities Act and the designation of the BARNM.<sup>6</sup>

### *Local Economy and Economic Impacts*

BARNM is located far from population centers and areas adjacent to the Monument are sparsely populated. The Monument has no facilities and few access roads. *Table 1* presents socio-economic metrics for Lincoln County and the state of Nevada. While 25% of the Monument is in Nye County, it is geographically not located near the areas of Nye County where the majority of the population resides.<sup>7</sup> Lincoln County is a remote and rural area of Nevada containing roughly 0.2% of the State's population. The population of the county increased about 25% from 2000 to 2015, compared to a 40% increase in State population. Compared to the State, the percentage of household income associated with labor earnings was lower while the percentage of household income resulting from Social Security or retirement income was higher.

### *Activities and Resources*

Information on the economic contributions associated with the activities occurring at Basin and Range National Monument are provided below.

- **Recreation:** A variety of recreation activities are available at BARNM including: dispersed camping, hiking, biking, OHV riding, rock climbing, wildlife and wild horse viewing, and viewing sites associated with cultural, prehistoric, and historic legacies. Hunting and trapping are also permitted as regulated by the State of Nevada. Visitor use has only been tracked through visitor registration sheets at the most popular petroglyph sites within the Monument, though BLM plans to install traffic counters in the fall of 2017 in order to more accurately track visitation. Estimates of visitation for FY 2016 range from 550 to 1,100 visitors. The value added associated with those recreation visits is estimated to be about \$35,000.
- **Energy:** There is no history of energy production in the area.
  - **Coal.** There have been no coal developments in the Monument area.
  - **Oil and gas.** There are currently no producing oil and gas wells within the Monument. The most recent well was drilled in 1996 and in the past 50 years, only four oil wells have been drilled; none were developed. There are several parcels with existing leases for oil and gas, and development on those existing leases could occur. Additionally, an application for permit to drill (APD) was approved in February 2016 for a lease that expires in 2020, though no wells have yet been drilled.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Basin and Range National Monument Resource Management Plan Scoping Report, 2016.

<sup>5</sup> <https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/planAndProjectSite.do?methodName=dispatchToPatternPage&currentPageId=88819>.

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/79th2017/Bill/5507/Overview>.

<sup>7</sup> Over 80% of the population of Nye County resides in the Pahrump Census-designated place, which is an area bordering California to the west of Las Vegas.

<sup>8</sup> BLM data.

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- **Geothermal.** The area included in the Monument is within an area identified by USGS as having medium geothermal favorability.<sup>9</sup>
- **Non-fuel minerals.**
  - While there has been historic mining in the area by early European and American settlers, there has been no recent locatable mineral production on lands within the Monument boundaries.
  - There are three existing gravel pits that are used by Lincoln County for road maintenance but are not sold pursuant to any market activities. The sand and gravel permits were issued in 2012 to Lincoln County for ten years. They will expire in 2022.
- **Timber.** There is no commercial timber production in BARNM but timber harvest activities such as non-commercial Christmas tree cutting and collection of wood for posts and firewood are allowed by permit. The Monument proclamation allows for the continuation of all pre-designation timber activities.
- **Grazing.** The allotments that are wholly or partially contained within the boundaries of BARNM include approximately 32,000 permitted Animal Unit Month (AUMs).<sup>10</sup> About 10,200 AUMs were billed in FY 2016. Those AUMs were associated with economic output of about \$2.1 million and supported about 27 jobs. The Monument proclamation allows for the continuation of all pre-designation grazing activities, including use of motorized vehicles, construction and maintenance of stock watering facilities, and construction of fences and other range improvements related to grazing operations.
- **Tribal cultural, archeological, and historic resources.** Numerous tribes have ties to the BARNM area and the Monument contains resources that continue to be utilized by contemporary Native Americans. As over 90% of the Monument has not been inventoried for cultural resources, it is likely that there are many unknown cultural resources that have been neither documented nor evaluated for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.<sup>11</sup> Documented resources include prehistoric and historic artifacts and sites. There are two archaeological districts and several sites within the Monument to view petroglyphs. Traces of early Euro-American settlement, including mining structures, and the continuation of ranching lifestyles dating back to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, also exist on the Monument. American artist Michael Heizer has been granted a Conservation Easement for his private land within BARNM, on which he is constructing a piece of art work that is similar in size to the National Mall. This work is expected to be completed in 2020 and has attracted interest in the art community.

### *Multiple Use and Tradeoffs Among Resource Uses*

This section presents some information to help understand land management tradeoffs. Decision-making often involves multiple objectives and the need to make tradeoffs among those objectives. However, tradeoffs and decision making are often subject to constraints, such as Monument designations. In general, market supply and demand conditions drive energy and minerals activity; societal preferences

<sup>9</sup> <https://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2008/3082/>.

<sup>10</sup> BLM measures an AUM as the amount of forage needed to sustain one cow and her calf, one domestic horse, or 5 sheep or goats for one month. <https://www.blm.gov/programs/natural-resources/rangelands-and-grazing/livestock-grazing/fees-and-distribution>.

<sup>11</sup> BLM data.

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and household disposal income affect recreation activity levels; and market prices and range conditions affect the demand for forage. Culturally important sites and unique natural resources, by definition, have limited or no substitutes and thus tradeoffs are typically limited. A particularly challenging component of any tradeoff analysis is estimating the nonmarket values associated with BARNM resources, particularly the nonmarket values associated with cultural and scientific resources.

Planning for permitted resource use on National Monuments will involve trade-offs among different activities on the land area being managed in order to allow permitted activities that are not compatible with monument objects. In some cases, certain areas of the Monument may be appropriate for more than one use. After the careful consideration of tradeoffs, management decisions in those cases may prioritize certain uses over others. In other cases, land areas may be more appropriate for a particular use and activities could be restricted to certain areas of the Monument. Factors that could inform these tradeoffs include demand for the good or activity, prices, costs, and societal preferences. Other considerations might include the timeframe of the activity - how long the benefits and costs of a given activity would be expected to extend into the future. Trust responsibilities and treaty rights should also be considerations.

In considering any trade-offs, it is not just the level and net economic value associated with an activity that occurs in a given year that is relevant to decision making. Virtually all activities within the Monument occur over time and it is the stream of costs and benefits over a given period of time associated with each activity that is relevant. For example, recreation activities could continue indefinitely assuming the resources required for recreation remain intact and of sufficient quality for the activity. Likewise, the values associated with the natural and cultural resources could continue indefinitely provided they are not degraded by other activities. Grazing could also continue indefinitely as long as the forage resource is sustainably managed and remains consistent with the protection of monument objects. Timber harvest may also continue indefinitely as long as the timber resource is sustainably managed. The stream of costs and benefits associated with some other non-renewable resources would be finite, however (assuming these activities were consistent with the designation). For example, oil, gas, coal and minerals are all non-renewable resources and would only be extracted as long as the resource is economically feasible to produce.

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## **Executive Summary of Review of National Monuments under EO 13792 (April 26, 2017)**

### **Key Information about Bears Ears National Monument**

Bears Ears National Monument (BENM) was designated on December 28, 2016. BENM consists of 1,351,849 acres in San Juan County, Utah, jointly managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) (1.063 million acres managed by the BLM; 290,000 acres managed by the USFS). Prior to designation, the area was managed by the BLM and USFS and continues to be following designation. Located in southeast Utah's canyon country, BENM offers unparalleled recreation opportunities. The area is one of the most significant cultural landscapes in the United States, with thousands of archaeological sites and important areas of spiritual significance to American Indian tribes. Overall, multiple use activities are allowed in BENM that are compatible with the protection of resources and objects identified in the Presidential Proclamation. Multiple use activities are subject to decisions made in current and future BLM resource management planning efforts which include public participation. Unlike national monuments managed by other federal agencies, monuments and other conservation areas managed by the BLM continue to allow for multiple uses according to the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

### **Summary of Public Engagement Prior to Designation**

The idea of a national monument in this area is not a new one: calls for protection of the Bears Ears area began more than 80 years ago. Six years ago, several tribes began working on a specific proposal to protect this area under the Antiquities Act. Last year, at the invitation of the tribes, senior representatives from DOI and the USFS attended an Inter-Tribal Council meeting in the field at the Bears Ears buttes to engage in government-to-government dialogue. In July 2016, Secretary Jewell was joined at a public meeting in Bluff, Utah, by Department of Agriculture Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment Robert Bonnie, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Larry Roberts, BLM Director Neil Kornze, National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis, and staff from the offices of Governor Herbert, Congressman Chaffetz, Congressman Bishop, Senator Lee, and Senator Hatch. At the meeting, an overflow crowd of over 1,500 citizens attended. The majority of speakers encouraged permanent protection for this iconic landscape, as did the majority of almost 600 written comments. On that trip, senior officials also met with a number of local stakeholders to discuss protection of the area, including a meeting with the San Juan County Commission that was well-attended by local citizens. The Governor, members of Utah's congressional delegation, and the San Juan County Commission support protection for the area, but unanimously opposed monument designation.

The boundary of BENM is largely congruent with similar designations proposed in the Utah Public Lands Initiative (UPLI) (H.R. 5780), which was introduced by Representatives Bishop and Chaffetz after extensive consultations with stakeholders. Their UPLI, which Governor



Herbert also supported, proposed to conserve roughly the same area as the BENM by designating two National Conservation Areas (Indian Creek and Bears Ears) as well as the Mancos Mesa Wilderness. The UPLI also proposed to designate most of the current Wilderness Study Areas as wilderness.

There is overwhelming support from tribal governments for protecting this important cultural landscape. A coalition of five federally recognized tribes – Hopi, Navajo, Ute Mountain Ute, Zuni, and Ute Indian Tribe of the Uinta Ouray – came together to develop a tribal proposal for protecting 1.9 million acres of public land in the Bears Ears area, which is the ancestral grounds of numerous tribes in the region and remains an important area for traditional and ceremonial use. Over two dozen other tribes endorsed their tribal proposal, as well as the National Congress of American Indians. All seven tribes located in Utah and the Utah Tribal Leaders Association endorsed the tribal proposal. The Navajo Nation, which has seven chapter houses located in Utah, has supported the tribal proposal at its highest levels, including support from its President and the Navajo Nation Council. Six of their seven chapter houses in Utah support the tribal proposal, and the one that has rescinded its support has instead advocated for protecting the area through the Utah Public Lands Initiative (UPLI). To reflect tribal expertise and traditional and historical knowledge, the BENM Presidential Proclamation established a Bears Ears Commission, which enable tribes to share information and advice with federal land managers.

#### **Summary of National Monument Activities since Designation**

The BLM-Utah Monticello Field Office has identified a list of priority projects needed to improve visitor safety, protect resources, and enhance visitor experiences and have made significant progress in planning and implementation of these projects. The Field Office also manages existing multiple uses that are compatible with the BENM Proclamation. The BLM-Utah has also developed informational materials including maps, brochures, and website materials. Design work for portal signs is also nearly complete. The Bears Ears Tribal Commission has been established, with representatives identified for each of the tribes noted in the proclamation. The BLM has participated in two in-person meetings with the Commission and have started to identify opportunities to work together. The BLM has coordinated with the USFS on day-to-day activities and initiated discussions regarding short- and long-term management needs. A coordination call is held between the agencies on a weekly basis to discuss ongoing action items, including responses to public inquiries. The BLM prepared a Monument Advisory Committee (MAC) Charter (signed by Secretary Jewell) and a Federal Register Notice calling for nominations to the MAC (not yet published). There has been no change in day-to-day management since designation of BENM and no change in grazing or the number of permitted AUMs.

#### **Summary of Activities in Area for 5 years Preceding Pre-Designation**

These lands have been managed according to the 2008 Monticello Resource Management Plan, which includes multiple-use management objectives. Approximately 727,000 acres (68 percent) of the BLM lands that are within the monument were managed with some level of a protective designation either under the existing land use plan as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, natural areas, and Special Recreation Management Areas; or as designated Wilderness Study Areas. There has been no change in day-to-day management since designation of BENM.

**Summary of Available Economic Information since Designation**

A cursory review of mineral potential is included in the Drive folder (4.c.d.Cursory Review of the Mineral Potential Occurrence within the Bears Ears NM BLM). Unlike many of the other monuments included in the Executive Order review, economic information has not been developed for BENM because of its recent designation.

**Summary of Any Boundary Adjustments since Designation**

Not applicable. The proclamation establishing the BENM directed the Secretary to explore entering into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the State of Utah for the exchange of approximately 109,000 acres of state inholdings within BENM for BLM lands outside the monument. Further, the Secretary was ordered to report to the President by Jan. 19, 2017, regarding the potential for the exchange. In response, the BLM drafted an MOU for review by the Utah State Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA). SITLA has temporarily declined to participate in review of the MOU pending the outcome of the monument review under the executive order. The BLM anticipates that at the conclusion of the review process, SITLA will be receptive to dialog regarding exchange opportunities.

## Call for Data Related to Review of National Monuments under EO 13792 (April 26, 2017)

### 1. Documents Requested

#### a. Resource Management Plans/Land Use Plans

- i. Bears Ears National Monument (BENM) has not yet initiated a Monument Management Plan (MMP). The 2008 Monticello RMP will be followed in the interim. The entire Monticello RMP (DEIS/FEIS/ROD) can be accessed here: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/planAndProjectSite.do?methodName=renderDefaultPlanOrProjectSite&projectId=68097&dctmId=0b0003e880befb7c>. A copy of the 5-year RMP Evaluation is also in this folder (1.a.Monticello\_RMP\_Evaluation\_September\_2015.pdf).

#### b. Record of Decision

- i. BENM has not yet initiated a Monument Management Plan. The 2008 Monticello RMP will be followed in the interim. The ROD is in this folder (1.b.Monticello\_Final\_Plan\_ROD.pdf) and can be accessed here: [https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/projects/lup/68097/85493/102694/Monticello\\_Final\\_Plan.pdf](https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/projects/lup/68097/85493/102694/Monticello_Final_Plan.pdf). Approximately 1,000 acres of BENM is within the Moab Field Office. The Moab RMP is located here: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/planAndProjectSite.do?methodName=renderDefaultPlanOrProjectSite&projectId=66098&dctmId=0b0003e880bf5947>

#### c. Public Scoping Documents

- i. Public scoping has not yet been initiated for a BENM MMP. The first public comment period post- designation associated with BENM is the DOI Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment.

#### d. Presidential Proclamation

- i. Proclamation 9558 of December 28, 2016 is in this folder (1.d.Bears Ears Presidential Proclamation.pdf).

### 2. Information on activities permitted at the Monument, including annual levels of activity from the **date of designation to the present (Designation date for BENM is December 28, 2016 - information is not yet available for most of FY17)**

#### a. Recreation - annual visits to site

- i. The BLM uses the Recreation Management Information System (RMIS) to report visitor use. Full reporting for annual visitation 2017 will not be available until the end of September.
- ii. Specific visitation information to the BENM is not available at this time. The

Monticello Field Office confirms that:

- Requests for overnight reservations in the Cedar Mesa area and day use permits for the Mcloyd Canyon/Moonhouse area, which are both popular recreation spots within the BENM, have increased since monument designation.
- Campgrounds in the Moab and Monticello Field Offices have remained full through much of this spring season, even on non-weekend days, and the number of overnight visitors is higher compared to this same time last year.

Detailed visitor data for the Monticello Field Office is available in this folder (2.a.RMISData\_SelectInfo\_2012\_2016.pdf).

- iv. The number of recorded visitors to the Kane Gulch ranger station during the months of March and April was higher than in previous years. Included below are visitor numbers from the Kane Gulch ranger station.
  - 2013 - 3,484 visitors
  - 2014 - 3,730 visitors
  - 2015 - 4,344 visitors
  - 2016 - 4,848 visitors
  - 2017 - 6,535 visitors
- b. Energy - annual production of coal, oil, gas and renewables (if any) on site; amount of energy transmission infrastructure on site (if any)
  - i. There are no producing oil and gas wells and no coal developments in BENM. While public lands in the monument are now withdrawn from mineral leasing, valid existing rights were protected under the proclamation. Therefore, development on existing leases could occur.
  - ii. There are 25 authorized federal oil and gas leases (29,416 acres) that are partially or wholly contained within the area that is now the BENM. The effective date on these leases ranges from 1972-2012. There are no authorized or pending APDs associated with these leases.
  - iii. Since 1920, 250 wells have been drilled in the BENM. The last wells were drilled in 1993. Of the 250 wells drilled, three wells have produced economical quantities of oil and gas. The last producing well was drilled in 1984.
  - iv. Since designation of the BENM, there has been no new construction of energy transmission infrastructure.
- c. Minerals - annual mineral production on site
  - i. There are no active mining operations in the BENM. There is one commercial mineral materials site. The permit for this site was renewed on March 13, 2016,

for a 10-year period. Production over the next 10 years is limited to 200,000 cubic yards (cu yds) at a rate of \$1.08 per cu yd. Due to the short timeframe since designation (five months), it is not possible to calculate the annual mineral production since designation.

- d. Timber - annual timber production on site (in board-feet, CCF, or similar measure)
  - Timber production in the BENM is limited to non-commercial Christmas tree cutting permits, and permits for the collection of wood products (i.e., posts and firewood). Due to the short timeframe since designation (five months), it is not possible to calculate the annual timber production since designation. Collection of forest products, and firewood for personal noncommercial use is allowed under the monument proclamation.
- e. Grazing - annual grazing on site (AUMs permitted and sold)
  - i. There are 20 allotments wholly or partially contained within BENM. These allotments include 50,469 permitted Animal Unit Months (AUMs). Allotment boundaries do not coincide with the BENM boundary, and therefore it is not possible to calculate the number of AUMs currently permitted within the monument. Due to the short timeframe since designation (five months), it is not possible to calculate the annual AUMs sold.
- f. Subsistence - participation rates for subsistence activities occurring on site (fishing, hunting, gathering); quantities harvested; other quantifiable information where available
  - i. Subsistence activities are those that provide the bare essentials for living: food, water, and shelter. The Federal Subsistence Management Program provides opportunities for subsistence way of life in Alaska on federal public lands and waters. There are no formal subsistence programs outside of Alaska. BENM does provide for the collection of certain natural materials, including firewood by Native American Indians, under BLM permit. Information regarding firewood collection is included under the discussion of timber production.
  - ii. RMIS data provides the number of permitted/guided and recreational hunting activities and fishing activities (BENM\_5YearRecreationData). These numbers do not reflect the actual number of licensed hunters/fishermen. That data is available from the State of Utah Division of Wildlife Resources. The entire BENM is open for hunting and fishing, which is regulated by the State of Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.
- g. Cultural - list of cultural uses/values for site; number of sites; other quantifiable information where available

- i. The Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition requested designation of the BENM. The Inter-Tribal Coalition, which includes the Hopi, Zuni Tribe, Navajo Nation, Ute Mountain Ute, and Northern Ute, have stated that the entire 1.35 million-acre BENM includes important cultural values. The importance of these values, which was recognized in the monument proclamation, are discussed in the Inter-Tribal Coalitions monument proposal. (2.g.Bears-Ears-Inter-Tribal-Coalition-Proposal.pdf), which was submitted to the department on Oct. 15, 2015. The cultural values of the area are also explained in the proclamation.
- ii. Tribes use the BENM for ceremonies and to visit sacred sites. Traditions of hunting, fishing, gathering, and wood cutting are still practiced by tribal members, as is collection of medicinal and ceremonial plants, edible herbs, and materials for crafting items like baskets and footwear. The BLM issues free use permits for collection of materials for ceremonial purposes.
- iii. According to the Utah State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), as of Feb. 6, 2017, there are 8,480 recorded archaeological sites and four archaeological districts within BENM. According to the National Register Bulletin 36: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Archeological Properties, a “district” is a grouping of sites, buildings, structures, or objects that are linked historically by function, theme, or physical development or aesthetically by plan. The following archaeological districts are either completely within or partially within the BENM: Butler Wash, Grand Gulch, Natural Bridges, and the Salt Creek Archaeological District.
- iv. More than 70 percent of these sites are prehistoric (pre-dating the 1800s). These prehistoric sites include pottery and stone tool (lithic) scatters, the remains of cooking features (hearths), storage features such as adobe granaries and subsurface stone lined granaries, prehistoric roads, petroglyphs, pictographs and cliff dwellings. Historic sites include historic debris scatters, roads, fences, uranium and vanadium mines from World War II and the Cold War.
- v. The BLM has not completely surveyed the monument. The total percentage of the BENM that has been surveyed for cultural resources is 9.2 percent.

### 3. Information on activities occurring during the **5 years prior to designation**

#### a. Recreation - annual visits to site

- i. The BLM uses the RMIS to report visitor use. BENM is a subset of the Monticello Field Office. RMIS data for the Monticello Field Office is included in the folder (2.a.RMISData\_SelectInfo\_2012\_2016.pdf).

#### b. Energy - annual production of coal, oil, gas and renewables (if any) on site; amount of energy transmission infrastructure on site (if any)

- i. There was no energy production from coal, oil, gas, or renewables during the five years prior to designation (2012-2016). The last producing oil and gas well was drilled in 1984. The last well was drilled in 1993.
  - ii. No energy transmission infrastructure was constructed within the BENM during the five years prior to designation. There are 13 existing power transmission lines that intersect the BENM. These lines were constructed from 1969-1984. There are four oil and gas pipelines or related facilities that were constructed in 1963. Additional information on energy transmission infrastructure and other lands and realty actions is attached (3.b.Lands\_and\_Realty.pdf).
- c. **Minerals - annual mineral production on site**
  - i. During the five years prior to designation, mineral production was limited to one mineral material site. The permit for this site was renewed on March 13, 2016, for 10 years. Production over the next 10 years is limited to 200,000 cubic yards (cu yds) at a rate of \$1.08 per cu yd. Production numbers for the past five years are included below. This production occurred at a rate of .90 cents per cu yd.
    - 2011- 16,000 cu yds
    - 2012- 12,000 cu yds
    - 2013- 31,622 cu yds
    - 2014- 44,444 cu yds
    - 2015- 2,914 cu yds
- d. **Timber - annual timber production on site (in board-feet, CCF, or similar measure)**
  - i. During the five years prior to designation, timber production in the BENM was limited to non-commercial Christmas tree permits, and permits for the collection of wood products (i.e., posts and firewood). Production information for the site can be found the folder (3.d.Timber\_Production\_2012\_2016). Information provided is for the entire field office and is not limited to the area that now part of the BENM. The BLM does collect location information.
- e. **Grazing - annual grazing on site (AUMs permitted and sold)**
  - i. There are 20 allotments wholly or partially contained within BENM. These allotments include 50,469 permitted AUMs. Allotment boundaries do not coincide with the BENM boundary, and therefore it is not possible to calculate the number of AUMs currently permitted within the monument boundary. AUMs sold during the past five years are included below.
    - 2012- 27,836 AUMs
    - 2013- 29,175 AUMs
    - 2014- 32,193 AUMs
    - 2015- 32,129 AUMs

- 2016- 36,402 AUMs

- f. Subsistence - participation rates for subsistence activities occurring on site (fishing, hunting, gathering); quantities harvested; other quantifiable information where available
  - i. As previously mentioned, subsistence activities are those that provide the bare essentials for living: food, water, and shelter. The Federal Subsistence Management Program provides opportunities for subsistence way of life in Alaska on federal public lands and waters. There are no formal subsistence programs outside of Alaska. BENM does provide for the collection of certain natural materials, including firewood by Native American Indians, under BLM permit. Permits issued to American Indians for collection are accounted for in the annual timber production numbers.
- g. Cultural - list of cultural uses/values for site; number of sites; other quantifiable information where available
  - i. See response to 2.g.

4. Information on activities that likely would have occurred annually from the date of designation to the present **if the Monument had not been designated**

**The answer to this question would be highly speculative. The question is best answered with qualitative (rather than quantitative) data. As BENM was designated less than five months ago, there has been very little change in the management of activities since the date of designation.**

- a. Recreation - annual visits to site
  - i. Visitation numbers collected by the Monticello Field Office indicate that visitation in the area that is now designated as Bears Ears National Monument (2.a.RMISData\_SelectInfo\_2012\_2016.pdf) has been steadily increasing. This is consistent with visitation increases also seen in Natural Bridges National Monument and the Needles District of Canyonlands National Park, which can only be accessed by traveling through the BENM.
  - ii. The BLM uses the RMIS to report visitor use. Full reporting for annual visitation 2017 will not be available until the end of September.
- b. Energy - annual production of coal, oil, gas and renewables (if any) on site; amount of energy transmission infrastructure on site (if any)
  - i. Due to the short timeframe since designation, it is unlikely that any activities resulting in production of coal, oil, gas, or renewable energies would have occurred from the date of designation to present.
  - ii. A cursory review of mineral potential is included in the Drive folder (4.c.d.Cursory Review of the Mineral Potential Occurrence within the Bears Ears



NM\_BLM and 4.c.d.EnergyDevMap\_BENM\_UDSH).

- iii. There are 25 authorized federal oil and gas leases (29,416 acres) that are partially or wholly contained within the area that is now the BENM. The effective date on these leases ranges from 1972-2012. There are no authorized or pending Applications for a Permit to Drill ( APDs) associated with these leases.
  - iv. According to BLM GIS data, there have been approximately 63,657 acres nominated for leasing in the BENM area since 2014. The BLM does not have GIS data for nominations prior to this date. In addition, expressions of interest were considered confidential prior to Jan. 1, 2014. Prior to designation, these leases were deferred because of existing land use plan decisions, cultural resource concerns, or at the State Director's discretion. All nominated parcels that were deferred were within the planning area for the proposed San Juan Master Leasing Plan.
  - v. Due to the short timeframe since designation, it is unlikely that any activities resulting in development of new energy transmission infrastructure would have occurred from the date of designation to present. Prior to designation, there were no pending applications for construction of new energy transmission infrastructure or proposed energy developments.
- c. **Minerals - annual mineral production on site**
- i. Due to the short timeframe since designation, it is unlikely that any additional mineral production would have occurred from the date of designation to present because there were no pending applications or permits.
  - ii. A cursory review of mineral potential is included in the Drive folder (4.c.d.Cursory Review of the Mineral Potential Occurrence within the Bears Ears NM\_BLM and 4.c.d.EnergyDevMap\_BENM\_UDSH).
  - iii. Portions of the BENM have potash development potential and historically there have been potash prospecting applications in the area. However, land use planning decisions made prior to the designation of BENM preclude processing of those applications.
- d. **Timber - annual timber production on site (in board-feet, CCF, or similar measure)**
- i. The BLM does not have sufficient information to determine how designation of the BENM has impacted timber production (i.e., Christmas tree cutting, wood post cutting, or firewood collection). However, under the monument proclamation these uses are allowed to continue. Therefore, it is unlikely that designation of the monument has impacted timber production.
- e. **Grazing - annual grazing on site (AUMs permitted and sold)**
- i. Designation of the monument has not changed the number of permitted AUMs.

The BLM does not have sufficient information to determine how designation of the BENM has impacted the number of AUMs sold. However, under the monument proclamation, grazing is allowed to continue, subject to laws, regulations, and policies followed by U.S. Forest Service (USFS) or the BLM in issuing and administering grazing permits or leases.

- f. Subsistence - participation rates for subsistence activities occurring on site (fishing, hunting, gathering); quantities harvested; other quantifiable information where available
  - i. The BLM does not have sufficient information to predict how designation of the monument has impacted participation rates in subsistence activities.
- g. Cultural - list of cultural uses/values for site; number of sites; other quantifiable information where available
  - i. The BLM does not have sufficient information to predict how designation of the monument has impacted cultural uses of the monument. However, the monument proclamation requires that the BLM and USFS provide access by members of Indian tribes for traditional cultural and customary uses, consistent with the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (42 U.S.C. 1996) and Executive Order 13007 of May 24, 1996 (Indian Sacred Sites).

#### 5. Changes to boundaries - dates and changes in size

- i. There have been no changes to boundaries.

#### 6. Public Outreach prior to Designation - outreach activities conducted and opportunities for public comment

- i. The public process preceding BENM designation is outlined in the document 6.Bears Ears Fact Facts QA.pdf (released with the DOI/USDA joint press release on 12/28/16) in this folder. Secretary Jewell held a public meeting in Bluff, Utah in July 2016. See also: <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-under-secretary-bonnie-join-utah-local-leaders-public-meeting-hear>.

#### 7. Terms of Designation

- i. Refer to Proclamation for the terms of designation. No additional background (e.g., legislated land exchanges or Congressional budget provisions, etc.).