

To: Polly, P. David[pdpolly@indiana.edu]
Cc: John Long[john.long@flinders.edu.au]; Emily Rayfield[glejr@bristol.ac.uk]; Serena Weisman[sweisman@faseb.org]; Randall B Irmis (irmis@umn.h.utah.edu)[irmis@umn.h.utah.edu]; Foss, Scott[sfoss@blm.gov]
From: Shimada, Kenshu
Sent: 2017-04-28T12:09:51-04:00
Importance: Low
Subject: RE: Executive Order and DOI press releases that may be relevant to SVP
Received: 2017-04-28T12:09:59-04:00

Hi David and all,

Please allow me to copy this response to Randy Irmis, and I do so because the Bears Ears and Grand Escalante Staircase are two particular monuments I regularly hear/see on news in regards to the new executive order. We shall wait to see what happens unless we are recommended to take specific proactive actions, but do I think we need to have some plans as to how to respond just in case. In particular, we would need information about the paleo-yield potential for all monuments under review (but at least for the two aforementioned monuments which Randy is very familiar with) that can be promptly presented to the negotiating table *IF* we get a chance to respond. I'm sure there are certain areas in each monument that are more paleontologically sensitive than others, so *IF* the monument land is proposed to be reduced in size, we want to make sure we know which section(s) of each monument is/are 'non-negotiable' on the paleontological standpoint. What do you think?

Kenshu

-----Original Message-----

From: Polly, P. David [mailto:pdpolly@indiana.edu]
 Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 7:59 PM
 To: Foss, Scott
 Cc: Shimada, Kenshu; John Long; Emily Rayfield; Serena Weisman
 Subject: Re: Executive Order and DOI press releases that may be relevant to SVP

Dear Scott,

Thank you following through on our request for information about potential threats to National Monument designations.

As you know, SVP has an active interest in fossil resources on public lands. We are particularly concerned that the few protections that are in place remain so. The recent designation of Bears Ears Monument was an important advance in protecting fossil resources. As you know, SVP has been a long time advocate for protection of this area from damage to critically important fossil sites in the area. Many of our members have worked their entire careers in that region, as well as Grand Escalante Staircase, and are well aware of its scientific importance.

I am therefore astonished to read Secretary Zinke's statement that implies that the decision to protect these areas was made by people in Washington without input from those who "driven the trails or looked locals in the eye". Our members have not only driven the trails, but many of them are locals who are familiar with the landscape, the people, the resources, and the very real threats that faced these lands before they were protected. That is why we implored the previous Secretary to designate Bears Ears as a National Monument. I have attached one of the letters we sent as reference. For once we felt that the people along the Potomac were listening to those of us on the ground.

Please keep us informed how SVP can contribute to the consultation. Even though this action by President Trump and Secretary Zinke places an unnecessary burden on our members and leadership team to reiterate again the reasons for protecting these lands, we are nevertheless eager to do so. The

protections afforded by these national monuments are critical to our science and to the national heritage associated with it.

With best wishes,
David

P. David Polly

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On 27 Apr 2017, at 8:40 PM, Foss, Scott <sfoss@blm.gov> wrote:

At your request, I am forwarding information that may be relevant to SVP.
Thank you for your interest.

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<Executive Order, Review of Designations Under the Antiquities Act, April 26, 2017.pdf><Zinke
2017, Finally, rural America has a voice again, executive order on monument designations.pdf><Zinke
2017, Support of President Trump's American Energy Executive Order.pdf>