

**From:** Ross, Paul  
**To:** [Crandall, Megan](#)  
**Cc:** [Heather Swift](#); [Allen, Matthew](#); [Laura Rigas](#); [Megan Bloomgren](#)  
**Subject:** Re: New York Times Bears Ears inquiry and proposed response  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 10, 2017 1:37:10 PM

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+Laura & Meg

I think the background and quote provided by BLM are appropriate given the query. But would defer to the others on this chain.

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On Wed, May 10, 2017 at 2:08 PM, Crandall, Megan <[mcrandal@blm.gov](mailto:mcrandal@blm.gov)> wrote:  
Heather, sorry to bug you again but this is a Bears Inquiry from Julie Turkowitz at the *New York Times*.

She asked for differences between the management of monuments and national parks and for the differences between management of Bears Ears lands now and before designation.

Ultimately, I encouraged her to talk to NPS for info on how they manage their lands and I don't want to get into the weeds on the rest. However, I propose giving her the info below. I have incorporated language from our statement regarding the executive order; a mention of the first-ever formal public comment period; and let her know that management of these lands continues under the existing resource management plans.

She's on a tight deadline, so I'm hoping I can catch you at a good time. I don't want to no comment on this if at all possible, but I do understand that this is a sensitive issue, which is why I'm sending it your way for your thoughts.

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## BACKGROUND

The BLM manages 19 national monuments subject to review under Presidential Executive Order 13792, signed April 26, 2017. These monuments, which include southern Utah's Bears Ears National Monument, span approximately 10.7 million acres in nine western states.

While these monuments are under review, BLM-administered lands within the

Bears Ears National Monument boundaries will continue to be managed under the current resource management plans and the master leasing plan.

These plans are:

[2008 Monticello RMP](#), as amended by the [2016 Moab Master Leasing Plan](#)  
[2008 Moab RMP](#), as amended by the 2016 Moab Master Leasing Plan (to a much lesser extent as only a few thousand acres are involved)

## ATTRIBUTABLE

The BLM looks forward to supporting the President's priorities and direction provided by the Secretary of the Interior regarding this review, which includes the first-ever formal public comment period on monument designations under the Antiquities Act.

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