

**From:** Rigas, Laura  
**To:** [Wynn, Todd](#)  
**Cc:** [Heather Swift](#); [downey\\_magallanes@ios.doi.gov](#); [russell\\_newell@ios.doi.gov](#); [john\\_tanner@ios.doi.gov](#); [bsteed@blm.gov](#); [steven\\_m\\_smith@ios.doi.gov](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Press release UT monuments  
**Date:** Monday, December 04, 2017 11:12:42 AM

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Downey is with the boss and Heather is on the ground dealing with reporters and logistics. Pls use other means to get the quote. Welcome John's help. Thanks!

*Laura Keehner Rigas*  
*Communications Director*  
*U.S. Department of the Interior*  
*(202) 897-7022 cell*  
*@Interior*

On Mon, Dec 4, 2017 at 11:08 AM, Wynn, Todd <[todd\\_wynn@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_wynn@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

We can likely track down Benally's email and phone number. I think we have that lying around but I know others have been working with her/talking with her directly and may be on the ground with her as I email this so I am thinking I am not really the best person to get this quote.

Downey? Heather? Tanner?

Todd

On Mon, Dec 4, 2017 at 10:46 AM, Rigas, Laura <[laura\\_rigas@ios.doi.gov](mailto:laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Hi all --

Just a quick rundown on the quotes-- WH is working on the POTUS quote, OCO will work on the Secretary's quote. We already have the GOV and Hatch quotes.

Todd-- could your team please reach out to Benally and get us her statement?

Thanks,

L

*Laura Keehner Rigas*  
*Communications Director*  
*U.S. Department of the Interior*  
*(202) 897-7022 cell*  
*@Interior*

On Sat, Dec 2, 2017 at 6:47 PM, Todd Wynn <[todd\\_wynn@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_wynn@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Ok. That should hopefully be enough time. if we don't hear by tomorrow I feel fairly confident we can track it down Monday morning.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 2, 2017, at 6:37 PM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

1PM. Fifteen minutes after POTUS gets off stage.

Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

On Dec 2, 2017, at 6:36 PM, Todd Wynn <[todd\\_wynn@ios.doi.gov](mailto:todd_wynn@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Yep. We are working on Governor quote. Made phone calls and emails no word yet but I'm sure we will get it. What time are you trying to get this out by Monday?

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 2, 2017, at 11:35 AM, Heather Swift <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Below is the final press release cleared by SOL. Pardon if there are hanging punctuation marks. I'm on my phone. A hard copy edit will be done when it's put in the delivery system.

Please let me know if you have any issues.

External/Congressional can you get quotes?

**President Trump and  
Secretary Zinke Announce Modification to  
Utah Monuments, Resulting in 5 Unique  
National Monument Units Totaling More Than  
1.2 Million Acres**

*Modifications protect paleontological  
resources, Native American artifacts and other  
objects of historic or scientific interest  
while restoring traditional use and access to  
public land*

(SALT LAKE CITY) Acting upon the  
recommendation of Secretary of the Interior  
Ryan Zinke, and with the support of  
Utah's governor, Congressional delegation, local  
officials, and residents, President Donald J.

Trump today signed proclamations to adjust the boundaries and management of Utah's Bears Ears National Monument (BENM) and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM). The proclamations modify the boundaries of those monuments and result in five unique monument units within the two monuments which protect important objects of historical and scientific interest.

#### POTUS STATEMENT

#### ZINKE STATEMENT

#### GOVERNOR STATEMENT

#### BENALLY STATEMENT

#### HATCH STATEMENT

**Bears Ears National Monument:** The BENM will now encompass two monument units, Shah Jaa and Indian Creek, which will continue to be jointly managed by the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service. Shah Jaa is approximately 129,979 acres and Indian Creek is approximately 71,896 acres. Collectively, at approximately 201,875 acres in size, Bears Ears remains larger than both Utah's Bryce Canyon National Park and Zion National Park combined. The new proclamation allows for increased public access to the land and restores traditional use allowance for activities like cattle grazing and motorized recreation, and tribal collection of wood and herbs. Objects that remain within monument boundaries include: the "Bears Ears" buttes, Lime Ridge Clovis Site, Moon House Ruin, Doll House Ruin, Indian Creek Rock Art, and Newspaper Rock. The federal lands not included in the new monuments will continue to be managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Forest Service.

In addition, the President’s proclamation provides that the Bears Ears Commission will provide guidance and recommendations for the Shash Jaa unit of the monument and will be expanded to include a Native American San Juan County Commissioner elected by the majority-Native American voting district in that County. The President and Secretary also request that Congress formally allocate Tribal co-management of the monument.

### **Grand Staircase-Escalante National**

**Monument:** The GSENM will now consist of three distinct monument units, the “Grand Staircase” (209,993 acres), “Kaiparowits” (551,034 acres), and “Escalante Canyons” (242,836 acres), and all three will be managed by the BLM. The three new monument areas collectively total 1,003,863 acres, which is larger than the entire state of Rhode Island. The federal lands not included in the new monuments will continue to be managed by the BLM.

In the twenty years since designation of the GSENM, the objects identified by the proclamation have been more thoroughly examined and mapped, which offered the opportunity to examine the significance of the objects previously identified and determine the proper size of the reservation necessary to protect those objects. The modified monument includes important objects identified in the original designation, including those areas with the highest concentration of fossil resources, important landscape features such as the Grand Staircase, Upper Paria Canyon System, Kaiparowits Plateau, Escalante Natural Bridge, Upper Escalante Canyons, East Kaibab Monocline, Grosvenor Arch, Old Paria Townsite, Dance Hall Rock, and relict plant communities such as No Mans Mesa.

### **FACT VS FICTION: Antiquities Act and**

## Monument Review

**Myth:** *No president has shrunk a monument.*

**False:** Monuments have been reduced at least eighteen times under presidents on both sides of the aisle. Some examples include Pres. John F. Kennedy removing 2882 acres from Bandelier, Presidents Taft, Wilson, Coolidge reducing Mount Olympus National Monument, and President Eisenhower reducing Great Sand Dunes National Monument in Colorado.

**Myth:** *The monument review will sell/transfer public lands to states.*

**False:** This is not true. The Secretary adamantly opposes the wholesale sale or transfer of public lands. The Antiquities Act only Federal land may be reserved as a national monument. Therefore, if any monument is reduced, the land would remain federally owned and would be managed by the appropriate Federal land management agency, such as the BLM, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or the National Park Service (NPS).

**Myth:** *Removing the monument designation from land will leave Native American artifacts and paleontological objects subject to looting or desecration.*

**False:** This is not true. Whether these resources are found on land designated as a monument, national forest, BLM- managed public land, or other federal land, it is generally illegal to remove or disrupt these resources without a permit issued by the federal government.

**Myth:** *The monument review will close/sell/transfer national parks.*

**False:** No national parks are under review. Of the 27 national monuments that are under review, only 2 are managed by the NPS and neither of them were recommended for rescission or boundary adjustments. The Secretary has continually

committed he is against the sale/transfer/privatization of public lands, especially national parks. While two of the monuments are managed by the NPS - much like historic sites, national recreation areas, and national seashores - none of them are National Parks.

***Myth:** The review was done without meeting advocates for national monuments.*

**False:** The Secretary visited eight monuments in six states and personally hosted more than 60 meetings attended by hundreds of local stakeholders. Attendees included individuals and organizations representing all sides of the debate ranging from environmental organizations like the Wilderness Society and Nature Conservancy to county commissioners and, residents, and ranchers who prefer multiple use of the land.

***Myth:** Tribal Nations were not consulted.*

**False:** This is patently false. Before traveling to Utah, the Secretary met with Tribal representatives in his office. On his first day in Utah in May, the Secretary met with the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition in Salt Lake City, for just under two hours. Throughout the four-day survey of the Utah monuments, the Secretary also met with local Tribal representatives who represent different sides of the debate. The Secretary also met with Tribal representatives for their input on several other monuments from Maine to New Mexico to Oregon and everywhere in between. Additionally, the Department hosted several Tribal listening sessions at the Department and across the country, including a four hour session with the Acting Deputy Secretary on May 30th.

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Heather Swift  
Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

Todd M. Wynn

Director of the Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

Office of the Secretary

U.S. Department of the Interior

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NOTE: *Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.*