

**From:** Bowman, Randal  
**To:** [Swift, Heather](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Moument Review comments  
**Date:** Monday, June 12, 2017 12:27:01 PM

---

The Federal Register notice published on May 11, so that the opening of the comment period.

On Mon, Jun 12, 2017 at 12:35 PM, Swift, Heather <[heather\\_swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:heather_swift@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:  
Did the public comment period open on May 12?

-

Heather Swift  
Department of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
[Heather\\_Swift@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov) | [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

On Mon, Jun 12, 2017 at 12:13 PM, Bowman, Randal <[randal\\_bowman@ios.doi.gov](mailto:randal_bowman@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Here is the material I mentioned this morning - was unexpected tied up most of the time since our discussion.

Interior has received approximately 167,000 comments on the monument review as of Friday. Some of the comments were on the overall review, some on the Bears Ears National Monument, and some on other monuments. Some commenters want no changes to any National Monument Proclamations, others expressly advocate no changes to the Bears Ears National Monument, some want Bears Ears or other National Monuments revoked, and others want Bears Ears or other National Monuments reduced in size so that the monument area more closely aligns with the objects the monument was intended to protect. We are evaluating all of these approaches.

Additionally, the Utah Congressional delegation has expressed strong support for the overall review. They noted that while they support full rescission of Utah's "most excessive monuments", their top priority is establishment of new precedent for designating national monuments, one that remains consistent with the original intent of the Antiquities Act by limiting designations to the smallest area compatible with protection of the antiquities therein. The Governor and the State Legislature have urged the President to rescind the Bears Ears National Monument Proclamation.

The Secretary has also requested and received comments from other Members of Congress and Governors on National Monuments under review in their States or Districts.

The Secretary met with the Bears Ears InterTribal Coalition while visiting the Bears Ears Monument on May 7, and the Acting Deputy Secretary held a four-hour follow-up meeting with the Bears Ears Commission and the InterTribal Coalition on May 25. The Hopi Tribe and the Navajo Nation have submitted official comments opposing any change to the Bears Ears National Monument.

The Department has provided Tribes with an additional route for providing comments, separate and distinct from those of the general public, through a dedicated Tribal consultation email inbox. The Hopi Tribe, Navajo Nation, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Ute Indian Tribe, Zuni Pueblo, Pueblo of Laguna, and Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians have all submitted official comments opposing any change to the Bears Ears monument. Due to the nature of the review and the relatively short time period involved, it is not possible to engage in formal consultations with interested Tribal governments on the monument reviews.

Instead, the Department is conducting a series of listening sessions with Tribes to obtain their input on a government-to-government basis. The Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs has generally led these sessions with Federal representatives from Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Forest Service. To date, the Department has held sessions on May 25, 2017, in Portland, Oregon, at the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians’ mid-year convention; on May 30, in Billings, Montana; and on June 1, 2017, in Phoenix, Arizona. An additional listening session will be held on June 12, 2017, at the National Congress of American Indians’ mid-year convention in Uncasville, Connecticut.