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Lynn Riggs

(b) (6)

Kanab, UT 84741

February 12, 2017

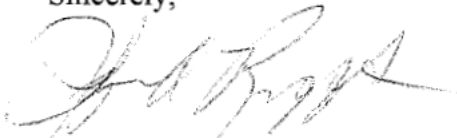
Secretary Ryan Zinke
Department of Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington DC 20240

Honorable Ryan Zinke:

I am a ranch and business owner in Kane County and I am writing to express my support of shrinking the size of the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument (GSENM) and the Bears Ears National Monument. I believe the reduction of the GSENM and Bears Ears National Monument to a size that protects sensitive areas, but frees up the rest of the area for recreational and agricultural uses will have a positive business and economic impact on the nearby areas yet protect the sensitive areas. Also if people were drawn to live or retire here to be near these areas they can enjoy it without the restrictions of the Monuments. The BLM would still maintain operational control of the areas, but it would be under a normal operational control that we enjoy with the BLM in other areas. Not the adversary control that is currently perpetuated by the managers of the GSENM and will be perpetuated under the Bears Ears National Monument.

Unlike others that would try to convince you of the negative impact that shrinking the GSENM would have on business, I as a business owner see it as a positive impact or in worst case it will have no impact.

Sincerely,



Lynn Riggs