

To: 'Jim Catlin'[jim@wildutahproject.org]
Cc: Butts, Sally[sbutts@blm.gov]; Bob Wick[rwick@blm.gov]
From: Clayton Daughenbaugh
Sent: 2017-05-23T17:46:15-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Grand Staircase Escalante economic data
Received: 2017-05-23T17:46:43-04:00

Jim:

I'm cc'ing Sally and Bob so that they have the info you promised to provide.

This information, along with the clear support of the Escalante/Boulder Chamber of Commerce would seem to be precisely the economic impact and local input information Sec. Zinke says he wants.

Thanks,
Clayton

From: Jim Catlin [mailto:jim@wildutahproject.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2017 4:07 PM
To: Clayton Daughenbaugh <claytonhd@xmission.com>
Subject: Re: BLM Wildlands call notes...

Clayton,

I promised to provide source data for the economic indicators that I mentioned on the call.

Economic issues are driving President Trump's request to review certain monuments including the GSENM. According to neutral economic indicators, the local economies around the GSENM have done well in the past two decades. Published statistics from federal data sources including Bureau of Economic Analysis and Bureau of the Census U.S. Department of Commerce and from the Bureau of Labor Statistics U.S. Department of Labor provide the best general economic information. These indicators include population, employment, personal income and per capita income changes over time. The counties that include GSENM saw these changes in indicators from when GSENM was designated (1996) to 2012:

Population	19% increase
Employment	38% increase
Personal income	53% increase
Per capita income	28% increase

The economy for these GSENM counties did better than many other rural counties in Utah. Over a year ago, we scheduled a visit to Congressman Stewart's office to share this good news. In addition to presenting these data and the methods behind them, we submitted economic growth information in testimony submitted to Congress.

We were recently surprised when Congress Stewart claimed that the designation of GSENM had harmed the local economy. He believed that coal mining and logging jobs had been lost.

Logging never involved the GSENM because this monument lacks the needed trees that the lumber industry needs. Congress Stewart noted as unfortunate the enormous growth of the outdoor industry and the many local community services now supporting this economic sector. As of 2012, the outdoor recreation economy included 122,000 direct Utah jobs, \$12 billion in consumer spending, \$3.6 billion in wages, and \$856 million in state and local taxes in Utah. The outdoor and service industry represents more than 90% of the economy of this area and benefits from the GSENM.

Coal underlies those same formations where dinosaurs are still being discovered in the GSENM. The future for coal mining in this area does not show promise. The nearest consumer of coal is the Navajo Generation Station, 25 miles from the Monument. The last proposed coal mine in what is now a monument, the Andalex Coal Mine, never opened and is unlikely to do so in the future. The Navajo Generating Station is likely to close in a few years and with this end coal mining on the Navajo and Hopi Reservations. By closing the power plant, its operator, the Salt River Project, argues that they will save \$38 million each year by purchasing electricity from natural gas and renewable energy suppliers. With the cost of renewable energy continuing to fall and as the costs of fossil energy continues to increase, coal in this region will look even less economic as time goes by.

The Sierra Club supports a transition from coal in this area in order to provide the Hopi and Navajo tribes with new jobs and establish a sustainable economy. There are jobs we hope go to the tribes to decommission and reclaim the mines and power plant. We see an opportunity to build new clean energy jobs and use water now going to the power plant for a new local economy. With this transition in mind, we supported a two year extension to continue operation of the Navajo Power Plant.

Land managers can benefit from a tool designed to assess economic indicators on a county by county basis. BLM and the Forest Service use the Economic Profile System-Human Dimensions Toolkit (EPS-HDT). EPS-HDT is a free, easy-to-use software application that produces detailed socioeconomic reports of counties, states, and regions, including custom aggregations. EPS-HDT uses published statistics from federal data sources, including Bureau of Economic Analysis and Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce; and Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. The Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service have made significant financial and intellectual contributions to the operation and content of EPS-HDT.