

## **Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Modification**

**Decision:** The President has exercised his authority under the Antiquities Act (“Act”) to reduce the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM) (b)(5) DPP [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
in order to ensure that the Federal land set aside is the smallest area compatible with the care and management of those objects of historic or scientific interest that are appropriate for protection under the Act. Those Federal lands not included in the new monuments remain in Federal ownership and will be managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) under applicable laws and land use plans.

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 to determine the proper size of the reservation necessary to protect those resources appropriately reserved under the Act. The new monuments retain the vast majority of 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 (Cockscomb), Grosvenor Arch, Old Paria Townsite, Dance Hall Rock, and relict plant communities such as No Mans Mesa.

**Acreage Changes:** The original GSENM monument boundary that encompassed 1,865,837 acres of Federal and private land has been reduced by (b)(5) DPP [REDACTED]. The remainder would continue to be part of three national monuments as provided below.

(b)(5) DPP [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

\*\*Non-federal lands are within the external boundary are not part of the national monument but are included for reference purposes.

The President’s proclamation also provides that the Secretary may consider allowing motorized and non-mechanized vehicle use on roads outside of Wilderness Study Areas that were open to motorized use immediately prior to designation of the GSENM and maintain roads for such use in accordance with applicable law and agency policy. In addition, the proclamation provides that current authorizations for livestock grazing including the levels of grazing authorized would not be affected or curtailed because of the monument designation. The proclamation also clarifies that ecological restoration management activities related to fire management are allowed, including, for example, prescribed burns to improve plant and animal habitat or to help the land become more resilient. Finally, the proclamation directs the Secretary to prepare and maintain a management plan for each of the proposed monuments with maximum public involvement.