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**From:** Bryant, Lisa  
**Sent:** 2017-10-29T22:55:25-04:00  
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**Subject:** Follow up and final Media Report - New York Times, 360 Video Division  
**Received:** 2017-10-29T22:56:13-04:00

**New York Times 360 Video Team - Native American connections to Cedar Mesa area (Bears Ears National Monument) (UT):** Videographer, Neeti Upadyhe and a photographer were in the Bluff, Blanding, and Monument Valley areas over the weekend of 10-27-17 to 10-29-17 interviewing representatives from Zuni and Navajo tribes as well as visitors on public lands and at the Navajo Fair in Bluff. Lisa Bryant, Canyon Country PAO served as a liaison and film monitor, since some of the interviews were scheduled to take place on BLM public lands and sensitive cultural areas. The schedule shifted quite a bit and in the end, most of the filming occurred at the Cave Towers site, on State Trust Lands, and Navajo Nation in Monument Valley. (Lisa had previously coordinated with SITLA regarding the Cave Towers site.) The journalist was referred to [interior\\_press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:interior_press@ios.doi.gov) for comments regarding the announcement from Senator Hatch and Congressman Bishop regarding shrinking of the monument. Neeti may seek additional information or statements from BLM about current management of lands in the area. Lisa did provide links to website information including maps, fact sheets, and the Presidential Proclamation.

At Cave Towers, they filmed a Zuni man, Octavius Seowtewa, visitors, and members of the Zuni youth Southwest Conservation Corps crew that were on site conducting restoration work, as well as representatives from Woods Canyon, the archaeological consulting firm overseeing the work. Sunday was spent filming in Monument Valley in the Navajo Nation.

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On Wed, Oct 18, 2017 at 5:12 PM, Bryant, Lisa <[lbryant@blm.gov](mailto:lbryant@blm.gov)> wrote:

Mike, here's the detailed media inquiry and ***below that is the summary to send to WO.***

**Topics:** Native American connections to Cedar Mesa area

**Reporter:** Neeti Upadhye ([neeti@nytimes.com](mailto:neeti@nytimes.com), 212 556-4072) (*pronounced Neethee*)

**News Outlet:** New York Times

**Query recieved by:** Anne Petre, Admin Assistant Monticello Field Office & Brian Murdock, recreation specialist for Manti-La Sal NF

**Deadline:** Filming scheduled for Oct 27-29, 2017, Neeti requested location information COB by 10/19/17.

**Inquiry:** NYT 360 Video Team is planning to film two short pieces (2-3 min each) to accompany an story from local Navajo man's perspective: 1) An Indian man in and near a sacred site, talking about why the site is important to him and why protecting it is important, and 2) film a young woman (Cynthia Wilson) harvesting cedar ash or pinyon nuts and then using materials back at her home. Filming would involve 2 people from NYT and the guests on film. Camera is the size of a baseball, and sits on a small stick. She is not requesting interviews with BLM employees.

I reached out to the reporter. We discussed concerns for sensitive sites, particularly disclosing location information. She requested Fallen Roof ruin, but BLM has not developed that site for public visitation so I suggested some others, which she is willing to consider. I intend to follow up with information (location/photos) on sites more appropriate for filming.

#### **Next Steps**

1. Discuss Monticello FM recommendations for authorizing this filming with Acting DM, Gary Torres. Don is proposing issuing a filming permit with stipulations, and/or a letter of authorization for the activity, including resource protection stipulations. Don, Norbert, and I have strategized the best way document this with an abbreviated Cat Ex, focused on archaeology, given the short time frame.
2. Provide videographer with photos/locations of cultural resources sites more suited to filming.

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#### **Media Inquiry in WO format:**

**New York Times 360 Video Team - Native American connections to Cedar Mesa area (Bears Ears National Monument) (UT):** Videographer, Neeti Upadyhe, is intending to film two short (2-3 minute) 360 videos highlighting local American Indians' connections to the Cedar Mesa area: 1) Navajo woman collecting cedar ash and/or pine nuts on public lands and using them at her home, and 2) Indian American man visiting an archaeological ruin talking about the importance of these cultural resources to his family and harm that is caused by vandalism and graffiti. Filming is scheduled for Oct. 27-29, 2017. Neeti is not requesting interviews with BLM personnel. She called to ensure they have appropriate permission for filming and are aware of protocols for filming around sensitive sites. Lisa Bryant, Canyon Country District Public Affairs, intends to provide locations of cultural resource sites appropriate for filming and is willing to accompany them during filming to ensure resource protection measures are followed.

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