

From: Williams, Timothy
To: [Howarth, Robert](#); [Bowman, Randal](#)
Subject: Fwd: Business letter
Date: Tuesday, September 05, 2017 8:46:47 AM
Attachments: [Business Outreach Letter-Monument Review.pdf](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Tim Dwyer** <tim@missouribreaks.org>
Date: Fri, Sep 1, 2017 at 3:39 PM
Subject: Business letter
To: micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov, amanda_kaster@ios.doi.gov, heather_swift@ios.doi.gov, laura_rigas@ios.doi.gov, timothy_williams@ios.doi.gov, dylan_laslovich@tester.senate.gov, dayna_swanson@tester.senate.gov, erik_nylund@tester.senate.gov, megan_thatcker@daines.senate.gov, spenser_merwin@daines.senate.gov

Good Afternoon,

Attached to this email you will find a letter from small business owners located in communities near the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument. Please review and consider the voices of these local businesses.

The Friends of the Missouri Breaks Monument mission is to to protect and preserve the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument by educating the public, advocating for responsible access and environmentally responsible uses, and supporting groups and agencies that protect and restore the Monument.

Best Regards,

--

Tim Dwyer
Executive Director
Friends of the Missouri Breaks Monument
406-502-1334

--

Tim Williams
Deputy Director External Affairs
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
Desk: (202) 208-6015
Cell: (202) 706-4982

NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.

August 23, 2017

The Honorable Secretary Ryan Zinke
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20240

Dear Secretary Zinke,

As business owners from the communities surrounding the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument, we support your decision to leave this special monument intact. Since its creation in 2001, the national monument has greatly enhanced our businesses and communities by and your review created a challenging level of uncertainty about its future.

While we are thankful that the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument has been spared, we remain concerned with the threat posed by this monument review generally. Rolling back existing protections on any individual monument sets a dangerous precedent that undermines every other existing monument, including the Upper Missouri River Breaks.

Public lands are a powerful economic engine for Montana. Recent data from the [Outdoor Industry Association](#) shows that 81% of Montanans participate in outdoor recreation every year, generating \$7.1 billion in consumer spending annually, 71,000 direct jobs and \$2.2 billion in wages and salaries. In addition to this direct economic benefit, Montana's outdoor lifestyle and public lands contribute to our high quality of life, attracting and sustaining both businesses and families in our state.

In our area, the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument draws over 130,000 visitors each year, adding millions of dollars into the region's economy and supporting diverse jobs in local businesses. Research by [Headwaters Economics](#) demonstrates personal and per capita income has grown since the Monument was designated and jobs are holding steady – all indicators of growing prosperity in the region. We've built businesses and economic growth around the expectation that the Missouri Breaks will stay the way it is into the future.

Uncertainty is a difficult thing for small businesses and rural communities like ours. We cannot plan, make new investments in our businesses or hire new employees if we are unsure about the future of the Monument. Although the Missouri Breaks is no longer under review, this process has created a level of uncertainty that is bad for our business.

If the Department of Interior can rollback monument protections in Utah or Oregon, what would prevent a future administration from doing the same to the Upper Missouri Breaks?

As business owners from Montana, we believe the Missouri Breaks, and therefore our businesses, will not truly be safe until all this review is ended, and all our national monuments remain protected as they are today for future generations.

Sincerely,

Shaun Carrier
Wake Cup

Joe Demaio
Superior Home Contracting

Nichole Fugere
Missouri River Outfitters

Becky Wimmer
Property West

Tom Carrels
River Breaks Base Camp

Brian Morger
Brian Morger Fine Art

Ted Kaste
River Market

Chad Rogers
Rogers Family Chiropractic

Trapper Bowers
B Social Bar and Lanes

Robert Huberman
Center of the Universe

Kris Shaw
High Plains Gallery

Mary Baumstark
Lewistown Art Center

Sue Pollington
Book Exchange Emporium/Pollington
Healing Institute

Rick Neuwerth
Grateful Bread

*Dottie Wilson
The Infinity Bake Shop

*Gary Jimmerson
Jimmerson Chiropractic

*Janet Larson
Recoup Consignments

*Allison Fried
Dragonfly Dry Goods

*Jim Bakotich
Central Avenue Antiques

*NO MEDIA