

From: Moore, Nikki
To: [Miller, Ann](#)
Cc: [Tyler Ashcroft](#); [Allison Ginn](#); [Sally Butts](#); [Simon, Benjamin](#); [Peter Mali](#); [John Ruhs](#); [McAlear, Christopher](#); [Kathleen Benedetto](#); [Edwin Roberson](#); [Anita Bilbao](#); [Bowman, Randal](#); [Aaron Moody](#); [Timothy Fisher](#); [Kristin Bail](#)
Subject: Re: BENM data call follow-up questions
Date: Monday, May 22, 2017 4:56:58 PM
Attachments: [BENM MLPs.pdf](#)

Hi Ann,

Please find the map of the BENM and the Master Leasing Plans. Utah BLM is fast :)

Nikki Moore

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On Mon, May 22, 2017 at 5:47 PM, Moore, Nikki <nmoore@blm.gov> wrote:

Hi Ann,

Please find attached our responses (and three attachments) to the BENM follow up questions on the initial data provided. The Utah BLM office is also preparing a map for question 1 and should have that ready to send tomorrow.

Please let me know if you need anything else,

Nikki

Nikki Moore

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On Mon, May 22, 2017 at 11:51 AM, Miller, Ann <ann_miller@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Hi Nikki,

Thank you for all of the information you and your colleagues have amassed and shared with us on Bears Ears National Monument. We appreciate the time you all have taken to respond to our data call as well as all of the supplemental documents you provided. We have some follow-up and clarification questions below. I can set up a call at your convenience to talk through the questions if that is easier than responding via email. Just let me know what your preference is - if you would like me to set up a call, please let me know who to include on the invite.

Oil & Gas:

1. Is there any information about the area that the proposed San Juan Master

Leasing Plan would have encompassed? It is our understanding that it would have overlapped with at least part of what is now Bears Ears National Monument (BENM).

2. Is it possible to provide information on why acres nominated for leasing for O&G within what is now BENM were not included in quarterly lease sales? Is there any sense of levels of interest in lease nominations prior to 2014?

3. Are all existing wells on BENM now abandoned? While the last producing well was drilled in 1984, when did production actually cease on what are now monument lands?

Minerals:

4. What material is being produced at the one commercial mineral materials site?

5. What are the land use decisions that precluded processing of potash prospecting applications prior to designation?

Recreation:

6. While generally visitation increased substantially between FY15 and FY16, a couple of activities in particular increased as a percentage of total visitation.

Notably:

- “driving for pleasure” increased from 5,445 visitor days in FY15 (2% of total visitor days) to 33,496 visitor days in FY16 (6% of total visitor days)
- “climbing - mountain/rock” increased from 4,132 visitor days in FY15 (1% of total visitor days) to 29,363 visitor days in FY16 (6% of total visitor days)

Is there any insight into what is driving these jumps? I am mostly curious because in FY12-FY15, the top 5 activities by visitor day were consistently camping, backpacking, hiking/walking/running, row/float/raft, and viewing-cultural sites; but in FY16, driving for pleasure and rock climbing unseated row/float/raft and viewing-cultural sites in the top 5 activities.

7. Is Kane Gulch the only ranger station in BENM? Can visitation to Kane Gulch ranger station be considered a fairly representative proxy for visitation to BENM?

Timber:

8. We have not yet received information on timber production from the Forest Service regarding timber activities in Manti-La Sal National Forest. Do you know if commercial timber production is permitted in Manti-La Sal NF?

Cultural Resources:

9. What surveys and catalogues have been developed for cultural resources? Maps that have been shared with us indicated that only 9.2% of BENM has been inventoried for archaeological resources. Are there plans to survey the remainder of the monument?

Thanks!

Ann

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Ann Miller

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Bears Ears National Monument and Master Leasing Plans

