

From: Chambers, Micah
To: [Magallanes, Downey](#); [Bowman, Randal](#)
Subject: Fwd: National Monuments Review Letter from Congressman O'Halleran
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2017 1:01:02 PM
Attachments: [Scanned from a Xerox Multifunction Device.pdf](#)

This was sent before we requested member input so they might have another letter coming. I'll check but we have this for now.

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

From: Babbitt, Paul <Paul.Babbitt@mail.house.gov>
Date: Tue, May 2, 2017 at 5:56 PM
Subject: National Monuments Review Letter from Congressman O'Halleran
To: Micah Chambers <micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov>

Hi Micah,

Attached is a letter for the Secretary. If there is a more appropriate contact for correspondence, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Thanks,

Paul

Paul Babbitt | Legislative Assistant
Office of Congressman Tom O'Halleran (AZ-01)
126 Cannon House Office Building | Washington D.C. | 202-225-3361

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Micah Chambers
Acting Director
Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs
Office of the Secretary of the Interior

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0301

May 2, 2017

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

Dear Secretary Zinke,

As a strong proponent of public lands, I write today concerning the executive order signed last week by President Trump directing the Department of the Interior to review the establishment history and status of national monuments created since 1996 under the Antiquities Act.

Arizona's First Congressional District includes some of our nation's most treasured public lands, including the Grand Canyon. These public lands play an important role in our economy, help us preserve our history and ensure that future generations will also see these beautiful places.

The residents of Arizona have seen the economic benefits of national monument designations. These lands support thousands of jobs and bring in millions of dollars in revenue each year from visitors all over the world. Vermillion Cliffs National Monument is a strong contributor to the tourism economy of northern Arizona. In Coconino County, where Vermillion Cliffs is located, travel and tourism represent about 15,000 jobs, or 33% of private employment. Statewide, the outdoor industry contributes approximately \$5 billion to Arizona's economy, each year.

The Antiquities Act protects important tribal cultural sites. As you know, these sites have critical importance to our American Indian and Alaska Native communities. In Arizona, monuments such as Casa Grande Ruins National Monument and Navajo National Monument, preserve the history of ancient cultures, so people today and in the future, can understand our history.

While your review is required to consider factors including scope and size of national monuments, I urge your review to engage local communities, through public comments and on-the-ground listening tours. I would also ask you to consider the importance of the economic impacts these lands have on our local and state economies. Any comprehensive, thoughtful review of these lands must include robust, local, input from tribal and rural communities that have the most to gain and lose from critical decisions made in Washington.

I welcome the opportunity to assist in engaging local and tribal stakeholders during your review.

Sincerely,

Tom O'Halleran
Member of Congress