



June 28, 2017

Review, MS-1530  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW.  
Washington, DC 20240.

[Docket No. DOI-2017-0002]  
Review of Certain National Monuments Established Since 1996

Public Comment Re: Mojave Trails National Monument

Dear Secretary Zinke,

Since 1919, the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) has been the leading voice of the American people in protecting and enhancing our National Park System. On behalf of our more than 1.2 million members and supporters nationwide, including over 134,000 in California alone, I ask that you uphold the current monument designation for Mojave Trails National Monument (Mojave Trails), maintaining the boundaries and protections as established by President Obama's Proclamation on February 12, 2016. In addition to over 43,000 NPCA members and supporters who have thus far submitted comments to the Department of Interior in support of a number of our national monuments during the public comment period (Docket No. DOI-2017-0002), I too ask that you uphold the current monument designation at Mojave Trails, maintaining the boundaries and protections as established in the proclamation from President Obama in 2016.

NPCA hosts over two dozen regional offices around the nation, including in the heart of the California desert in Barstow, CA. Whether in the desert or in Washington, D.C., NPCA has been an active supporter of the protection of the California desert for nearly a decade. Mojave Trails encompasses approximately 1.6 million acres of desert in southeast California. NPCA urges you to leave Mojave Trails intact because: 1) the president does not have the legal authority to rescind or resize a national monument; 2) Mojave Trails does not exceed the smallest area necessary to protect the unique flora, fauna, and cultural artifacts protected; 3) extensive discussion and comment, resulting in overwhelming support, occurred prior to President Obama designating the monument; and 4) existing private rights are not affected by the monument.

On February 12, 2016, President Obama established Mojave Trails National Monument by presidential proclamation. The proclamation highlights numerous features protectable under the Antiquities Act that lie within Mojave Trails. Specifically, Mojave Trails National Monument is home to geological, paleontological, ecological, archeological, and historical subjects of research and crucial pieces of our history. President Obama created Mojave Trails to "preserve the objects of scientific and historic interest on the Mojave Trails lands" for the public's research and enjoyment of this and future generations. In so doing, however, the president limited the designation to the bounds of the Antiquities Act; the establishment of Mojave Trails National Monument expressly recognizes both that the monument is "limited to the smallest area compatible with the proper care

and management of the objects to be protected,” and does not impact any valid existing rights of the lands not owned or controlled by the Federal Government.

In short, Mojave Trails National Monument balances a respect for private interests by establishing the smallest compatible area with an acknowledgement of the public interests in preserving “historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects to be protected.” Below we detail the reasons why changes to Mojave Trails National Monument are not warranted:

- The president does not have the legal authority to rescind President Obama’s designation as a national monument or otherwise change the designation;
- Mojave Trails National Monument is the smallest area compatible to protect the vast historic, prehistoric, and scientific features within its boundaries. Landmarks and other points of interest protectable under the Antiquities Act—and laid out in the February 12, 2016 proclamation—are located in every corner and throughout the monument;
- Conclusions regarding the impact of establishing Mojave Trails are premature. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is only beginning to form its management plan for the monument, which is consistent with the 3-year timeline established by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA);
- The establishment of Mojave Trails has not affected the rights of landowners holding parcels within the monument;
- Creating Mojave Trails National Monument is overwhelmingly supported by the public. Political, community, business, tribal and religious leaders have expressed support for establishing this monument for nearly a decade. In creating Mojave Trails, the concerns of State and local communities and governments have been, and continue to be, accounted for in the designation process;
- The public has overwhelmingly expressed their desire for the federal government to manage Mojave Trails through its support of the monument. Notably, the federal government already managed the land comprising Mojave Trails prior to its designation as a national monument. In addition, given that the surrounding national parks (such as Death Valley and Joshua Tree National Parks) are federally managed, continuing to manage the lands comprising Mojave Trails offers an efficient, synergistic approach for the area.

### **No Legal Authority for the President to Rescind, Reduce the Size, or Modify Management or Permitted Uses of a Monument under the Antiquities Act**

The current review of 27 national monuments, including Mojave Trails, does not provide any legal avenue for the president to rescind or reduce in size any national monument. No president has the legal authority to rescind or materially modify any national monument proclaimed under the Antiquities Act.

President Trump’s Executive Order on the Review of Designations Under the Antiquities Act signed on April 26, 2017 directs the Secretary of the Department of Interior to provide the Office of Management and Budget and President Trump with potential recommendations “for such Presidential actions, legislative proposals, or other actions consistent with law as the Secretary may consider appropriate to carry out the policy set forth in section 1 of this order.” Section 1 of the order broadly talks about public input, economic growth, the “original objectives” of the Antiquities Act and “appropriately balanc[ing] the protection of landmarks, structures, and objects against the appropriate use of Federal lands and the effects on surrounding lands and communities.” At the time of President Trump’s Executive Order, you explained that you will consider whether monuments should be “rescinded, resized, [or] modified.” When asked if the president has the

power to do so unilaterally, you suggested that it is “untested” whether the president has the unilateral power to rescind a monument, but that “it’s undisputed the president has the authority to modify a monument.”<sup>1</sup>

We urge to you, Secretary Zinke, to re-examine your understanding of this issue. The president has no power unilaterally to rescind a national monument designation and no power to modify or “resize” a monument. We attach a memorandum from the law firm of Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer (“APKS Memo”) (Appendix A) and a law review article by four professors (the “Squillace Article”) (Appendix B) who collectively conclude that no such power of rescission exists and no such power to make material changes exists. The only result of the current review ordered by President Trump, therefore, would be to make recommendations to Congress, asking that Congress draft legislation to make whatever revocations or modifications your office and the president believe justified.

In summary, whether or not the president may make a rescission or modification of a monument designation does not turn on any power granted the president by the U.S. Constitution. This issue instead concerns administration of federally owned land, and the Constitution gives that power exclusively to Congress. U.S. CONST., Property Clause, art. IV, § 3. Whether or not the president has the power unilaterally to revoke a national monument designation therefore depends on whether that power is expressly or by implication delegated to the president by an Act of Congress. The Antiquities Act of 1906 authorizes the president to create national monuments on land owned or controlled by the federal government.<sup>2</sup> The act is silent about a president’s power to abolish a national monument or to reduce the size of a monument. And no such power may be implied. This is so for several reasons:

First, the U.S. Attorney General opined long ago that the Antiquities Act could not be interpreted to imply that a president has the power to revoke a national monument’s designation. No president has attempted to revoke such a designation since that Opinion was issued in 1938.<sup>3</sup>

Second, in the more than 100 years since the adoption of the Antiquities Act, Congress has adopted a comprehensive legislative portfolio to govern federally owned land, into which the Antiquities Act was folded and in relation with which it must be interpreted. One of those statutes was FLPMA, adopted in 1976.<sup>4</sup>

- Congress there in effect adopted the Attorney General’s interpretation that no revocation power should be read into the Antiquities Act by implication. When Congress legislates on a subject, “[C]ongress is deemed to know the executive and judicial gloss given to certain language and thus adopts the existing interpretation unless it affirmatively acts to change the meaning.”<sup>5</sup> Yet in FLPMA, Congress did not “affirmatively act to change the meaning” of the Antiquities Act as interpreted by the Cummings Opinion. Congress therefore effectively adopted that interpretation.

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<sup>1</sup> See Office of the Press Secretary, White House, Press Briefing by Secretary of Interior Ryan Zinke to Review the Designations Under the Antiquities Act (Apr. 25, 2017), *available at* <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/04/25/press-briefing-secretary-interior-ryan-zinke-executive-order-review>

<sup>2</sup> 54 U.S.C. § 320301(a).

<sup>3</sup> Proposed Abolishment of Castle Pinckney Nat’l Monument, 39 Op. Atty. Gen. 185 (1938).

<sup>4</sup> 43 U.S.C. § 1704 *et seq.*

<sup>5</sup> *Bledsoe v. Palm Beach Cnty. Soil & Water Conservation Dist.*, 133 F.3d 816, 822 (11th Cir. 1998) (addressing legislative action after earlier Attorney General interpretation); *see also, to the same effect, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc. v. Curran*, 456 U.S. 353, 381-82, n.66 (1982) (considering whether rights should be implied under a statute); *Souter v. Jones*, 395 F.3d 577, 598 (6th Cir. 2005).

- Rather, one of Congress’s purposes in FLPMA was to reassert its own authority over federal land withdrawals and to limit to express delegations the authority of the Executive Branch in this regard.<sup>6</sup> Accordingly, Congress repealed a number of prior statutes that had authorized Executive Branch withdrawals and revocations, and Congress also repealed a Supreme Court decision that had found an implied power in the presidency to withdraw land from oil exploration.<sup>7</sup> The Supreme Court has made clear that, to harmonize different statutes, “a specific policy embodied in a later federal statute should control our construction of [a prior one], even though it had not been expressly amended.”<sup>8</sup> This is particularly so when the later statute is a comprehensive legislative scheme.<sup>9</sup> FLPMA was the very sort of “comprehensive legislative scheme” that requires interpreting the Antiquities Act to harmonize with FLPMA, and it would not be harmonious to read into the Antiquities Act an implied authorization for a president to revoke or materially modify a prior monument’s designation.<sup>10</sup>

Moreover, it is not the case that the power to modify a monument is uncontested: A president does not have the power to do in part what he cannot do in full. It is true that some presidents did modify the size of monument designations before FLPMA, but the background of those modifications demonstrates that FLPMA withdrew the underpinnings of that authority. In 1935, the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior was asked to opine about the president’s power to reduce in size monuments created under the Antiquities Act. The Solicitor concluded that that power did exist based on the *Midwest Oil* decision.<sup>11</sup> When Congress expressly repealed *Midwest Oil*, however, the basis for the Solicitor’s decision was removed.<sup>12</sup> In FLPMA, Congress made clear when it adopted that statute that it was “specially reserv[ing] to the Congress *the authority to modify* and revoke withdrawals for national monuments created under the Antiquities Act.”<sup>13</sup> Accordingly, no president has attempted to modify the size of a national monument since FLPMA any more than to revoke such a designation altogether.

In the Executive Order of April 26, 2017, President Trump asked for a review of whether the designations “appropriately balance the protection of landmarks, structures, and objects against the appropriate use of Federal lands and the effects on surrounding lands and communities.” In the unlikely event that a court might find that a president does have the power to rescind or modify a monument designation, however, that power can be no broader than the Antiquities Act into which the power is implied. No such balancing test is found in the Antiquities Act. The balancing standard laid out in President Trump’s Executive Order on April 26, 2017 is therefore inapplicable and must not be relied on by your office in making any recommendations.

Despite that the president does not have the power to modify the bounds of Mojave Trails National Monument and that there is no precedent for the balancing test set forth in the Executive Order, NPCA provides further analysis of the criteria below addressing why the proclamation was proper, in any event.

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<sup>6</sup> 43 U.S.C. § 1704 (a)(4).

<sup>7</sup> *United States v. Midwest Oil Co.*, 236 U.S. 459 (1915).

<sup>8</sup> *See United States v. Romani*, 523 U.S. 517 (1998).

<sup>9</sup> *See Northwest Airlines, Inc. v. Transport Workers Union*, 451 U.S. 77, 97 (1981); *see also Hi-Lex Controls Inc. v. Blue Cross*, 2013 WL 228097 at \*3 (E.D. Mich. Jan. 22, 2013).

<sup>10</sup> *See* APKS Memo at pages 8-14; Squillace Article at pages 3-5.

<sup>11</sup> Opinion of the Solicitor M27657 (Jan. 30, 1935).

<sup>12</sup> *See* Squillace Article at 6-8.

<sup>13</sup> House Rep. No. 94-1163 at 9 (May 15, 1976) (emphasis added).

## **Mojave Trails Is the Smallest Area Compatible with Protecting the Objects within & those Objects are Appropriately Classified as a National Monument (Criteria (i) & (ii))**

President Trump's Executive Order specified whether the designation meets the "original objectives" and requirements of the Antiquities Act that the monument be the "smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected" and whether the designated lands are appropriately classified as those eligible for protection under that act.

The assumption behind the use of the term "original objectives" suggests there has been some change in the objectives over time, but that is not true. Nor is it true that the "original objectives" were limited to protecting small areas, as some have argued and as the review of all monuments of more than 100,000 acres suggests. You stated on April 25, 2017 that the average size of monuments designated in the early years of the act was 442 acres, but that is also incorrect.

In fact, the act was, from its inception, was intended by Congress to include large areas having historic or scientific interest as well as small areas around archeological ruins. President Theodore Roosevelt, who you lauded at his press conference, designated monuments of 818,000 acres (1908, Grand Canyon) and 640,000 (1909, Mount Olympus). The Supreme Court upheld the Grand Canyon designation in 1920.<sup>14</sup> And every court to have considered the issue since then has agreed that the act was intended to protect not just archeological "objects," but large natural areas having historic or scientific interest, as the act provides.<sup>15</sup> For example, in 1976, the Supreme Court found that a pool of water and the fish that live there are such objects.<sup>16</sup> And the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia rejected an argument that Giant Sequoia National Monument was a violation of the Antiquities Act because it included supposedly non-qualifying objects, explaining that "such items as ecosystems and scenic vistas ... did not contravene the terms of the statute."<sup>17</sup>

Given that the Antiquities Act may be used to protect objects as large as the Grand Canyon and objects of natural rather than archeological interest that are of historic or scientific interest, size alone does not make a national monument illegal under the act, nor must the "object" be as constrained as opponents of national monuments argue.

The size of Mojave Trails is especially important given the nature of the landscape. Resources in the desert are scarce, and more land is required to sustain the wildlife that are some of the "objects" of scientific interest that the proclamation protects. For instance, the typical home range of the golden eagle in the Mojave Desert is 120 square miles.<sup>18</sup> Without Mojave Trails, the golden eagle's range would be fragmented.

The size of Mojave Trails also facilitates connectivity between essential habitats for various species. One such species is the desert tortoise, a federally and state-listed threatened reptile.<sup>19</sup> For the desert tortoise, two blocks of critical habitat in Mojave Trails are the Piute-Fenner Critical Habitat Unit

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<sup>14</sup> *Cameron v. United States*, 252 U.S. 459 (1920).

<sup>15</sup> See, e.g., *Caepfert v. United States*, 426 U.S. 128 (1976); *Mountain States Legal Found. v. Bush*, 306 F.3d 1132 (D.C. Cir. 2002).

<sup>16</sup> *Caepfert*, 426 U.S. at 141-42.

<sup>17</sup> *Tulare County v. Bush*, 306 F.3d 1138, 1141-42 (D.C. Cir. 2002).

<sup>18</sup> Brahan, Martha, et al., *Home in the heat: Dramatic seasonal variation in home range of desert golden eagles informs management for renewable energy development*, 186 BIOLOGICAL CONSERVATION 225-232 (2015).

<sup>19</sup> Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Determination of Threatened Status for the Mojave Population of the Desert Tortoise, 55 Fed. Reg. 12,178 (April 2, 1990) (to be codified at 50 C.F.R. pt. 17); CAL. CODE REGS. tit. 14, § 670.5(b)(4)(A).

(more than 500,000 acres of overlap) and the Chemehuevi Critical Habitat Unit (236,000 acres of overlap). Mojave Trails connects these two areas to the Mojave National Preserve and Joshua Tree National Park. In the 2011 Recovery Plan,<sup>20</sup> the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) identified the need to protect habitat linkages between the critical habitat units in the Mojave Desert and mapped priority habitat linkages for the desert tortoise.<sup>21</sup> In the southern Cadiz Valley, the monument protects 220,000 acres of USFWS-identified linkage habitat between the Chemehuevi Critical Habitat Unit and Joshua Tree National Park.

Similarly, for the desert bighorn sheep, Mojave Trails provides protected movement of various populations of sheep between the Sheephole, South Bristol, Marble, Clipper, Turtle and Iron Mountains.<sup>22</sup> Surrounding or adjacent to the monument are other habitat patches in the Cady, North Bristol, Granite, Providence, Dead, Chemehuevi, Old Woman-Coxcomb and Rodman mountains.

The geological formations throughout Mojave Trails National Monument are virtually unrivaled in the California desert. Mojave Trails is truly unique, featuring a range of geologic features across its landscape. President Obama acknowledged in the monument's proclamation the "stunning diversity of lava flows, mountains, playas, sand dunes, bajadas, washes, and other features" spread throughout Mojave Trails that are sources of interest for scientists, recreationalists, and tourists alike. Specifically, the Cadiz Dunes, which lie in the southern region of Mojave Trails, have been extensively studied. Volcanoes—particularly Amboy Crater, a National Natural Landmark located in the center of Mojave Trails—lie within the protected lands. Mojave Trails also holds the Cady Mountains, which contain fossil fauna assemblages dating to the Miocene Period, to the west; and the Marble Mountain Fossil Bed area has some of the most prolific Cambrian trilobite fossil sites in the Western United States. The Piute Valley and Little Piute Mountains in the eastern region of Mojave Trails also hold significant vertebrate other fossil resources.

Mojave Trails is home to significant historic landmarks and structures, as well. Humans have lived in the region for over 10,000 years, and the arid conditions of Mojave Trails National Monument has preserved an archeological record that tells the story of human survival and adaptability. Those early inhabitants of the region documented their existence on the landscape, through petroglyphs, pictographs, old trails, and stone work within the protected lands of the monument. Mojave Trails National Monument holds sacred and culturally significant sites spread through the four corners of the monument for the Chemehuevi and Mojave people.

This region also documents more modern history within the monument. Notably, historic Route 66 passes through Mojave Trails National Monument. Camps of the million American soldiers training for World War II dot the Mojave Trails National Monument landscape for historians, professional and amateur, to explore and reflect upon. The National Historic Trail, a route used by Native Americans and Spanish and Mexican explorers in the nineteenth century, is still visible near Afton Canyon. Its existence highlights the long memory and lasting effects of human activity in the California desert, and the importance of protecting and preserving the natural and historical features in this region.

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<sup>20</sup> Desert Tortoise Recovery Office – Desert Tortoise Recovery Plan. (Apr. 16, 2014).

<sup>21</sup> Averill-Murray, R., et al., *Conserving population linkages for the Mojave Desert Tortoise (Gopherus Agassizii)*, 8 HERPETOLOGICAL CONSERVATION AND BIOLOGY 1-15 (2013).

<sup>22</sup> Creech, T., et al, *Using network theory to prioritize management in a desert bighorn sheep metapopulation*, LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY (Mar. 2014).

## **It is Premature to Evaluate the Impact of Designating Mojave Trails National Monument before the BLM Has Created a Management Plan (Criterion (iii))**

President Obama established Mojave Trails National Monument only sixteen months ago, in February 2016. Consequently, the BLM is still in the early stages of creating a management plan for the monument. FLPMA provides the BLM three years to complete its management plan, which incorporates public input via the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). There are thus two issues with considering the effects of the designation at this juncture.

First, it is premature to evaluate the effects of the designation when the public is still in the process of shaping the management plan for Mojave Trails National Monument. In the time since Mojave Trails National Monument was created, the BLM has actively worked with the community to request input on the ways in which the public uses—and would like to use—the protected lands.<sup>23</sup>

Similarly, the BLM has worked to allay concerns about restrictions of the public's use of the monument. For example, the BLM expressly explained that the designation of Mojave Trails National Monument “provides latitude for existing uses and activities and does not limit or prohibit rock hunting. Rockhounds are welcome to continue collecting limited amounts of rocks, minerals, and gemstones in Mojave Trails in accordance with the Bureau of Land Management's rock collecting guidelines.”<sup>24</sup>

In addition, Mojave Trails offers an array of outdoor recreation opportunities to the public. Visitors enjoy extensive wildlife and wildflower viewing throughout the monument; bighorn sheep, kangaroo rats, and chuckwallas are frequently observed, and the spring wildflower blooms attract the public, cameras in hand.<sup>25</sup> The rugged terrain is ideal for horseback riding, and hikers enjoy the well-used trails near Afton Canyon, Bonanza Spring, and the Sawtooth Range, among dozens of other sites trails. Camping is also permitted in many parts of the monument, giving outdoor enthusiasts a peaceful respite from the busy campgrounds at Joshua Tree National Park and Mojave National Preserve. The public's use of Mojave Trails National Monument has not been limited, and the BLM is working in an active, transparent process to create a management plan that takes into account the public's desired use of the protected lands.

Second, it is difficult, if impossible to determine any effects—positive or negative—on the designation without sufficient time to collect and analyze data on the subject. For example, tourism activity in the California desert has skyrocketed in the past decade.<sup>26</sup> While this public interest almost certainly extends to visiting a recently-designated national monument like Mojave Trails, there is no way to quantify this trend in such a short period. Altering or de-designating any portion of Mojave Trails National Monument does a disservice to both the BLM's demonstrated commitment to public

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<sup>23</sup> See, e.g., *Envisioning Sessions*, Mojave Trails National Monument website, *available at* [https://www.blm.gov/nlcs\\_web/sites/style/medialib/blm/ca/pdf/pa/nlcs.Par.20661.File.dat/Envisioning%20Session%20Flyer%20MTNM%202016%20\(508\).pdf](https://www.blm.gov/nlcs_web/sites/style/medialib/blm/ca/pdf/pa/nlcs.Par.20661.File.dat/Envisioning%20Session%20Flyer%20MTNM%202016%20(508).pdf) (inviting participation in “public sessions to share information about the Mojave Trails National Monument”); *Envisioning Session Boards*, Mojave Trails National Monument website, *available at* [https://www.blm.gov/nlcs\\_web/sites/style/medialib/blm/ca/pdf/pa/nlcs.Par.84234.File.dat/MTNM%20Envisioning%20Session%20Boards%20FINAL%20\(508\).pdf](https://www.blm.gov/nlcs_web/sites/style/medialib/blm/ca/pdf/pa/nlcs.Par.84234.File.dat/MTNM%20Envisioning%20Session%20Boards%20FINAL%20(508).pdf).

<sup>24</sup> *MTNM Recreation Opportunities*, Mojave Trails National Monument website, [https://www.blm.gov/nlcs\\_web/sites/ca/st/en/prog/nlcs/Mojave\\_Trails/recreation.html](https://www.blm.gov/nlcs_web/sites/ca/st/en/prog/nlcs/Mojave_Trails/recreation.html).

<sup>25</sup> See, e.g., *Joshua Tree National Park Facebook Page*, Mar. 20, 2017 post <https://www.facebook.com/JoshuaTreeNPS/videos/10158415312625181/> (accessed June 26, 2017) (“Amboy Crater was a’bloom this weekend!”).

<sup>26</sup> See *infra* at 10-11 for a fuller discussion of the economic benefits of the growth of Mojave desert tourism.

involvement in determining the use of the protected lands and an objective, facts-based inquiry into the impact of the designation.

**Rights of Those Owning Land within Mojave Trails National Monument Have Been Preserved by the Designation  
(Criterion (iv))**

A key provision of the proclamation establishing Mojave Trails National Monument is the preservation of all valid existing rights for those who owned or controlled land within the monument. For those stakeholders who are concerned their rights will not be protected, there still remains a significant period to comment on the BLM's management plan. There is thus no impact to the use of private or State-owned lands within Mojave Trails.

**The Public Has Had Extensive, Ongoing Input into the Protection of the Mojave Trails Region  
(Criterion (v))**

The benefit of protecting these fragile habitats and species has been discussed at length among stakeholders affected by President Obama's designation of the Mojave Trails National Monument. Mojave Trails National Monument, Sand to Snow National Monument, and Castle Mountains National Monument were all originally part of Senator Feinstein's 2009 California Desert Protection Act legislation. That legislation involved a thoughtful and wide-ranging stakeholder outreach process that included years of communications to every elected official, and many of the key local business leaders and stakeholders within the affected region.

The goals of the outreach process were to educate local leaders and communities about the legislation, get feedback to determine if there were any conflicts or oversights, and request the support of the officials or entities that we met with. Through this process we identified issues with the legislation and were able to improve it to avoid conflicts, a process which also built trust with the communities we were working with and is a key reason that many communities that historically had opposed conservation efforts supported this effort.

Senator Feinstein was very active in the outreach process to both the affected communities and to her colleagues in the Senate and the House. For example, the Senate held a hearing on her bill (S.2921) that included the MTNM on May 20, 2010. She held a bill introduction event at the Whitewater Preserve on November 6, 2014 where she also took comments and questions about the proposed national monuments. The Senator sent staff to conduct briefings for elected officials and community leaders from 2009 through 2017, an effort that included hundreds of meetings, and that generated powerful support for this effort.

Between 2009 and 2016, hundreds of meetings occurred throughout the California desert to make sure that there was an awareness of what had been proposed, the status of the legislative process in relationship to the bill, and to confirm that no conflicts had arisen. Communities that were briefed included, but were not limited to: Barstow, Needles, Victorville, Hesperia, Adelanto, Apple Valley, Yucca Valley, Twentynine Palms, San Bernardino, Redlands, Palm Springs, Palm Desert, Cathedral City, Banning, La Quinta, and Indio. In addition to briefing local communities and community leaders, our coalition briefed the County Supervisors in Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside, Inyo, and Imperial Counties. We also reached out to all relevant State elected officials, and members of congress throughout the process. We briefed and worked closely with the business community, including chambers of commerce, tourism councils, and individual businesses across the California desert. Our outreach extended to organizations, the veterans community, the science community and the art community—all of which is well represented by the thousands of letters of support and sign-



on letters asking for the protection of these beautiful and valuable lands.<sup>27</sup> Veteran's organizations also supported the designation because of the positive opportunities national monuments provide for veterans to get outside and be active.<sup>28</sup>

Desert and business communities supported the designation of national monuments because of the continued potential for growth in the destination tourism sector. Tourism in the California desert is rapidly growing, and is centered on national parks and national monuments. Joshua Tree National Park, for example, has seen its visitation skyrocket in the past three years, with over 2.5 million visitors in 2016, and more expected this year.<sup>29</sup> This trend is being seen across the California desert, and visitors are being actively routed to, and are exploring, the new monuments as an alternative to the busiest national parks during peak visitation.

In February 2016, the president used the Antiquities Act to protect the three desert national monuments, but required significant proof of community support before there was willingness to take that step. In addition to a powerful showing of support,<sup>30</sup> more than 1,000 individuals attended a public meeting in October 2015 hosted by Senator Feinstein on the issue of permanent federal protection by the administration<sup>31</sup>. The vast majority supported the designation, including more than 75% of the speakers who chose to share their stories. NPCA personally participated in hundreds of community meetings for a broad spectrum of stakeholders between 2009-2016. We travelled across the desert to all affected communities, personally met with County Supervisors, Department of Interior leadership at the local, district, state, and national levels, State officials including Assembly members, State Agency leaders, and the Governor's office, district and DC staff for all affected Members of Congress and met with the White House Council of Environmental Quality. Beyond meetings, we led dozens of tours for stakeholders, elected officials, and media to ensure people experienced these lands and that the broader public was educated about our proposal.

U. S. Secretary of the Department of Interior Sally Jewell adhered to a thoughtful and thorough process of public input for national monument proposals like Mojave Trails laid out by President Obama and her predecessor, Ken Salazar, in the "America's Great Outdoors Report: A Promise to Future Generations."<sup>32</sup> While there is clearly no legal obligation under the Antiquities Act to consider public input, this report<sup>33</sup> stated:

Action Item 8.4a: Implement a transparent and open approach to new national monument designations tailored to engaging local, state, and national interests. (DOI and USDA)

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<sup>27</sup> See Excerpted Support for Mojave Trails, Sand to Snow, Castle Mountains National Monuments (Appendix C).

<sup>28</sup> Public Opinion Strategies, Memorandum re Desert Areas National Monuments, *available at*: <http://www.vetvoicefoundation.org/CADesertKeyFindingsMemoD1b1.pdf>.

<sup>29</sup> National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, *National Park Visitor Spending Effects: Economic Contributions to Local Communities, States and the Nation* at 25, *available at* <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/socialscience/vse.htm> (2016); *see also* Skip Descant, *Joshua Tree National Park had record-setting year with 2.5 million visitors*, THE DESERT SUN, May 12, 2017, *available at*: <https://www.indystar.com/story/news/2017/05/12/joshua-tree-national-park-major-economic-engine-high-desert/319944001/>.

<sup>30</sup> See Excerpted Support for Mojave Trails, Sand to Snow, Castle Mountains National Monuments (Appendix C).

<sup>31</sup> See <https://www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2015/10/feinstein-to-host-public-meeting-on-proposed-desert-monument-designations>

<sup>32</sup> [https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ceq/ago\\_report\\_-\\_report\\_only\\_2-7-11.pdf](https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ceq/ago_report_-_report_only_2-7-11.pdf)

<sup>33</sup> See pages 2-4 and page 63, Goal B and Recommendation 8.4

Any recommendations should focus on historic and natural features and cultural sites on federal lands that deserve protection under the 1906 Antiquities Act. In the process of making recommendations, the following should be considered:

- public input from local, state, and national interests;
- transparency in development and execution of the designation;
- valid existing rights on federal lands; and
- criteria enumerated in law.

This guidance set the stage for the Obama Administration’s consideration of any and all national monument proposals, including Mojave Trails. As noted above, NPCA’s robust participation in the grassroots discussions regarding this proposal ensured the request for permanent protection as a national monument was consistent with the Obama Administration’s standards.

There is no debate whether adequate outreach to local communities and those affected by the California desert national monuments took place. We have attached letters of support from a broad constituency who called for these designations.<sup>34</sup> It is important to understand that these designations are not only the product of presidential action. This effort was a grass-roots effort that the president was willing to take action on because of the depth of community vetting and support that took place. The California desert broadly supports our California desert monument, and a proper and thoughtful process took place in order to rightfully designate these national monuments.

### **Managing Mojave Trails National Monument Is Most Efficiently and Effectively Left with the Federal Government (Criterion (vi))**

President Trump’s Executive Order 13792 requires you to evaluate “the availability of Federal resources to properly manage designated areas.” President Obama’s proclamation charged the BLM with management responsibility for Mojave Trails. The BLM’s approximately 9,700 employees manage a more than 240 million surface acres of land, and 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate, across the nation.<sup>35</sup> BLM managed the land that comprises Mojave Trails long before President Obama proclaimed it a national monument. Thus, there is no additional acreage for BLM to manage.

In 2015, Congress appropriated an approximately \$1.14 billion budget for the BLM’s management activities; in 2016, the BLM’s budget was \$1.25 billion.<sup>36</sup> BLM’s request for its 2017 fiscal year budget was \$1.26 billion.<sup>37</sup> Furthering its mission to “emphasize[] the interconnection and interdependence between people and the public lands,”<sup>38</sup> BLM has used the resources allotted to it, and will continue to be able to do so with the addition of Mojave Trails National Monument. The addition of land to BLM’s inventory not only requires resources to manage, but also has the potential to increase revenues and economic growth. For example, in 2014, a Department of the Interior Economic Impact Report estimated that BLM managed lands contribute \$114 billion to the nation’s economic

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<sup>34</sup> See Appendix C; see also Public Opinion Strategies, *California Voters Call for Protection of Desert Areas as National Monuments; Place High Importance on Protecting Wildlife Habitat and Natural Areas for Family Recreation and Veteran Recovery*, <http://www.vetvoicefoundation.org/CADesertKeyFindingsMemoD1b1.pdf> (Nov. 11, 2015).

<sup>35</sup> Bureau of Land Management, *Budget Justifications and Performance Information: Fiscal Year 2017 at I-2*, available at [https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/FY2017\\_BLM\\_Budget\\_Justification.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/FY2017_BLM_Budget_Justification.pdf).

<sup>36</sup> *Id.* at I-11.

<sup>37</sup> *Id.*

<sup>38</sup> *Id.* at I-1.

output and supported nearly 450,000 domestic jobs through extractive and non-extractive uses of those lands.”<sup>39</sup>

As an even better proxy, in 2016, Joshua Tree National Park, which abuts Mojave Trails, drew approximately 2.5 million visitors, \$123.3 million in spending, 1,701 jobs, \$63.7 million in labor income, \$100.7 million in value added, and \$164.5 million in economic output.<sup>40</sup> Similarly, in 2016, Death Valley National Park drew 1.3 million visitors, \$108.1 million in total visitor spending, 1,505 jobs, \$53.4 million in labor income, \$86.5 million in value added, and \$141.2 in economic output.<sup>41</sup>

Simply put, attendance at the national parks surrounding Mojave Trails—and the economic benefits that accompany tourists—has exploded. In fact, tourism articles are already suggesting Mojave Trails as an alternative to the increasingly congested Joshua Tree National Park trails and parking lots.<sup>42</sup> Even the National Park service in the region is encouraging visitors to visit Mojave Trails.<sup>43</sup> Accordingly, in evaluating the resources available to manage Mojave Trails, you must also take into consideration the potential for economic growth related to preserving Mojave Trails National Monument.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, NPCA urges you, Secretary Zinke, to reconsider your position on the president’s power to alter an already-designated national monument because, as set forth above, this power is reserved for Congress and has not been delegated to the president expressly or impliedly. In any event, Mojave Trails National Monument furthers the goals of the Antiquities Act, and comports with the criteria set forth for consideration.

In addition, broad support for our nation’s monuments, including Mojave Trails exists. On May 2, 2017 over 450 organizations signed a letter to your office in support of the Antiquities Act and expressed deep concerns with the April 26<sup>th</sup> Executive Order from President Trump. In this letter, the community, including NPCA notes:

Since its enactment over a hundred years ago, the Antiquities Act has been one of our nation’s most critical conservation tools for preserving our nation’s most important public lands and waters. Our national parks and monuments and other protected public lands and waters unite all Americans by protecting our shared American heritage for future generations to enjoy. The sheer diversity of historic, cultural, and natural treasures that have been protected by the Antiquities Act is the reason why hundreds of groups representing sportsmen, cultural heritage organizations, evangelicals, conservation, recreation businesses, historic preservation, social justice, and many others all oppose efforts to undermine our

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<sup>39</sup> *Id.* at I-3.

<sup>40</sup> National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, *National Park Visitor Spending Effects: Economic Contributions to Local Communities, States and the Nation* at 25, available at <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/socialscience/vse.htm> (2016).

<sup>41</sup> *Id.* at pg. 22.

<sup>42</sup> See, e.g., Chris Clarke, *Five Secret Desert Places To Visit This Year Instead of Joshua Tree*, KCET.ORG, available at <https://www.kcet.org/define/five-secret-desert-places-to-visit-this-year-instead-of-joshua-tree> (Jan. 26, 2017) (“More than 2.5 million people visited Joshua Tree in 2016, an all-time record, and the Park and its surrounding communities are feeling the strain. Nearby towns do benefit economically from high numbers of visitors, but there are also negative effects ranging from unavailable local housing... to delays in emergency services to houses near the Park . . .”).

<sup>43</sup> See, e.g., Joshua Tree National Park Facebook Page, Mar. 20, 2017 post <https://www.facebook.com/JoshuaTreeNPS/videos/10158415312625181/> (accessed June 26, 2017) (“If you haven’t had the chance to check out our neighbors at Mojave Trails National Monument, it’s definitely worth the detour!”).

national monuments and view an attack on any one national monument as an attack on them all.

To call into question whether our national heritage is worth protecting will have lasting repercussions on the preservation of our public lands for generations to come. Eight Republican and eight Democratic presidents have designated 157 national monuments under the authority of the Antiquities Act. As noted above, this includes nationally significant cultural, historical, and natural sites such as, the Grand Canyon and Acadia National Parks, Statue of Liberty and Muir Woods National Monuments, and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park. In fact, many of our nation's most popular and iconic national parks were first protected using the Antiquities Act. More recently, the Antiquities Act has help safeguard and honor more diverse stories in the National Park System through the designations of Stonewall, Belmont-Paul Women's Equality, and César E. Chávez National Monuments. We urge you to imagine what our country would be like without these incredible places, protected just as they should be.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments and those of our members and supporters. We call on your administration to maintain and support all of our country's national monuments, including the Mojave Trails National Monument, leaving a lasting legacy for all Americans.

Sincerely,



Theresa Pierno  
President and CEO

See Enclosures

**Appendix A** Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer Memo: The President Has No Power Unilaterally to Abolish or Materially Change a National Monument Designation Under the Antiquities Act of 1906

**Appendix B** "National monuments: Presidents can create them, but only Congress can undo them" by Nicholas Bryner, Eric Biber, Mark Squillace and Sean B. Hecht

**Appendix C** Compilation of Letters of Support from Various Stakeholders

## **Appendix A**

Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer Memo: The President Has No Power Unilaterally to Abolish or Materially Change a National Monument Designation Under the Antiquities Act of 1906

## **The President Has No Power Unilaterally to Abolish or Materially Change a National Monument Designation Under the Antiquities Act of 1906**

We have been asked by our client, National Parks Conservation Association, whether a sitting President may unilaterally abolish or materially change a national monument that was established by an earlier President under the authority of the Antiquities Act of 1906. The question arises in the context of President Trump’s Executive Order of April 26, 2017 directing the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a review of all national monuments designated since 1996 which are at least 100,000 acres or which the Secretary determines were designated without adequate public input.<sup>1</sup> The Executive Order directs the Secretary to report back to the President and make recommendations “for such Presidential actions, legislative proposals, or other actions consistent with law as the Secretary may consider appropriate to carry out the policy set forth in section 1 of this order.” Section 1 broadly talks about public input, economic growth, the “original objectives” of the Antiquities Act and “appropriately balance[ing] the protection of landmarks, structures, and objects against the appropriate use of Federal lands and the effects on surrounding lands and communities.”

President Trump stated when he issued the Order that “the Antiquities Act does not give the federal government unlimited power to lock up millions of acres of land and water, and it’s time that we ended this abusive practice.”<sup>2</sup> That review will cover some 25 national monuments designated or expanded since 1996.

President Trump said he was particularly eager to change the boundary of Bears Ears National Monument in Utah.<sup>3</sup> President Obama designated that monument primarily at the request of Native American tribes, declaring that the “paleontological resources [there] are among the richest and most significant in the United States” and that the area’s “petroglyphs and pictographs capture the imagination with images dating back at least 5,000 years.”<sup>4</sup> President Trump, however, referred to this monument designation as a “massive federal land grab,”<sup>5</sup> which suggests that the federal government did not already own the land before that event. However, the federal government has owned that land since long before Utah became a state in 1896. While the federal government made land grants to the new State for various purposes,<sup>6</sup> the new State’s constitution, as Congress required, “forever disclaim[ed] all right and title” to federal

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<sup>1</sup> *Review of Designations Under the Antiquities Act*, Exec. Order 13792, 82 Fed. Reg. 20429 (May 1, 2017).

<sup>2</sup> Juliet Eilperin, “Trump orders a review of newer national monuments,” *Washington Post*, April 27, 2017, at A3.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> *Establishment of the Bears Ears National Monument*, Proclamation No. 9558, 82 Fed. Reg. 1139 (Jan. 5, 2017).

<sup>5</sup> Eilperin, at A3.

<sup>6</sup> See Utah Enabling Act, ch 138, § § 6-12, 28 Stat. 107 (1894), <https://archives.utah.gov/research/exhibits/Statehood/1894text.htm>.

lands within the State’s boundaries.”<sup>7</sup> Under these circumstances, it is unclear from whom the federal government supposedly “grabbed” this land.

Secretary Ryan Zinke explained at the time of President Trump’s Executive Order that he will be considering whether monuments should be “rescinded, resized, [or] modified.” When asked if the President has the power to do so unilaterally, he said it is “untested” whether the President has the unilateral power to rescind a monument but that “it’s undisputed the President has the authority to modify a monument.”<sup>8</sup>

It is apparent, in part from the President’s terminology (e.g., that Bears Ears was a federal “land grab”) and the Secretary’s description of the law, that they have been influenced by a March 2017 report written for the American Enterprise Institute by John Yoo and Todd Gaziano entitled “Presidential Authority to Revoke or Reduce National Monument Designations.” Those authors argue there that President Trump has the authority to rescind or revoke the creation of national monuments by President Obama and that the President also has the authority to reduce the size of national monuments. They also argue that the Antiquities Act only authorized, or at least that Congress only intended that it be used to designate, relatively small areas as monuments around human archeological sites.

It is beyond the scope of this memorandum to discuss the merits of particular national monument designations or the fact that President Obama established procedures to assure there was significant public outreach and input before each of his monument designations. The purpose of this memorandum is instead to address the Yoo and Gaziano arguments about the scope and nature of the monuments Congress authorized to be designated in the Antiquities Act and their arguments that a President may unilaterally rescind or materially reduce the size of a monument previously established. After evaluating the U.S. Constitution, relevant statutes and other relevant authorities, we have concluded that Yoo and Gaziano are wrong about these matters.

### **Executive Summary**

***The authority granted by the Antiquities Act is not limited to small areas around human archeological sites.***

President Trump’s Executive Order and accompanying Administration statements suggest that the “original” objective of the Antiquities Act was limited to permitting the President to set aside small areas of land around human archeological sites. Monument designations outside this constrained scope are called “abuses.” This is the view for which Yoo and Gaziano argue and this (“abuses”) is how they describe large monuments protecting natural sites. However, they base their argument - - not on the final language of the statute - - but on early bills rejected by Congress. This is a novel way to understand a statute.

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<sup>7</sup> *Id.*, § 3.

<sup>8</sup> “Press Briefing by Secretary of Interior Ryan Zinke to Review the Designations Under the Antiquities Act,” Office of the Press Secretary, White House, April 25, 2017.

In fact, in the five or six years before the Antiquities Act was adopted, there were two camps seeking such a statute, but they had different concepts of what it should authorize. Archeologists wanted a narrow statute to protect archeological sites. The Department of the Interior wanted a statute authorizing the protection of large scenic areas, this being before creation of the National Park System. In the end, all sides agreed upon compromise language that became the Antiquities Act. The compromise added a clause authorizing protection of areas having “historic or scientific interest” and provided that the monument “shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected.”<sup>9</sup>

Almost immediately after the Act’s adoption, President Theodore Roosevelt established the Grand Canyon National Monument, protecting 818,000 acres, and almost immediately someone challenged the legality of that monument’s designation under the Act. But the U.S. Supreme Court rejected the challenge in *Cameron v. United States*.<sup>10</sup> Referring to the clause which formed the basis of the compromise, the Court explained that the Grand Canyon “is an object of unusual scientific interest” and went on to explain its scientific importance and natural wonders.

Every court thereafter has reached the same conclusion as to other monuments challenged as natural rather than archeological. It is not surprising that larger areas are required to protect natural wonders than the areas required to protect archeological sites. Congress provided flexibility concerning the size of each monument in order to allow for differences based on what is being protected. Referring to larger monuments as “abuses” ignores the text of the statute and the history behind its adoption.

***The President has no authority to revoke or materially reduce previously designated monuments.***

In our system of Government, Presidents have no power other than that granted to them by the U.S. Constitution or by an Act of Congress. The issue here does not invoke any power granted the President by the U.S. Constitution. The issue instead concerns administration of federally owned land, and the Constitution gives that power exclusively to Congress. U.S. Const., Property Clause, Art. IV, § 3. Whether or not the President has the power unilaterally to revoke a national monument designation therefore depends on whether that power is expressly or by implication delegated to the President by an Act of Congress. The Antiquities Act of 1906 authorizes the President to create national monuments on land owned or controlled by the federal government.<sup>11</sup> The Act says nothing about a President’s having the power to abolish a national monument or to reduce the size of a monument. The question is therefore whether such a power may be implied.

Contrary to the arguments of Yoo and Gaziano, reading a revocation power into that statute by implication would be improper. This is so for several reasons.

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<sup>9</sup> 54 U.S.C. § 320301(a) and (b).

<sup>10</sup> 252 U.S. 459 (1920).

<sup>11</sup> 54 U.S.C. § 320301(a).



First, the U.S. Attorney General opined long ago that the Antiquities Act could not be interpreted to imply that a President has the power to revoke a national monument's designation. No President has attempted to revoke such a designation since that Opinion was issued in 1938.

Second, Yoo and Gaziano fail to recognize that in the more than 100 years since the adoption of the Antiquities Act, Congress has adopted a comprehensive legislative scheme to govern federally owned land, into which the Antiquities Act was folded and in relation with which it must be interpreted. One of those statutes was the Federal Land Policy and Management Act ("FLPMA"), adopted in 1976.<sup>12</sup> Congress there in effect adopted the Attorney General's interpretation that no revocation power should be read into the Antiquities Act by implication. Thereafter, it would be particularly improper to interpret the Antiquities Act as implying that the President has the power to revoke a monument designation.

Third, as to those national monuments which were made part of the National Park System, Congress has mandated that the power to manage those special places "shall not be exercised in derogation of the values and purposes for which the System units have been established, except as directly and specifically provided by Congress."<sup>13</sup> Revoking the designation of such a national monument and pulling it out of the National Park System would certainly be in derogation of the reasons such special places were added to that System.

Secretary Zinke, however, stated that a President has the authority to modify a monument, and President Trump stated he is eager to modify the boundaries of Bears Ears National Monument. If they are thinking that the President would have the power to modify that monument in a material way that would undermine the protection of the resources for which it was created, they are wrong. A President does not have the power to do in part what he may not do in full. While there were some instances before 1976 of Presidents changing the boundaries of monuments, no President has attempted to do so after FLPMA was adopted.

The revocation of the designation of a national monument or the material reduction in its size, and particularly a monument that is part of the National Park System, is therefore beyond the power of a President acting without Congress. The interpretation proffered by Yoo and Gaziano would therefore, if acted upon, result in a usurpation of congressional powers by the Executive Branch.

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## **I. The Antiquities Act of 1906.**

The Nineteen Century saw substantial western expansion of the United States, and it was the federal government that acquired the land making that expansion possible. While that government had acquired land since its founding, the government substantially increased its holdings by such events as the Louisiana Purchase of 1803, the Oregon Compromise with

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<sup>12</sup> 43 U.S.C. 1704 *et seq.*

<sup>13</sup> 54 U.S.C. § 100101(b)(2).

England in 1846 and the treaty resolving the Mexican-American War in 1848.<sup>14</sup> No sooner had the public land domain been established in the Eighteenth Century than a policy of disposing of the land had been initiated.<sup>15</sup> The federal government transferred nearly 816 million acres of public domain land to private ownership and 328 million acres to the States as they became established.<sup>16</sup>

By late in the Nineteenth Century, however, demands grew to “withdraw” some public lands from that available for sale, grant or other disposition so it could be retained by the federal government for conservation and similar purposes. The first permanent federal land reservation was Yellowstone National Park, created in 1872, and in 1891 the President was given power to withdraw forest lands and prevent their disposal.<sup>17</sup> The federal government retained for the benefit of all Americans a large part of the land that government had acquired, totaling approximately 600 million acres.<sup>18</sup>

In recognition of the slow process of enacting federal legislation, Congress adopted the Antiquities Act in 1906 to empower the President to protect some of that federal land promptly. That Act, as now codified, provides:

(a) The President may, in the President’s discretion, declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated on land owned or controlled by the Federal Government to be national monuments.

(b) The President may reserve parcels of land as a part of the national monuments. The limits of the parcels shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected.<sup>19</sup>

President Theodore Roosevelt was the first to use that Act, establishing 18 national monuments, including Devil’s Tower, Muir Woods, Mount Olympus (the predecessor to Olympic National Park) and the Grand Canyon. Almost every President thereafter has designated additional national monuments. These monuments were created to provide for the enjoyment and use of the federal lands by the American people.

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<sup>14</sup> See generally “Natural Resources Land Management Act,” S. Rep. No. 94-583 (hereafter the “Senate Report”) at 27-32; Carol Hardy Vincent et al., Cong. Research Serv., *Federal Land Ownership: Overview and Data* 5 (2014), available at <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R42346.pdf>.

<sup>15</sup> See Senate Report, at 28.

<sup>16</sup> Kristina Alexander and Ross W. Gorte, Cong. Research Serv. RL34267, *Federal Land Ownership: Constitutional Authority and the History of Acquisition, Disposal, and Retention* 5 (2007), available at <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL34267.pdf>.

<sup>17</sup> 17 Stat. 326; 26 Stat. 1095.

<sup>18</sup> Alexander and Gorte, at 9.

<sup>19</sup> 54 U.S.C. § 320301(a) and (b).

## II. The President's Authority under the 1906 Act is not Limited to Protecting Small Areas Around Archeological Sites, As Yoo and Gaziano Argue and the Administration Claims.

Yoo and Gaziano argue that Congress only intended in the Antiquities Act to authorize the President to create monuments to protect small areas around human archeological sites. They concede that the Act's "final language covered more than antiquities" and that "small scenic areas" were contemplated. But they argue that "the statute's title, drafting history and historical context" should convince Presidents "to follow the text and spirit of the original law."<sup>20</sup> And they repeatedly call Presidential proclamations that did not do so "abuses." This is a novel way of understanding a statute passed by Congress, i.e., by looking to earlier versions of a bill not adopted rather than to the "final language" of the act. Contrary to these arguments, the Act by its terms and as understood by Congress at the time authorizes protection of large areas containing natural resources, and the size of the protected area depends on the resources being protected.

It is true that the national monument authority is generally referred to as the "Antiquities Act," but that is so because parts of the statute did in fact address only antiquities, such as by prohibiting their looting.<sup>21</sup> But the legislative history of the portion of the Act relating to monuments, as well as its text, makes clear that that authority was not limited to protecting antiquities. There was considerable disagreement about what became this part of the Act in the years before its adoption. There were two views: archeologists and the Smithsonian Institution wanted a law providing for the protection only of archeological sites in order to address Western legislators' concerns over the size and scope of protected areas, as Yoo and Gaziano say.<sup>22</sup> The Department of the Interior and some members of Congress, on the other hand, wanted a law that would provide protection as well for large "scenic beauties and natural wonders and curiosities".<sup>23</sup> While Yoo and Gaziano say Congress had rejected bills the Department supported, they omit the fact that bills limited as the archeologists wanted had also failed.<sup>24</sup> This process went on for 5 years. Finally, Professor Edgar Hewett drafted a compromise bill that was adopted without much further ado and became the relevant part of the Antiquities Act of 1906.<sup>25</sup>

Yoo and Gaziano rely largely on a work by Ronald Lee for their recital of the history of the Act.<sup>26</sup> Here is what he says about the final bill:

Senator Lodge's bill, in its earlier versions, had been limited to historic and prehistoric antiquities and made no provision for protecting natural areas. At some point in his

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<sup>20</sup> Yoo and Gaziano, at 3.

<sup>21</sup> See 54 U.S.C. § 32032.

<sup>22</sup> See Ronald F Lee, "The Antiquities Act, 1900-1906," in *The Story of the Antiquities Act* (National Park Service, March 15, 2016), [www.nps.gov/archeology/pubs/lee/Lee\\_CH6.htm](http://www.nps.gov/archeology/pubs/lee/Lee_CH6.htm) at 2-3.

<sup>23</sup> *Id.*, at 3.

<sup>24</sup> *Id.*, at 4-6.

<sup>25</sup> *Id.*, at 7.

<sup>26</sup> Yoo and Gaziano, at nn. 3, 5, 6 and 8.

discussions with government departments, Hewett was persuaded, probably by officials of the Interior Department, to broaden his draft to include the phrase “other objects of historic or scientific interest.” ... As it later turned out, the single word “scientific” in the Antiquities Act proved sufficient basis to establish ... national monuments preserving many kinds of natural areas, ...<sup>27</sup>

One of the first monuments to be designated under that Act was President Theodore Roosevelt’s 1908 creation of Grand Canyon National Monument, which covered 818,000 acres.<sup>28</sup> The holder of a mining claim to land on the south rim of the Canyon challenged the legality of the monument designation because it supposedly exceeded the President’s power under the Antiquities Act. In *Cameron v. United States*, the Court rejected that argument.<sup>29</sup> The mining claim, the Court explained, included the trailhead of the famous Bright Angel Trail “over which visitors descend to and ascend from the bottom of the canyon.”<sup>30</sup>

The act under which the President proceeded empowered him to establish reserves embracing “objects of historic or scientific interest.” The Grand Canyon, as stated in his proclamation, “is an object of unusual scientific interest.” It is the greatest eroded canyon in the United States, if not the world, is over a mile in depth, has attracted wide attention among explorers and scientists, affords an unexampled field for geologic study, is regarded as one of the great natural wonders, and annually draws to its borders thousands of visitors.<sup>31</sup>

In 1976, the Supreme Court again was called on to address this issue and again explained that the Antiquities Act is not limited to archeological areas. In *Caepfert v. United States*, the Court upheld President Truman’s creation of a national monument at Devil’s Hole, Nevada, as a habitat for a species of fish found only there. The fish, said the Court, were “objects of historic or scientific interest” within the meaning of that clause in the Antiquities Act.<sup>32</sup> Similarly, when President Carter designated several national monuments in Alaska based in part on their natural resources, opponents challenged the designations in court, making the same arguments about the supposedly constrained nature of places that could be so designated. The district court resoundingly rejected those arguments, based in part on *Cameron* and *Caepfert* as well as on the court’s analysis of the Act’s legislative history.<sup>33</sup> Reciting the same legislative history discussed above, the court found that Mr. Hewett’s compromise bill, which contained the clause “other objects of historic or scientific interest” and which had become law, “was indeed intended to enlarge the authority of the President.” Moreover, the court concluded that “matters of scientific

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<sup>27</sup> Lee, at 9.

<sup>28</sup> *Establishment of Grand Canyon National Monument*, Proclamation No. 794, 35 Stat. 2175 (1908).

<sup>29</sup> 252 U.S. 459 (1920). President Roosevelt also designated the 60,000 acre Petrified Forest National Monument in 1906, the 10,000 Chaco Canyon National Monument in 1907 and the almost 640,000 acre Mount Olympus National Monument in 1909. See Mark Squillace, *The Monumental Legacy of the Antiquities Act of 1906*, 37 GA. L. Rev. 473, 490 n. 92 (2003).

<sup>30</sup> 252 U.S. at 455 and n.1.

<sup>31</sup> *Id.*, at 455-56.

<sup>32</sup> 426 U.S. 128, 141-42 (1976).

<sup>33</sup> *Anaconda Copper Co. v. Andrus*, No. A79-161, civil, 14 ERC 1853 (D, Alaska July 1, 1980).

interest which involve geological formations or which may involve plant, animal or fish life are within this reach of the presidential authority under the Antiquities Act.”<sup>34</sup>

The Administration’s claims that large monuments are “abuses” of the Antiquities Act and that it was only intended to apply to small areas are simply wrong. In setting limits on the size of areas to be protected, the Act merely imposed the requirement that the president designate the “smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected.” From the very beginning, that Act was used to protect large areas such as the Grand Canyon and Mount Olympus, which later became Olympic National Park. It is obvious that more land is needed to protect natural resources such as these areas than to protect isolated archeological sites. It is therefore simply not true that the areas protected under the Act in its early years were limited to small areas of a few hundred acres.

### **III. The President Has No Implied Power to Revoke a National Monument Created under the Antiquities Act.**

Because the Antiquities Act does not expressly empower or prohibit Presidents to revoke national monuments, proponents of such a power argue that that power may be read into the Act by implication. Gaziano and Yoo and some members of Congress argue that the President has many implied powers and that this is merely one such power. They are wrong.

Yoo and Gaziano argue for a general proposition that “the authority to execute a discretionary government power usually includes the power to revoke it -- unless the original grant expressly limits the power of revocation.”<sup>35</sup> They argue that this supposedly follows from the principle that each “branch of government can reverse its earlier actions using the same process originally used.”<sup>36</sup> They point to the President’s power to fire Executive Branch officials even after the Senate has confirmed the appointment and to the President’s power over foreign treaties. The problem with that argument is that it ignores the source of the original power. There is no government-wide general rule on this subject; each source of power must be examined to assess whether a power to revoke previous actions should be implied. As former President and Supreme Court Chief Justice Taft stated:

The true view of the Executive function is, as I conceive it, that the President can exercise no power which cannot be fairly and reasonably traced to *some specific grant of power or justly implied and included within such express grant as proper and necessary to its exercise*. Such specific grant must be either in the Federal Constitution or in an act of Congress passed in pursuance thereof.<sup>37</sup>

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<sup>34</sup> *Id.*

<sup>35</sup> Yoo and Gaziano, at 7.

<sup>36</sup> *Id.*, at 8.

<sup>37</sup> William Howard Taft, OUR CHIEF MAGISTRATE AND HIS POWERS 139-40 (1916), available at <https://archive.org/stream/ourchiefmagistra00taftuoft#page/n5/mode/2up> (*emphasis added*).

Accordingly, when Yoo and Gaziano point to the power of the President to fire Executive Branch officers and to revoke treaties with foreign governments, they are pointing to powers found in the Constitution's grant of executive authority to the President. The Constitution provides that "[t]he executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America." U.S. Const., Art. II, § 1. It is reasonable to conclude that that broad grant includes the power to revoke what has been done. As Justice Taft explained:

The grants of Executive power are necessarily in general terms in order not to embarrass the Executive within the field of action plainly marked for him, but his jurisdiction must be justified and vindicated by affirmative constitutional or statutory provision, or it does not exist.<sup>38</sup>

The same may be said of specific powers granted the President, including that to make treaties with foreign countries. *See* U.S. Const., Art. II, § 2.

But here we are not dealing with the scope of the powers granted the Executive Branch under the Constitution. Here, we are dealing instead with the power over federal lands, and the Constitution grants that power, not to the President, but exclusively to the Congress. The Property Clause of the Constitution provides that "[t]he Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States ...." *Id.*, Art. IV, § 3, Cl. 2.

For the President to have the power to revoke a monument designation under the Antiquities Act, therefore, the issue is whether that Act of Congress, not the Constitution's grant of the executive power to the President, may be interpreted to imply the unstated power to revoke a monument designation thereunder.<sup>39</sup>

This is a question on which the Attorney General of the United States, Homer S. Cummings, ruled in the negative.<sup>40</sup> In 1938, President Franklin Roosevelt asked Attorney General Cummings for a formal Legal Opinion as to whether the President could rescind former President Coolidge's designation of the Castle Pinckney National Monument under the Antiquities Act. After careful study, Attorney General Cummings explained that the answer was "no."

A duty properly performed by the Executive under statutory authority has the validity and sanctity which belong to the statute itself, and, unless it be within the terms of the power conferred by that statute, the Executive can no more destroy his own authorized work, without some other legislative

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<sup>38</sup> *Id.*

<sup>39</sup> Yoo and Gaziano also argue as an analogy that the Executive Branch has the power to repeal regulations adopted under discretionary statutory authority. But that authority is recognized, in the words of Justice Taft, as "included within such express grant as proper and necessary to its exercise." *Id.* That says nothing about whether such implied power should also be implied in the Antiquities Act.

<sup>40</sup> Attorney General Cummings held a PhD and law degree from Yale University. He served from 1933 until 1939. (*See* U.S. Department of Justice, *Attorneys General of the United States*, at <https://www.justice.gov/ag/bio/cummings-homer-still>)

sanction, than any other person can. To assert such a principle is to claim for the Executive the power to repeal or alter an act of Congress at will.<sup>41</sup>

The Attorney General's Opinion explained that under long-standing precedent "if public lands are reserved by the President for a particular purpose under express authority of an act of Congress, the President is thereafter without authority to abolish such reservation."<sup>42</sup> Since the Cummings Opinion, no President has attempted unilaterally to rescind a national monument.<sup>43</sup> Rather, as contemplated by the Cummings Opinion, when some monuments have been abolished, it has been Congress that has done so by legislation.<sup>44</sup>

Yoo and Gaziano argue that the Cummings Opinion was "poorly reasoned" and "erroneous as a matter of law."<sup>45</sup> But their description of that opinion is not a fair characterization of Attorney General Cumming's reasoning. For example, they claim he found binding an 1862 opinion when he merely relied on its reasoning and they then describe that earlier opinion unfairly. But what Cummings found significant about that earlier case is that, as in the case of the Antiquities Act, the statute in question had authorized the President to reserve lands but had said nothing about his power to undo the reservation made. And the earlier Attorney General had concluded that such power could not be implied. In reaching the same conclusion as to the Antiquities Act, Attorney General Cummings distinguished statutes that expressly authorize the President to revoke reservations.

The gaping hole in the Yoo and Gaziano arguments, however, is that they ignore or minimize the importance of the fact that, since 1906, Congress has adopted a comprehensive system of laws to govern federally-owned lands, and that the Antiquities Act must be understood and interpreted as part of that legal structure. Statutes covering the same subject matter are interpreted together. *See Food & Drug Admin. v. Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corp.*, 529 U.S. 120, 132–33 (2000). Two particular later statutes are relevant here. First, in 1976, Congress adopted the Federal Land Policy and Management Act ("FLPMA").<sup>46</sup> Second, in 1916,

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<sup>41</sup> "Proposed Abolishment of Castle Pinckney Nat'l Monument," 39 Op. Atty. Gen. 185, 185 (1938), *citing* Opinion by Attorney General Edward Bates to the Secretary of the Interior, 10 U.S. Op. Atty. Gen. 359 (1862). As a general matter, opinions of the Attorney General are binding on the Executive Branch offices that request them until they are overruled or withdrawn. *See Pub. Citizen v. Burke*, 655 F. Supp. 318, 321–22 (D.D.C. 1987) ("As interpreted by the courts, an Attorney General's opinion is binding as a matter of law on those who request it until withdrawn by the Attorney General or overruled by the courts." (citation and internal quotations omitted)), *aff'd*, 843 F.2d 1473 (D.C. Cir. 1988); *cf.* Trevor W. Morrison, *Stare Decisis in the Office of Legal Counsel*, 110 Colum. L. Rev. 1448, 1472, 1482–84 (2010).

<sup>42</sup> 39 Op. Atty. Gen. at 186–87.

<sup>43</sup> Squillace, at 553.

<sup>44</sup> Congress has abolished a number of National Monuments by legislation. *See, e.g.*, Wheeler National Monument in 1950 (64 Stat. 405); Shoshone Cavern in 1954 (68 Stat. 98); Papago Saguaro in 1930 (46 Stat. 142); Old Kasaan in 1955 (69 Stat. 380); Fossil Cyad in 1956 (70 Stat. 898); Castle Pinkney in 1956 (70 Stat. 61); Father Millet Cross in 1949 (63 Stat. 691); Holy Cross in 1950 (64 Stat. 404); Verendrye in 1956 (70 Stat. 730), and Santa Rosa Island in 1946 (60 Stat. 712).

<sup>45</sup> Yoo and Gaziano, at 5.

<sup>46</sup> 43 U.S.C. 1704 *et seq.*

Congress adopted the National Park System Organic Act, to which Congress added significant provisions in 1970 and 1978.

When FLPMA was adopted in 1976, Congress legislated against the backdrop of the Antiquities Act providing that the President could create national monuments and the Cummings Opinion that the President could not revoke national monuments. There is evidence that Congress was aware of the Cummins Opinion, which was reported in one of the studies leading to FLPMA's passage.<sup>47</sup> But in any event, when Congress legislates on a subject, "[C]ongress is deemed to know the executive and judicial gloss given to certain language and thus adopts the existing interpretation unless it affirmatively acts to change the meaning."<sup>48</sup> Yet in FLPMA, Congress did not "affirmatively act[] to change the meaning" of the Antiquities Act as interpreted by the Cummings Opinion. Congress therefore in effect adopted that interpretation.

Moreover, the Supreme Court has made clear that, to harmonize different statutes, "a specific policy embodied in a later federal statute should control our construction of [a prior one], even though it had not been expressly amended."<sup>49</sup> This is particularly so when the later statute is a comprehensive legislative scheme.<sup>50</sup> FLPMA was the very sort of "comprehensive legislative scheme" that requires interpreting the Antiquities Act to harmonize with FLPMA. It would not be harmonious with FLPMA to read into the Antiquities Act an implied authorization for a President to revoke a prior monument's designation because in FLPMA, one of Congress' purposes was to reassert its own authority over federal land withdrawals and to limit to express delegations the authority of the Executive Branch in this regard.

FLPMA was the result of a years-long re-examination and reorganization of laws governing management of federal lands, including the creation of reservations or "withdrawals" of land for particular purposes.<sup>51</sup> In 1964, Congress had created The Public Land Law Review Commission to undertake that reexamination, finding in part that there were many statutes governing federal lands "which are not fully correlated with each other."<sup>52</sup> The Commission obtained extensive studies and finally issued its report in 1970.<sup>53</sup> One of its recommendations was that "[d]elegations of the congressional authority should be specific, not implied, ...."

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<sup>47</sup> See Charles F. Wheatley, Jr., "Study of Withdrawals and Reservations of Public Domain Lands" (Public Land Law Review Commission 1969), at 17, 264.

<sup>48</sup> *Bledsoe v. Palm Beach County Soil & Water Conservation Dist.*, 133 F.3d 816, 822 (11th Cir. 1998) (addressing legislative action after earlier Attorney General interpretation); see also, to the same effect, e.g., *Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc. v. Curran*, 456 U.S. 353, 381-82 and n.66 (1982) (considering whether rights should be implied under a statute); *Souter v. Jones*, 395 F.3d 577, 598 (6th Cir. 2005).

<sup>49</sup> See *United States v. Romani*, 523 U.S. 517 (1998).

<sup>50</sup> See *Northwest Airlines, Inc. v. Transport Workers Union*, 451 U.S. 77, 97 (1981); see also *Hi-Lex Controls Inc. v. Blue Cross*, 2013 WL 228097 (E.D. Mich. Jan. 22, 2013) at \*3.

<sup>51</sup> Pub. Law No. 94-579, codified at 43 U.S.C. § 43 U.S.C. § 1701 *et seq.* As the Senate Report accompanying the bill that became FLPMA explained, Congress had long recognized "a need to review and reassess the entire body of law governing Federal lands." Senate Report, at 34.

<sup>52</sup> See 78 Stat. 982 (Sept. 19, 1964).

<sup>53</sup> Public Land Law Review Commission, "One Third of the Nation's Land: A Report to the President and the Congress" (1970); see also Senate Report, at 32-36.



Congress followed that recommendation, declaring in FLPMA that “it is the policy of the United States that ... the Congress exercise its constitutional authority to withdraw or otherwise designate or dedicate Federal lands for specified purposes and that Congress delineate the extent to which the Executive may withdraw lands without legislative action.”<sup>54</sup> Accordingly, Congress expressly repealed a large number of statutes previously authorizing the Executive Branch to make withdrawals of federal land and overturned a court decision implying such power.<sup>55</sup> But FLPMA did not repeal the Antiquities Act. This was no oversight; the decision to leave that Act in effect was noted in the House Report.<sup>56</sup> And while Congress gave the Secretary of the Interior some powers to make, modify or revoke withdrawals, FLPMA provided that the Secretary did not have power to “revoke or modify” any Antiquities Act monument designation.<sup>57</sup>

The House Report made clear that there were to be no more implied powers to withdraw lands or to revoke previous withdrawals; only Congress was to have those powers except as expressly delegated.

With certain exceptions [including under the Antiquities Act], H.R. 13777 will repeal all existing law relating to executive authority to create, modify, and terminate withdrawal and reservations. It would reserve to the Congress the authority to create, modify, and terminate withdrawals for national parks, national forests, the Wilderness System, .... *It would also specially reserve to the Congress the authority to modify and revoke withdrawals for national monuments created under the Antiquities Act ....* These provisions will insure that the integrity of the great national resource management systems will remain under the control of the Congress.”<sup>58</sup>

Specifically as to national monuments, therefore, just as Attorney General Cummings concluded, while the President would continue to have the power to establish national monuments under that Act, only Congress would be empowered to revoke a monuments designation. Any other understanding of the Antiquities Act would be contrary to Congress’

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<sup>54</sup> *Id.*, codified at 43 U.S.C. § 1704(a)(4).

<sup>55</sup> See Pub. Law No. 74-597, § 704 (“Effective on and after the date of approval of this Act, the implied authority of the President to make withdrawals and reservations resulting from acquiescence of the Congress (*U.S. v. Midwest Oil Co.*, 236 U.S. 459) and the following statutes and parts of statutes are repealed: ...”).

<sup>56</sup> “The exceptions, which are not repealed, are contained in the Antiquities Act (national monuments), ....” House Report, at 29.

<sup>57</sup> 43 U.S.C. §1714 and § 1714(j). Those sections speak in terms of the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to make, modify or revoke withdrawals, but it is relevant to note in understanding that section that at the time of FLPMA’s adoption, the President had delegated to the Secretary of the Interior all of the President’s “authority ... vested in him to withdraw or reserve lands of the public domain and other lands owned or controlled by the United States in the continental United States or Alaska for public purposes, including authority to modify or revoke withdrawals and reservations of such lands heretofore or hereafter made.” *Delegating to the Secretary of the Interior the Authority of the President to Withdraw or Reserve Lands of the United States for Public Purposes*, Exec. Order 10355, 17 Fed. Reg. 4831 (May 28, 1952); Wheatley, at 379 (that Executive Order, as of 1969, “is now the controlling authority”).

<sup>58</sup> House Report, at 9 (*emphasis added*).

purpose and comprehensive legislative scheme in FLPMA to eliminate all implied delegations of authority to the Executive Branch to withdraw or revoke withdrawals.

Yoo and Gaziano nevertheless suggest that a President could revoke a prior designation if the later President determines it was based on a factual error, is no longer a valid designation due to changed circumstances, or is “illegally or inappropriately large.”<sup>59</sup> But there already exists a remedy under such circumstances; those same arguments can be made to Congress.<sup>60</sup>

The conclusion that only Congress may revoke a national monument designation applies doubly to those national monuments created under the Antiquities Act and administered by the National Park Service (“NPS”).<sup>61</sup> Ten years after adoption of the Antiquities Act, Congress adopted the Organic Act of 1916 creating the National Park System.<sup>62</sup> Congress there mandated that the fundamental purpose of the System is to “conserve the scenery, natural and historic objects, and the wild life in the System units ... [and ] leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”<sup>63</sup> In 1970, Congress adopted amendments to that Organic Act which made clear that national monuments administered by NPS are part of that System and are to be protected as such.<sup>64</sup> And Congress provided that the entire National Park System is a “cumulative expression[] of a single national heritage.”<sup>65</sup> In 1978, not satisfied that the Executive Branch had gotten the message, Congress returned to this subject and added the mandate that

the protection, management, and administration of the System units shall be conducted in light of the high public value and integrity of the System and shall not be exercised in derogation of the values and purposes for which the System units have been established, *except as directly and specifically provided by Congress.*<sup>66</sup>

Congress clearly did not intend that a President could unilaterally revoke the designation of a national monument that is part of the National Park System without Congress’ directly and

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<sup>59</sup> Yoo and Gaziano, at 9, 10.

<sup>60</sup> As described in noted 4 above, on several occasions Congress has abolished national monuments by legislation.

<sup>61</sup> For example, recent Proclamations establishing national monuments as part of the National Park System have provided “The Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) shall manage the monument through the National Park Service, pursuant to applicable legal authorities, consistent with the purposes and provisions of this proclamation.” *Establishment of the Belmont-Paul Women’s Equality National Monument*, Proclamation No. 9423, 81 Fed. Reg. 22505 (Apr. 15, 2016).

<sup>62</sup> Now codified at 54 U.S.C. §100101(a).

<sup>63</sup> *Id.*

<sup>64</sup> See Pub. L. No. 91-383 (National Park System General Authorities Act), codified in this regard at 54 U.S.C. §§ 100102(2), 100501 (defining “National Park System” to include any area administered by the Director of NPS, including for “monument” purposes). Those monuments are as fully covered by general regulations protecting the entire System as are any national parks created by Congress. See 36 C.F.R. §1.2 (NPS regulations apply to federally owned land administered by NPS).

<sup>65</sup> 54 U.S.C. § 100101(b)(1)(B).

<sup>66</sup> *Id.*, § 100101(b)(2) (*emphasis added*).

specifically so providing. Such an act would certainly be in derogation of the values and purposes for which the monument had previously been established.<sup>67</sup>

All of this simply goes further to establish that in the 1970s Congress adopted the Cummins Opinion's conclusion that no President may unilaterally revoke the establishment of any national monument. Such a revocation would require an act of Congress.

#### **IV. For the Same Reasons, No President May Unilaterally Materially Reduce the Size of a National Monument.**

President Trump's Executive Order of April 26, 2017 and Secretary Zinke's comments also raise the issue whether a President may unilaterally reduce the size of a national monument. Yoo and Gaziano argue that that power is to be implied into the Antiquities Act even if the President does not have the power to revoke a monument's designation.<sup>68</sup> But there is no merit to this claim, which is simply an alternative formulation of the baseless argument that a President may unilaterally abolish a national monument. Any attempts by the President to remove land or features that would undermine the purposes and values for which the monument was originally created would be a partial revocation of the monument. The President does not have the power to do in part what he cannot do in full.

Yoo and Gaziano rely on the fact that Presidents have issued a handful of proclamations that reduced the size of some national monuments. Whatever the understanding of this power might have been before the 1970s legislation discussed above, however, they cite not one example of any such reduction after FLPMA was adopted in 1976. The last time such a thing happened was in 1963, when President Kennedy issued a Proclamation to remove certain lands from Bandelier National Monument in New Mexico.<sup>69</sup> In FLPMA, Congress reasserted its authority over such matters. As discussed above, Congress made clear that it was "specially reserv[ing] to the Congress *the authority to modify* and revoke withdrawals for national monuments created under the Antiquities Act."<sup>70</sup>

It is unclear whether a President could make non-material adjustments to monument boundaries without congressional authorization. But President Trump does not appear to be planning to test that question when he says he is eager to change the boundaries of Bears Ears National Monument. It is at least clear that any reduction in the size of the monument or other modification that undermines the purpose and values for which it was created could be made only by Congress.

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<sup>67</sup> For example, the Presidential Proclamation designating Bears Ears National Monument explains that it is intended to preserve features of the lands that are sacred to Native Americans, paleontological resources, and a wide variety of vegetation. *Establishment of the Bears Ears National Monument*, Proclamation No. 9558, 83 Fed. Reg. 1139 (Jan. 5, 2017).

<sup>68</sup> Yoo and Gaziano, at 14-17.

<sup>69</sup> *Revising the Boundaries of the Bandelier National Monument*, Proclamation No. 3539, 28 Fed. Reg. 5407 (May 27, 1963).

<sup>70</sup> House Report, at 9 (*emphasis added*).

## **V. Conclusion.**

For over one hundred years, the Antiquities Act has allowed Presidents to create national monuments and preserve worthy lands for the enjoyment of all Americans and future generations. There are today national monuments in 31 states. For all Americans, they offer recreational opportunities and preserve a heritage of beauty, scientific marvels, and human achievement. But the Antiquities Act and subsequent legislation reserved to Congress, which has Constitutional authority over public lands, the sole power to revoke such a designation or materially to reduce the monument's size.

*Robert Rosenbaum, Andrew Shipe, Lindsey Beckett, Andrew Treaster, Jamen Tyler*

May 3, 2017

## **Appendix B**

“National monuments: Presidents can create them, but only Congress can undo them” by Nicholas Bryner, Eric Biber, Mark Squillace and Sean B. Hecht

# THE CONVERSATION

Academic rigor, journalistic flair



## National monuments: Presidents can create them, but only Congress can undo them

April 27, 2017 9.49pm EDT

Bears Ears National Monument, Utah. Bob Wick, BLM/Flickr, CC BY

On April 26 President Trump issued an executive order calling for a review of national monuments designated under the Antiquities Act. This law authorizes presidents to set aside federal lands in order to protect “historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest.”

Since the act became law in 1906, presidents of both parties have used it to preserve 157 historic sites, archaeological treasures and scenic landscapes, from the Grand Canyon to key landmarks of the civil rights movement in Birmingham, Alabama.

President Trump calls recent national monuments “a massive federal land grab,” and argues that control over some should be given to the states. In our view, this misrepresents the law. National monuments can be designated only on federal lands already owned or controlled by the United States.

The president’s order also suggests that he may consider trying to rescind or shrink monuments that were previously designated. Based on our analysis of the Antiquities Act and other laws, presidents do not have the authority to undo or downsize existing national monuments. This power rests with Congress, which has reversed national monument designations only 10 times in more than a century.

### Contests over land use

### Authors



#### Nicholas Bryner

Emmett/Frankel Fellow in Environmental Law and Policy, University of California, Los Angeles



#### Eric Biber

Professor of Law, University of California, Berkeley



#### Mark Squillace

Professor of Law, University of Colorado



Trump's executive order responds to opposition from some members of Congress and local officials to national monuments created by Presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama. It calls for Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke to review certain national monuments created since 1996 and to recommend "Presidential actions, legislative proposals, or other actions," presumably to shrink or eliminate these monuments. The order applies to monuments larger than 100,000 acres, as well as others to be identified by Secretary Zinke.

### Sean B. Hecht

Professor of Policy and Practice; Co-Executive Director, Emmett Institute on Climate Change and the Environment; and Co-Director, UCLA Law Environmental Law Clinic, University of California, Los Angeles

When a president creates a national monument, the area is "reserved" for the protection of sites and objects there, and may also be "withdrawn," or exempted, from laws that would allow for mining, logging or oil and gas development. Frequently, monument designations grandfather in existing uses of the land, but prohibit new activities such as mineral leases or mining claims.

Zinke said that he will examine whether such restrictions have led to "loss of jobs, reduced wages and reduced public access" in communities around national monuments. Following Secretary Zinke's review, the Trump administration may try either to rescind monument designations or modify them, either by reducing the size of the monument or authorizing more extractive activities within their boundaries.



Opponents of the proposed Bears Ears National Monument in Monticello, Utah during a visit by then-Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, July 14, 2016. AP Photo/Rick Bowmer

Two of the most-contested monuments are in Utah. In 1996 President Clinton designated the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, a region of incredible slot canyons and remote plateaus. Twenty years later, President Obama designated Bears Ears National Monument, an area of scenic rock formations and sites sacred to Native American tribes.

Utah's governor and congressional delegation oppose these monuments, arguing that they are larger than necessary and that presidents should defer to the state about whether to use the Antiquities Act. Local officials have raised similar complaints about the Gold Butte National Monument in Nevada and the Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument in Maine, both designated by Obama in late 2016.

## What the law says

The key question at issue is whether the Antiquities Act gives presidents the power to alter or revoke decisions by past administrations. The U.S. Constitution gives Congress the power to decide what happens on "territory or other property belonging to the United States." When Congress passed the Antiquities Act, it delegated a portion of that authority to the president so that administrations could act quickly to protect resources or sites that are threatened.

Critics of recent national monuments argue that if a president can create a national monument, the next one can undo it. However, the Antiquities Act speaks only of designating monuments. It says nothing about abolishing or shrinking them.

Two other land management statutes from the turn of the 20th century – the Pickett Act of 1910 and the Forest Service Organic Act of 1897 – gave the president authority to withdraw other types of land, and also specifically stated that the president could modify or revoke those actions. These laws clearly contrast with the Antiquities Act's silence on reversing past decisions.



Ruins at Chaco Culture National Historic Park, New Mexico, originally protected under the Antiquities Act by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1907 to prevent looting of archaeological sites. Steven C. Price/Wikipedia, CC BY-SA

In 1938, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt considered abolishing the Castle-Pinkney National Monument – a deteriorating fort in Charleston, South Carolina – Attorney General Homer Cummings



advised that the president did not have the power to take this step. (Congress abolished the monument in 1951.)



Congress enacted a major overhaul of public lands law in 1976, the **Federal Land Policy and Management Act**, repealing many earlier laws. However, it did not change the Antiquities Act. The House Committee that drafted the 1976 law also made clear in legislative reports that it intended to prohibit the president from modifying or abolishing a national monument, stating that the law would “specifically reserve to the Congress the authority to modify and revoke withdrawals for national monuments created under the Antiquities Act.”

## **The value of preservation**

Many national monuments faced vociferous local opposition when they were declared, including Jackson Hole National Monument, which is now part of **Grand Teton National Park**. But over time Americans have come to appreciate them.

Indeed, Congress has converted many monuments into national parks, including **Acadia**, the **Grand Canyon**, **Arches** and **Joshua Tree**. These four parks alone attracted over 13 million visitors in 2016. The aesthetic, cultural, scientific, spiritual and economic value of preserving them has long exceeded whatever short-term benefit could have been derived without legal protection.

As Secretary Zinke begins his review of Bears Ears and other national monuments, he should heed that lesson, and also ensure that his recommendations do not overstep the president’s lawful authority.

 [Federalism](#) [national monuments](#) [Trump administration](#) [Antiquities Act](#) [public lands](#) 

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## **Appendix C**

Compilation of Letters of Support from Various Stakeholders

## MOJAVE TRAILS, SAND TO SNOW, CASTLE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL MONUMENTS

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Photo: John Dittli

**SUPPORT FOR**  
**MOJAVE TRAILS, SAND TO SNOW, CASTLE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL MONUMENTS**

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Calimesa Mayor Pro Tem Ella Zanowic (R)  
Cathedral City Mayor Stan Henry (R)  
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Cathedral City Councilman Shelley Kaplan (D)  
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Coachella Mayor Steven Hernandez (D)  
Coachella City Manager David Garcia Desert  
Hot Springs Mayor Adam Sanchez, Sr. (D)  
Desert Hot Springs Mayor Pro Tem Russell Betts (D)  
Desert Hot Springs City Councilmember Jan Pye (R)  
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Desert Hot Springs City Councilperson Joe McKee

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti

City of Los Angeles

Morongo Valley Community Services District and Fire Department

Rancho Cucamonga Mayor L. Dennis Michael

San Francisco Board of Supervisors

**TRIBES / TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Native American Land Conservancy

San Manuel Tribe

Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians

## FAITH LEADERS

Assemblies of God's Southern Pacific District (sign on letter from 100 clergy members)

Pastor Sergio Navarrete, Superintendent, Southern Pacific District Assemblies of God,  
La Puente

Rev. Silvano Elias, Iglesia Centro Ebenezer, La Puente

Rev. Freddie Espinoza, Centro Cristiano de Whittier, Whittier

Rev. Yanina Espinoza, Centro Cristiano de Whittier, Whittier

Rev. Lesly Merlos, New Generation Army, Newport Beach

Rev. Jose Merlos, New Generation Army, Newport Beach

Rev. Claudio Lapidus, Centro Cristiano Familiar Vida Abundante, Santa Clarita

Rev. Sara Lapidus, Centro Cristiano Familiar Vida Abundante, Santa Clarita

Rev. Ruth Valverde, Iglesia Fraternidad Cristiana, Montebello

Rev. Elmer Valverde, Iglesia Fraternidad Cristiana, Montebello

Rev. Lidia España, Director de Misiones, La Puente

Rev. Carlos España, Director de Misiones, La Puente

Rev. Rigoberto Digeiro, Asistente de Misiones, La Puente

Rev. Lilian Paredes, Templo Vision Misionera, Bellflower

Rev. Raymes Mesa, Ministro de SPD, La Puente

Rev. Lupe Navar, Iglesia Poder de Dios, Simi Valley

Rev. Guadalupe Navar, Iglesia Poder de Dios, Simi Valley

Rev. Daniel Perez, Ministerios Extendiendo una Mano Amiga, Irvine

Rev. Martha Perez, Ministerios Extendiendo una Mano Amiga, Irvine

Rev. Enoc Paredes, Templo Vision Misionera, Bellflower

Rev. Pedro Vega, Southern Pacific District (SPD) Presbyter, Corona

Rev. Raul Castro, S.P.D. Excecutive, Rancho Cucamonga

Rev. Antonina Arroyo, S.P.D Womens director, La Puente

Rev. Silvia Carrizo, S.P. D. Excecutive, La Puente

Rev. Blanca Castro, S.P.D. Women in ministry Director, Rancho Cucamonga

Rev. Juanita Cruz, S.P. D. Excecutive, Rancho Cucamonga

Rev. William Rodriguez, Iglesia Pentecostal Esmirna, Los Angeles

Rev. Miriam Paredes, S.P.D Missions assistant, La Puente

Rev. Mario Procopio, Newport Beach

Rev. Blandina Tamara, S.P.D Presbyter, Santa Ana

Rev. Fernando Tamara, Primera Asamblea de Orange County, Irvine

Rev. Daniel de Leon, Templo Calvario, Tustin

Rev. Jesse Villarreal, Templo La Hermosa of the A/G, Coachella

Rev. Mike Neciuk, El Redentor, Brawley

Rev. Lalo Guerrero, S.P.D Presbyter, Ontario

Rev. Saul Rios, Centro Evangelistico Rios de Agua Viva, Santa Ana

Rev. Ana Rivera, Iglesia Iberoamerica del Valle, Lancaster

Rev. Sylvia Hoover,Templo el Salvador, Thousand Oaks

Rev. Rolando Barahona, Iglesia Cristiana Tabernaculo de Fe, Los Angeles

Rev. Manuel Montes, Nueva Vida en Cristo, South Gate

Rev. Jack Miranda, Living Faith, La Mirada

Rev. Felix Garcia, Centro Esperanza, City of Industry  
Rev. Manny Rodriguez, Tailor's House, Covina Rev. Jesus Campa, Las Buenas Nuevas,  
Carlsbad  
Rev. Esther Tejada, Templo Betania, San Diego  
Rev. Edwin Mota, Iglesia Alfarero de las asambleas de Dios, Fallbrook  
Rev. Maria Elia Guzman, Iglesia Roca de Salvacion, Los Angeles  
Rev. Simon Melendrez, Templo Roca Firme, Riverside  
Rev. Martha Melendrez, Templo Roca Firme, Riverside  
Rev. Alex Lainez, S.P.D Royal Ranger Director, Baldwin Park  
Rev. Urias Mendoza, Mision el Redentor, Rancho Cucamonga  
Rev. Luis Castro, S.P.D Kings Kastle Director, Los Angeles  
Rev. Cecilia Escobar, Ministerio Cristiano Jesus es el Señor, Las Vegas  
Rev. Demetrio Escobar, Ministerio Cristiano Jesus es el Señor, Las Vegas  
Rev. Joshua Pinto, Centro Evangelistico Faro a las Naciones, Lake Forest  
Rev. Melesio Florian, Iglesia Nueva Vida, North Hills  
Rev. Raymond Ontiveros, Iglesia Monte Sion, Oxnard  
Rev. Francisco Vasquez, Iglesia Roca de Salvacion, Los Angeles  
Rev. Heber Porras, Iglesia del Señor, Long Beach  
Rev. Mario Ramirez, Iglesia Iberoamerica del Valle, Lancaster  
Rev. Magdalena Campa, Las Buenas Nuevas, San Diego  
Rev. Refugio Tejada, Templo Betania, San Diego  
Rev. Vicky Florian, Iglesia Nueva Vida, North Hills  
Rev. Lucia Ontiveros, Iglesia Monte Sion, Oxnard  
Rev. Nora Landaverde, S.P.D Girls Ministries Director, La Puente  
Rev. Denis Rivera, Ministerio Vida Nueva de las Asambleas de Dios, Covina  
Rev. Carmen Rivera, Ministerio Vida Nueva de las Asambleas de Dios, Covina  
Rev. Marcos Donis, Iglesia Evangelica Nueva, Las Vegas  
Rev. Zoila Donis, Iglesia Evangelica Nueva, Las Vegas  
Rev. Alfredo Hernandez, Amistad Cristiana de Upland, Upland  
Rev. Lilian Hernandez, Amistad Cristiana de Upland, Upland  
Rev. Estuardo Escobar, Ministerio internacional Adonai, Las Vegas  
Rev. Gabriela Escobar, Ministerio internacional Adonai, Las Vegas  
Rev. Lucy Saavedra, Centro Evangelistico Palabra Viva, Las Vegas  
Rev. Jose Luis Bonilla, Centro Evangelistico Palabra Viva, Las Vegas  
Rev. Roberto Flores, Iglesia las Vegas, Las Vegas  
Rev. Edilu Flores, Iglesia las Vegas, Las Vegas  
Rev. Herbert Diaz, Iglesia Mision Cristiana de rescate, Las Vegas  
Rev. Mizrahim Ramirez, Centro Cristiano Fresca Uncion, Lynwood  
Rev. Dimas Flores, Iglesia Faro de Esperanza, Lynwood  
Rev. Juanita Flores, Iglesia Faro de Esperanza, Lynwood  
Rev. Javier Muñoz, Templo del Evangelio, Perris  
Rev. Rosy Muñoz, Templo del Evangelio, Perris  
Rev. Ernesto Ambriz, Templo Ebenezer, Riverside  
Rev. Carlos Gamez, Familia del Nuevo Nacimiento, Lake Elsinore

Rev. Leonzo Moralez, Hija de Saron, Murrieta  
Rev. Rodolfo Esteban, Iglesia Cristiana Ebenezer, Tustin  
Rev. Becky Esteban, Iglesia Cristiana Ebenzer, Tustin  
Rev. Moises Lecca, Iglesia Vida Abundante Nternacional, Los Angeles  
Rev. Manuel Prado, 100 Por Ciento Vida, Lancaster  
Rev. Miguel Duarte, Iglesia Evangelica Sol de Justicia, Reseda  
Rev. Francisco Duarte, Iglesia Betania, Maywood  
Rev. Eliseo Ruelas, Iglesia el Eden, Los Angeles  
Rev. Marcos Atencio, Iglesia Esmirna Asambleas de Dios, Los Angeles  
Rev. Elsa Atencio, Iglesia Esmirna Asambleas de Dios, Los Angeles  
Rev. John Perea, Bethel Community of Barstow, Barstow  
Rev. Felipe Guiza, Centro Misionero Siloe, San Diego  
Rev. Isaac Rangel, Iglesia del Rey San Diego, San Diego  
Rev. Angel Palma, Life Church-Iglesia Viva, Corona  
Rev. Oscar Amaya, Ministerio Emanuel Asambleas de Dios, Los Angeles

Por La Creacion Sign On Letter

Frank Ruiz, Spanish Seventh Day Adventist Church, Indio CA  
Enrique Orellana, Sr. Pastor, Fuente de Vida Christian Center, Coachella CA  
Jesse Villarreal, Sr. Pastor, Templo La Hermosa, Coachella CA  
Dr. Francisco Colop, Regional Vice President, Alianza de Ministerios Evangelicos Nacionales, Austin TX  
Steven Morales, Pastor, Calvary Chapel, El Sereno CA  
Raul Velazquez, Pastor, El Nuevo Comienzo, Adelanto CA  
Javier Moreno, Co-Pastor, Monte de Zion, Victorville CA  
Raymundo Ortiz, Pastor, Iglesias Amiavi, Victorville CA  
Cecilia Ruano, Pastor, Rosa de Saron Asembla de Dios Church, Caldwell ID  
Dr. Sergio Navarette, Superintendent, Southern Pacific District of the Assemblies of God  
Jorge Quintanilla, Pastor, Iglesia Divino Salvador, Reseda CA  
Juan Manuel Almanza, Pastor, Centro de Adoracion Familiar, Las Vegas NV  
Joseito Velasquez, Sr. Pastor, Healing Waters Family Center, Denver CO  
Martin Martinez, Youth Pastor, Impacto Juvenil, Covina CA  
Absalon Duran, Pastor, Monte de Zion, Victorville CA  
Hector Manzo, Centro Cristiano de Fe, Victorville CA

**BUSINESSES AND CHAMBERS**

Calimesa Chamber of Commerce  
Morongo Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Route 66 Chamber of Commerce  
California Association for Micro Enterprise Opportunities  
Outdoor Recreation Business Sign on Letter (17 businesses)  
Belinda Sanda Sales  
Brook Hopper Consulting  
Camelback

The Conservation Alliance  
Eagle Creek  
Elemental Herbs  
The Forest Group  
Good Solutions  
Klean Kanteen  
Juniper Ridge  
The Mountain Lab  
The North Face  
Patagonia  
Smartwool  
Timberland  
Vans  
Vapur

Adventure 16

Awakened Wisdom Experiences  
Bardwell Case and Associates Inc, Architects  
Blue Prairie Productions  
Cannon Brand Design  
Desert Decorating  
Dr. Alan Hedman  
Instant Karma Yoga, Joshua Tree  
Pioneertown Properties  
Pipes Canyon Lodge  
Spin and Margie's Desert Hide-A-Way  
Sweet Rock Ranch  
Two Bunch Palms

Victorville Business Sign on Letter

Belle's Best Beef Jerky  
Buenowill International  
Casa de Yermo Handmade Soaps  
Zlux Skin Care

Local Business Sign on Letter\_1

Arcadia Bookstore  
Cactus Mart  
Carla's Route 62 Diner  
Coyote Corner  
Del's Shoes  
Grateful Desert  
Greater Palm Springs  
Convention & Visitor Bureau  
Hi Desert Water Transport

Homestead Modern No. 1  
Hoodoo (records)  
Hoof and Horn  
Joshua Tree Adventures  
Joshua Tree Bicycle Shop  
Joshua Tree Certified Farmers'  
Market  
Joshua Tree Health Foods  
Joshua Tree Saloon



La Copine Kitchen  
Le Haut Desert Aerie  
Pappy and Harriet's  
Patricia Knight Photography  
Pioneer Crossing Antiques  
Ma Rouge Café  
Mike's Liquor  
Morongo Valley Hardware  
The Olive Adobe  
Rainbow Stew  
Rock Reach House

Route 62 Vintage Market  
Ruin Venue  
Rustic Modern Rentals  
Sam's Market  
Sam's Pizza  
Smoke n' More  
Stoker Construction  
Swarat Signs  
Tamara's at Home, Inc.  
Tamma's Magic Mercantile  
Unique Gardens Nursery

#### Local Business Sign on Letter\_2

Joshua Tree Realty  
Bird on a Wire Art and Collectibles  
BKB Ceramics  
Safari Motor Inn  
Country Kitchen  
Joshua Tree Excursions  
JT Lilypad, LLC  
Starlite  
Yokozuna Japanese Restaurant and  
Night Club  
Yucca Valley Tobacco Mart  
Ikon Beauty  
Quiznos  
Joshua Tree Family Dentistry  
Joshua Tree Mini Storage  
Decal Depot  
Desert Oracle  
Natural Sisters Café  
Pie for the People

Crossroads Café,  
Moonlight Mesa Retreats  
and Vacation Rentals  
Broadview  
Benchmark Studios  
Holmes Health  
Holmes Ecological Design  
and Construction  
Doctorhunters.com  
Decal Depot/Mercy Codes  
Ruth's Rabbit Trail Tours  
Dan O'Dowd Productions  
Grow with Lauren Ell  
Online Marketing Consultant  
Stitch Art Studios  
Radio Free Joshua Tree  
Joshua Tree Music Festival  
Buck Buckley, Solar Contractor

#### Local Business Sign on Letter\_3

Computer Zone  
Uhaul, Yucca Valley  
Black Luck Vintage  
Cool Daddy O's Ice Cream and  
Grill  
Starr's Tool Box  
Country Market  
Cactus Flower  
Pho 85 Restaurant

The Cactus Wren Book  
Exchange  
Hairr's Johnny Barber Shop  
Holly's Trading Post  
Morongo Valley Café  
Aki Sushi  
Fins and Fangs  
Enterprise, Yucca Valley

Southern Inyo Business Sign On Letter

Crowbar Café and Saloon  
Tecopa Hot Springs Resort  
Shoshone Museum Association  
Death Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Xanterra Death Valley  
Tecopa Hot Springs Campground and Pools

Shoshone Inn  
Second Wind Hot Water Retreat and  
Campground  
New Light Foto Design  
Desert Mesquite Products  
Amargosa Conservancy

Palm Springs Business Sign On Letter

Olive A'Sudden  
Bagg Spot  
Smoke Tree Greetings  
Q Trading  
Imageville  
Find Your Fun Maps  
Stewart Galleries  
La Plaza Shoe Repair  
L'Atelier Café  
Bazar  
Bearfoot Inn  
Etcetera  
Blue Coyote Grill  
Serious Food and Drink  
Café Europa

Ooh LaLa de Paris  
Distinctive Home  
Oasis Tours and Activities  
Elena Bulatova Fine Art  
Desert Landscape and Design  
Desert Painter Studio Gallery  
Lapper's Ice Cream  
Marv-N- Stewart  
Oscars Bar and Café  
R & R Menswear  
Sammy G's Restaurant  
Kaiser Grille  
Cold Nose Warm Heart  
Hats Unlimited  
Matchbox

La Quinta Business Sign On Letter

As Time Goes By  
Blown Away  
Boutique  
Casa Mendoza Mexican  
Restaurant and Bar  
CJ's Stir it Up Mongolian Grill  
Divas of the Desert  
Gracie's Emporium  
Joe A Oakes Atelier Painting  
Classes and Gallery  
Jule's Market, La Quinta  
La Quinta Brewing Co.

Legacy Jewelry Company  
Old Town Coffee Company  
Pedego Electric Bikes  
Premier Properties  
Realty Executives Desert  
Lifestyles  
Salon Montana  
South West Concepts  
Stone Ridge Realty and  
Investment Inc  
Stuff Pizza Bar and Grill  
Yogurt Island U-Create

Barstow Business Sign On Letter

Furry Friends Dog Grooming &  
Supplies  
Last Call Insurance  
Economy Inn

Jenny's Grill  
Lola's Kitchen  
Route 66 Motel  
H & R Block

Viola's Vision Hair Salon  
Best Western Desert Villa Inn  
Ramada inn  
Fitness MD  
Idle Spurs Steakhouse

Swiss Liquor  
Desert Inn  
Del Taco #236  
Los Domingos Restaurant

Desert Hot Springs Business Sign On Letter

Glossy Boutique  
Desert Eyecare Center  
Childres Antiques  
Paul M. Ross, DC, Chiropractor  
Unisex Hair Salon  
IGGM Retail Clothing Store  
Meine Hair Salon  
El Morocco Inn & Spa

Desert Hot Springs Spa Hotel  
Miracle Springs Resort & Spa  
Nurturing Nest Mineral Springs  
Retreat and Spa  
Sandra Gune, DC, Chiropractor  
Living Waters Spa  
Lido Palms Resort & Spa

Victorville Business Sign On Letter

Armando's Furniture  
Auto Fashion Upholstery and  
Supplies  
Cameo Beauty Center  
Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf  
Crown and Sword  
Jackies Gift Shop

La Quinta Inn  
Red Roof Inn,  
Sky's Beauty Supply  
Shabby Confections  
Sport Bike USA  
The Tanning Saloon,  
Victorville Pawn Shop

**EDUCATORS, HISTORIANS, SCIENTISTS AND OTHER EXPERTS**

Astronomy Organization, Scientist and Enthusiast Sign on Letter

Craig Weatherwax  
Scott Feierabend  
James Gee  
Dean Arvidson  
Thomas A. Meneghini  
Wally Pacholka  
Tim Hunter

Farah Payan  
James Yuen, Past Secretary  
Douglas Kegard  
Dick Pantoja, President  
Scott Kardel  
Diana Umpierre  
Tom O'Key

Paul Delaney, PhD. Copper Mountain College

Curt Duffy, Instructor, Los Angeles Pierce College

Historians, Archaeologists, Ethnographers, Other Scientists/Experts/Leaders Sign On Letter  
(107 signatories)

Scientist Sign On Letter

**MILITARY: VETERANS AND ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS**

Active Duty Service Member Sign on Letter

Veterans Sign On Letter (49 signatories)

**COMMUNITY LEADERS**

Mark Butler  
Belinda Faustinos  
Michael Fleming  
Lyn and Norman Lear  
James Redford  
Michelle and Rob Reiner  
Jim Steyer  
David F. Welch

**COMMUNITY GROUPS & CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS**

Audubon Sign On Letter  
    Palos Verdes/South Bay  
        Audubon  
    San Fernando Valley Audubon  
    Buena Vista Audubon Society  
    Laguna Hills Audubon Society  
California Desert Coalition  
Coachella Valley Conservation Commission  
Coalition to Protect America's Parks  
Defenders of Wildlife  
Desert Trails Coalition  
The Friends of the Big Morongo Basin Preserve  
Friends of Pioneertown  
Great Outdoors Palm Springs  
Latino Coalition for a Healthy California  
Latino Conservation Alliance:  
    Green Latinos  
    Hispanic Access Foundation  
    Hispanics Enjoying Camping, Hunting, and the Outdoors (HECHO)  
    Hispanic Federation  
    La Madre Tierra  
    Latino Outdoors  
Morongo Basin Conservation Association  
Pacific Crest Trail Association  
San Gabriel Mountains Forever  
Summer Tree Institute  
Vet Voice

San Bernardino Valley  
    Audubon Society  
Los Angeles Audubon Society  
Pasadena Audubon Society  
Palomar Audubon Society

**ARTIST COMMUNITY**

Art and Cultural Leaders for the California Desert Sign On Letter

**OTHER STAKEHOLDERS AND CONSTITUENTS**

Joanna Clyde-Findlay  
Sam Goldman  
Sarah Kennington & Steve Bardwell  
Carla Lindquist  
Christina MacInnes  
Warren & Mary Molton  
Mark Stratton  
Jim Swindell  
Randi Swindell  
Bryan Wynwood

Victorville, CA Resident Sign on Letter

Linda Lee Chevalier  
Juanita Marts  
Larry Marts  
John Chevalier  
Thomas Atkins  
Andrew Redfeather Corona  
Priscilla Frema  
Ashley Sanchez  
Britney Velasco  
Hannah Rios  
Don Sherman  
Alana Pratt  
Ronner Williams  
Leo Ruiz  
Patricia R. Dilday

Mike Mendoza  
Evan Ramirez  
Arthur Benitez  
Marlena Carabajal  
Kimberly Nguyen  
Yesenia Free  
Matthew Cookson  
Carlos A. P. Ortiz  
Arianna Villa  
Ashley Morua  
Dalila Guillen  
Karen Barahona  
Patrick Jones  
Roman A. Crisistom

Palm Springs Sign On Letter

Stakeholder Sign On Letter (more than 600 signers)

**III. PRESS**

Social Media  
Press Releases  
Press Clips

**SUPPORT FOR**  
**MOJAVE TRAILS, SAND TO SNOW, CASTLE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL MONUMENTS**

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**SUPPORTER LIST**

**ELECTED OFFICIALS & LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Coachella Valley Conservation Commission  
City of Los Angeles  
Morongo Valley Community Services District and Fire Department  
San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
Beaumont City Councilman Mark Orozco (D)  
Calimesa Mayor Pro Tem Ella Zanowic (R)  
Cathedral City Mayor Stan Henry (R)  
Cathedral City Mayor Pro Tem Greg Pettis (D)  
Cathedral City Councilman Shelley Kaplan (D)  
Cathedral City Councilman John Aguilar (D)  
Coachella Mayor Steven Hernandez (D)  
Coachella City Manager David Garcia Desert  
Hot Springs Mayor Adam Sanchez, Sr. (D)  
Desert Hot Springs Mayor Pro Tem Russell Betts (D)  
Desert Hot Springs City Councilmember Jan Pye (R)  
Desert Hot Springs Councilperson Joe McKee  
Indian Wells City Councilmember Douglas Hanson (R)  
Indio Mayor Pro Tem Glenn Miller (R)  
Indio City Councilmember Troy Strange (D)  
La Quinta Mayor Linda Evans (R)  
Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti  
Palm Springs Mayor Pro Tem Paul Lewin (D)  
Palm Springs City Councilmember Ginny Foat (D)  
Rancho Cucamonga Mayor L. Dennis Michael  
Rancho Mirage Mayor G. Dana Hobart (R)  
Yucaipa City Councilmember Dick Riddell (R)

**TRIBES / TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Native American Land Conservancy  
San Manuel Tribe  
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians

**FAITH LEADERS**

Assemblies of God's Southern Pacific District (sign on letter from 100 clergy members)  
Pastor Sergio Navarrete, Superintendent, Southern Pacific District Assemblies of God,  
La Puente  
Rev. Silvano Elias, Iglesia Centro Ebenezer, La Puente  
Rev. Freddie Espinoza, Centro Cristiano de Whittier, Whittier

Rev. Yanina Espinoza, Centro Cristiano de Whittier, Whittier  
Rev. Lesly Merlos, New Generation Army, Newport Beach  
Rev. Jose Merlos, New Generation Army, Newport Beach  
Rev. Claudio Lapidus, Centro Cristiano Familiar Vida Abundante, Santa Clarita  
Rev. Sara Lapidus, Centro Cristiano Familiar Vida Abundante, Santa Clarita  
Rev. Ruth Valverde, Iglesia Fraternidad Cristiana, Montebello  
Rev. Elmer Valverde, Iglesia Fraternidad Cristiana, Montebello  
Rev. Lidia España, Director de Misiones, La Puente  
Rev. Carlos España, Director de Misiones, La Puente  
Rev. Rigoberto Digeiro, Asistente de Misiones, La Puente  
Rev. Lilian Paredes, Templo Vision Misionera, Bellflower  
Rev. Raymes Mesa, Ministro de SPD, La Puente  
Rev. Lupe Navar, Iglesia Poder de Dios, Simi Valley  
Rev. Guadalupe Navar, Iglesia Poder de Dios, Simi Valley  
Rev. Daniel Perez, Ministerios Extendiendo una Mano Amiga, Irvine  
Rev. Martha Perez, Ministerios Extendiendo una Mano Amiga, Irvine  
Rev. Enoc Paredes, Templo Vision Misionera, Bellflower  
Rev. Pedro Vega, Southern Pacific District (SPD) Presbyter, Corona  
Rev. Raul Castro, S.P.D. Excecutive, Rancho Cucamonga  
Rev. Antonina Arroyo, S.P.D Womens director, La Puente  
Rev. Silvia Carrizo, S.P. D. Excecutive, La Puente  
Rev. Blanca Castro, S.P.D. Women in ministry Director, Rancho Cucamonga  
Rev. Juanita Cruz, S.P. D. Excecutive, Rancho Cucamonga  
Rev. William Rodriguez, Iglesia Pentecostal Esmirna, Los Angeles  
Rev. Miriam Paredes, S.P.D Missions assistant, La Puente  
Rev. Mario Procopio, Newport Beach  
Rev. Blandina Tamara, S.P.D Presbyter, Santa Ana  
Rev. Fernando Tamara, Primera Asamblea de Orange County, Irvine  
Rev. Daniel de Leon, Templo Calvario, Tustin  
Rev. Jesse Villarreal, Templo La Hermosa of the A/G, Coachella  
Rev. Mike Neciuk, El Redentor, Brawley  
Rev. Lalo Guerrero, S.P.D Presbyter, Ontario  
Rev. Saul Rios, Centro Evangelistico Rios de Agua Viva, Santa Ana  
Rev. Ana Rivera, Iglesia Iberoamerica del Valle, Lancaster  
Rev. Sylvia Hoover,Templo el Salvador, Thousand Oaks  
Rev. Rolando Barahona, Iglesia Cristiana Tabernaculo de Fe, Los Angeles  
Rev. Manuel Montes, Nueva Vida en Cristo, South Gate  
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Rev. Carlos Gamez, Familia del Nuevo Nacimiento, Lake Elsinore  
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Rev. Miguel Duarte, Iglesia Evangelica Sol de Justicia, Reseda



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Rev. Elsa Atencio, Iglesia Esmirna Asambleas de Dios, Los Angeles  
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Rev. Isaac Rangel, Iglesia del Rey San Diego, San Diego  
Rev. Angel Palma, Life Church-Iglesia Viva, Corona  
Rev. Oscar Amaya, Ministerio Emanuel Asambleas de Dios, Los Angeles

California Council of Churches IMPACT

Por La Creacion:

Frank Ruiz, Pastor, Spanish Seventh Day Adventist Church, Indio CA  
Enrique Orellana, Sr. Pastor, Fuente de Vida Christian Center, Coachella CA  
Jesse Villarreal, Sr. Pastor, Templo La Hermosa, Coachella CA  
Dr. Francisco Colop, Regional Vice President, Alianza de Ministerios Evangelicos Nacionales, Austin TX  
Steven Morales, Pastor, Calvary Chapel, El Sereno CA  
Raul Velazquez, Pastor, El Nuevo Comienzo, Adelanto CA  
Javier Moreno, Co-Pastor, Monte de Zion, Victorville CA  
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Jorge Quintanilla, Pastor, Iglesia Divino Salvador, Reseda CA  
Juan Manuel Almanza, Pastor, Centro de Adoracion Familiar, Las Vegas NV  
Joseito Velasquez, Sr. Pastor, Healing Waters Family Center, Denver CO  
Martin Martinez, Youth Pastor, Impacto Juvenil, Covina CA  
Absalon Duran, Pastor, Monte de Zion, Victorville CA  
Hector Manzo, Centro Cristiano de Fe, Victorville CA

#### **BUSINESSES AND CHAMBERS**

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Death Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Palm Springs Convention and Visitors Bureau  
Joshua Tree Chamber of Commerce  
Latino Business Association  
Morongo Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Route 66 Chamber of Commerce  
California Association for Micro Enterprise Opportunities  
Outdoor Recreation Businesses  
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Brook Hopper Consulting  
Camelback  
The Conservation Alliance

Eagle Creek  
Elemental Herbs  
The Forest Group  
Good Solutions  
KEEN Footwear  
Klean Kanteen  
Juniper Ridge  
The Mountain Lab  
The North Face  
Patagonia  
Smartwool  
Timberland  
Vans  
Vapur

A Stylish Affair, Yucca Valley  
Adventure 16, San Diego  
Aki Sushi, Yucca Valley  
Arcadia Bookstore, Wisconsin  
Armando's Furniture, Victorville  
As Time Goes By, La Quinta  
Auto Fashion Upholstery and Supplies, Victorville  
Awakened Wisdom Experiences  
Bagg Spot, Palm Springs  
Bardwell Case and Associates Inc. Architects, Sherman Oaks  
Bazar, Palm Springs  
Bearfoot Inn, Palm Springs  
Belle's Best Beef Jerky  
Benchmark Studios, Joshua Tree  
Best Western Desert Villa Inn, Barstow  
Bird on a Wire Art and Collectibles, Joshua Tree  
Bird Watcher's Digest, Marietta OH  
BKB Ceramics, Joshua Tree  
Black Luck Vintage, Yucca Valley  
Blown Away, La Quinta  
Blue Coyote Grill, Palm Springs  
Blue Prairie Productions, New York and Pioneertown, CA  
Boutique, La Quinta  
Broadview, Twenty Nine Palms  
Buck Buckley, Solar Contractor, Joshua Tree  
Buenowill International, Barstow  
Cactus Flower, Yucca Valley  
Cactus Mart, Morongo Valley  
The Cactus Wren Book Exchange, Yucca Valley  
Café Europa, Palm Springs  
Cameo Beauty Center, Victorville

Carla's Route 62 Diner, Yucca Valley  
Casa de Yermo Handmade Soaps, Yermo  
Casa Mendoza Mexican Restaurant and Bar, La Quinta  
Childres Antiques, Desert Hot Springs  
CJ's Stir it Up Mongolian Grill, La Quinta  
Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf, Victorville  
Cold Nose Warm Heart, Palm Springs  
Colorado River Medical Center, Needles  
Computer Zone, Yucca Valley  
Cool Daddy O's Ice Cream and Grill, Yucca Valley  
Country Kitchen, Joshua Tree  
Country Market and Deli, Morongo Valley  
Coyote Corner, Joshua Tree  
Crossroads Café, Joshua Tree  
Crowbar Café and Saloon, Shoshone  
Crown and Sword, Victorville  
Dan O'Dowd Productions, Joshua Tree  
Decal Depot, Joshua Tree  
Del's Shoes, Yucca Valley  
Del Taco #236, Barstow  
Desert Decorating, Pioneertown  
Desert Eyecare Center, Desert Hot Springs  
Desert Hot Springs Spa Hotel, Desert Hot Springs  
Desert Inn, Barstow  
Desert Landscape and Design, Palm Springs  
Desert Mequite Products, Tecopa  
Desert Oracle, Joshua Tree  
Desert Painter Studio Gallery, Palm Springs  
Distinctive Home, Palm Springs  
Divas of the Desert, La Quinta  
Doctorhunters.com, Joshua Tree  
Economy Inn, Barstow  
Elena Bulatova Fine Art, Palm Springs  
El Morocco Inn & Spa, Desert Hot Springs  
Enterprise, Yucca Valley  
Etcetera, Palm Springs  
Find Your Fun Maps, Palm Springs  
Fins and Fangs, Yucca Valley  
Furry Friends Dog Grooming & Supplies, Barstow  
Glossy Boutique, Desert Hot Springs  
Gracie's Emporium, La Quinta  
Grateful Desert, Joshua Tree  
Green Tree Inn, Victorville  
Grow with Lauren Ell, Online Marketing Consultant, Joshua Tree  
Hairr's Johnny Barber Shop, Yucca Valley

Hats Unlimited, Palm Springs  
Dr. Alan Hedman  
Hi Desert Water Transport, Joshua Tree  
HK Lane Real Estate, Palm Spring  
Holly's Trading Post, Morongo Valley  
Holmes Health, Joshua Tree  
Holmes Ecological Design and Construction, Joshua Tree  
Homestead Modern No. 1, Pioneertown  
Hoodoo (Records), Yucca Valley  
Hoof and Horn, Yucca Valley  
Idle Spurs Steakhouse, Barstow  
IGGM Retail Clothing Store, Desert Hot Springs  
Ikon Beauty, Yucca Valley  
Imageville, Palm Springs  
Instant Karma Yoga, Joshua Tree  
Jackies Gift Shop, Victorville  
Jenny's Grill, Barstow  
Joe A Oakes Atelier Painting Classes and Gallery, La Quinta  
John Dittli Photography, Crowley Lake  
Joshua Tree Adventures, Joshua Tree  
Joshua Tree Bicycle Shop, Joshua Tree  
Joshua Tree Certified Farmers' Market, Joshua Tree  
Joshua Tree Excursions, Joshua Tree  
Joshua Tree Family Dentistry, Joshua Tree  
Joshua Tree Health Foods, Joshua Tree  
Joshua Tree Mini Storage, Joshua Tree  
Joshua Tree Music Festival, Joshua Tree  
Joshua Tree Realty, Joshua Tree  
Joshua Tree Rustic Modern Rentals, Joshua Tree  
Joshua Tree Saloon, Joshua Tree  
JT Lilypad, LLC, Joshua Tree  
Jule's Market, La Quinta  
Kaiser Grille, Palm Springs  
Lapper's Ice Cream, Palm Springs  
L'Atelier Café, Palm Springs  
La Plaza Shoe Repair, Palm Springs  
La Quinta Brewing Co., La Quinta  
La Quinta Inn, Hesperia  
Legacy Jewelry Company, La Quinta  
Le Haute Desert Aerie, Pioneertown  
Lido Palms Resort & Spa, Desert Hot Springs  
Living Waters Spa, Desert Hot Springs

Lola's Kitchen, Barstow  
Los Domingos Restaurant, Barstow  
Ma Rouge Café, Yucca Valley  
Marv-N-Stewart, Palm Springs  
Matchbox, Palm Springs  
Meine Hair Salon, Desert Hot Springs  
Mike's Liquor, Joshua Tree  
Miracle Springs Resort & Spa, Desert Hot Springs  
Moonlight Mesa Retreats and Vacation Rentals, Joshua Tree  
Morongo Valley Café, Morongo Valley  
Morongo Valley Hardware, Morongo Valley  
Natural Sisters Café, Joshua Tree  
New Light Foto Design, Tecopa  
Nurturing Nest, Desert Hot Springs  
Oasis Tours and Activities, Palm Springs  
Olive A'Sudden, Palm Springs  
Old Town Coffee Company, La Quinta  
The Olive Adobe, Pioneertown  
Ooh LaLa de Paris, Palm Springs  
Oscars Bar and Café, Palm Springs  
Pappy and Harriet's, Pioneertown  
Pato's Dream Date Gardens, Thermal  
Patricia Knight Photography, Joshua Tree  
Paul M. Ross, DC, Chiropractor, Desert Hot Springs  
Pedego Electric Bikes, La Quinta  
Pho 85 Restaurant, Yucca Valley  
Pie for the People, Joshua Tree  
Pioneer Crossing Antiques, Yucca Valley  
Pioneertown Properties, Pioneertown  
Pipes Canyon Lodge, Pioneertown  
Premier Properties, La Quinta  
Q Trading, Palm Springs  
Quiznos, Yucca Valley  
R & R Menswear, Palm Springs  
Radio Free Joshua Tree, Joshua Tree  
Rainbow Stew, Yucca Valley  
Ramada Inn, Barstow  
Ranger Enterprises, Morongo Valley  
Realty Executives Desert Lifestyles, La Quinta  
Red Roof Inn, Victorville  
Rieman Sculpture, Yucca Valley  
Rock Reach House, Yucca Valley

Route 62 Vintage Market, Yucca Valley  
Route 66 Motel, Barstow  
The Ruin Venue, Pioneertown  
Ruth's Rabbit Trail Tours, Yucca Valley  
Safari Motor Inn, Joshua Tree  
Salon Montana, La Quinta  
Sam's Market, Joshua Tree  
Sam's Pizza, Joshua Tree  
Sammy G's Restaurant, Palm Springs  
Sandra Gune, DC, Chiropractor, Desert Hot Springs  
Second Wind Hot Water Retreat and Campground, Tecopa  
Serious Food and Drink, Palm Springs  
Shabby Confections, Victorville  
Shoshone Inn, Shoshone  
Shoshone Museum Association, Shoshone  
Sky's Beauty Supply, Victorville  
Smoke n' More, Joshua Tree  
Smoke Tree Greetings, Palm Springs  
South West Concepts, La Quinta  
Sport Bike USA, Victorville  
Starlite, Joshua Tree  
Starr's Tool Box, Yucca Valley  
Stewart Galleries, Palm Springs  
Stitch Art Studios, Joshua Tree  
Stoker Construction, Yucca Valley and Indio  
Stone Ridge Realty and Investment Inc, La Quinta  
Stuff Pizza Bar and Grill, La Quinta  
Swarat Signs, Morongo Valley  
Sweet Rock Ranch, Yucca Valley  
Sun Runner Magazine, Joshua Tree  
Tamara's at Home Inc., Yucca Valley  
Tamma's Magic Mercantile, Yucca Valley  
The Tanning Saloon, Victorville  
Tecopa Hot Springs Campground and Pools, Tecopa  
Tecopa Hot Springs Resort, Tecopa  
Two Bunch Palms, Desert Hot Springs  
Uhaul, Yucca Valley  
Unique Gardens Nursery, Yucca Valley  
Unisex Hair Salon, Desert Hot Springs  
Victorville Pawn Shop, Victorville  
Viola's Vision Hair Salon, Barstow  
Xanterra Death Valley, Furnace Creek

Yogurt Island U-Create, La Quinta  
 Yokozuna Japanese Restaurant and Night Club, Yucca Valley  
 Yucca Valley Tobacco Mart, Yucca Valley  
 Zaks, LLC-Route 66 Memorabilia, St. Claire, MO  
 Zlux Skin Care

**EDUCATORS, HISTORIANS, SCIENTISTS, AND OTHER EXPERTS**

Craig Weatherwax	Michele Salzman, Ph.D.	Nicole Johnson, J.D.
Scott Feierabend	Inés Hernández-Avila, Ph.D.	Lee Ann Smith-Trafzer, J.D.
James Gee	Jonathan Ritter, Ph.D.	Joan Schneider, Ph.D.
Dean Arvidson	Donna L. Akers, Ph.D.	James Andre, Ph.D.
Thomas A. Meneghini	Victoria Haskins, Ph.D.	T. Robert Przeklasa, Ph.D.
Wally Pacholka	Barry Alan Joyce, Ph.D.	Kurt Russo, Ph.D.
Tim Hunter	Richard D. Scheurman, Ph.D.	Jay Lewis Cravath, Ph.D.
Farah Payan	Devra Weber, Ph.D.	Diane Pearson, Ph.D.
James Yuen	Michelle Raheja, Ph.D.	Julia Coates, Ph.D.
Douglas Kegard	Barbara Alice Mann, Ph.D.	Michelle Lorimer, Ph.D.
Dick Pantoja, President	Fariba Zarinebaf, Ph.D.	Robert D. Miller, Ph.D.
Scott Kardel	K. D. Motes, Ph.D.	Richard Hanks, Ph.D.
Diana Umpierre	Rebecca Kugel, Ph.D.	Philip M. Klasky, M.A.
Tom O'Key	Jason Weems, Ph.D.	Edward Gomez, Ph.D.
Paul Delaney, Ph.D.	David Biggs, Ph.D.	candidate
Curt Duffy	Alexander Haskell, Ph.D.	Dean Pieper, Ph.D.
Clifford E. Trafzer	Dana Simmons, Ph.D.	candidate
Gary Nash, Ph.D.	Juliet McMullin, Ph.D.	Ben Jenkins, Ph.D.
LeAnne Howe	Jennifer Hughes, Ph.D.	candidate
Steven Gould Axelrod, Ph.D.	Catherine Gudis, Ph.D.	Andrew Shaler, Ph.D.
Renard Strickland	Brendan Lindsay, Ph.D.	candidate
Thomas C. Patterson, Ph.D.	Richard Griswold del Castillo, Ph.D.	Alfred Flores, Ph.D.
Christopher Chase-Dunn, Ph.D.	Scott L. Fedick, Ph.D.	candidate
Margaret Connell-Szasz, Ph.D.	David Adams, Ph.D.	Nicolette Rohr, Ph.D.
Lane Ryo Hirabayashi, Ph.D.	Edward D. Castillo	candidate
Carole Goldberg, J.D.	David Whitehorse, Ph.D.	Alfred Flores, Ph.D.
Margaret Jacobs, Ph.D.	Jean Keller, Ph.D.	candidate
Richard Olds, M.D.	Ruth Nolan	Caroline Schwartz, Ph.D.
Duane Champagne, Ph.D.	Joseph Herring, Ph.D.	candidate
Steven A. Leibo, Ph.D.	William Medina, Ph.D.	Natalie Anderson-Patch, Ph.D. candidate
	Angela Mooney D'Arcy, J.D.	Jennifer Brown, Ph.D.
		candidate

Sarah Wolk, Ph.D. candidate	Amanda K. Gomes Robin Laska	R. Dave Evans Scott Cashen
Lisa C. Haws	Victoria A. Gemmill	Robin Kobaly,
Lynette Russell, Ph.D.	Jackie Olds	Botanist/Wildlife Biologist
Larry Myers	Robin Hanks	James M. Andre
Katherine I. Gordon	Celeste Nava	Paul Beier
Connie Striplen	Irma Flores	Dr. Timothy Krantz
Maria Baranowski	Sally Ake	Duncan Bell
William Mungary	James Fenelon, Ph.D.	Terry Root
Terri Jacquemain	Tom Long, Ph.D.	David S. Wilcove
Beverly Todd	Robert McCoy, Ph.D.	Glenn Stewart, Ph.D.
Dusti Rose Bacon	Kevin Whalen, Ph.D.	Matthew Dietz, Ph.D.
Robert Fulwider	Cary Collins, Ph.D.	Gregory H. Aplet, Ph.D.
Leanne Thomas	Gregory Cummings, Ph.D.	R. Travis Belote, Ph.D.
Carol Ray	Frazier Haney	Dr. William Rainey
Vivienne Jake	Amanda Wixon	Dr. Patricia Brown, Ph.D.
Fred S. Vallo, Sr.	Louise Smith	Dr. Allan Muth
Dusti Bacon	Barry Sinervo	Dr. James Malcolm
Henry Vasquez	Frank W. Davis, Ph.D.	Edith B. Allen
Matthew Hanks Leivas	Wayne D. Spencer	Dr. Cameron Barrows
Darlene Burton	Wendy McIntyre, Ph.D.	Dan Klooster
Carolina C. Butler	Sam Sweet	Tasha LaDoux, Ph.D.
Carol Underhill	Paula Schiffman, Ph.D.	Michael Allen

**MILITARY: VETERANS AND ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS**

Active Duty Service Members:

First Sergeant Arzola, Mohammad A., U.S. Marine Corps	Sergeant Franquez Jr, Oscar, U.S. Marine Corps
Staff Sergeant Baldridge, Michael M., U.S. Marine Corps	Staff Sergeant Gallardo, Jaime A., U.S. Marine Corps
Captain Bombaci, Jared E., U.S. Marine Corps	Staff Sergeant Garside, Mark J., U.S. Marine Corps
Gunnery Sergeant Borja, Marvin J., U.S. Marine Corps	Sergeant Garst, Matthew D., U.S. Marine Corps
Captain Brooks, Daniel L. U.S. Marine Corps	Staff Sergeant Gibson, Daniel G., U.S. Marine Corps
Sergeant Buchanan, David R., U.S. Marine Corps	Staff Sergeant Hackett, Jonathan W., U.S. Marine Corps
Sergeant Campoamor, Andrew R., U.S. Marine Corps	Sergeant Hall, William P., U.S. Marine Corps
Staff Sergeant Carpenter, Dereck L., U.S. Marine Corps	Master Sergeant Halterman, Michael G., U.S. Marine Corps



Gunnery Sergeant Harless, Bradley A., U.S. Marine Corps  
Corporal Holbert, Corey D., U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Hoppe, Andrew P., U.S. Marine Corps  
Staff Sergeant Huerta, Theodore S., U.S. Marine Corps  
Staff Sergeant Huls, Wyatt D., U.S. Marine Corps  
Gunnery Sergeant Jacklin, Brian C., U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant James, Seth C., U.S. Marine Corps  
Staff Sergeant Kelsaw, Steven J., U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Kopta, Justin P., U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Lappin IV, John M., U.S. Marine Corps  
Staff Sergeant Manibog III, Benjamin M., U.S. Marine Corps  
Staff Sergeant McCormick, Christophe M., U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Meleski II, Timothy M., U.S. Marine Corps  
Staff Sergeant Mendiola, West, U.S. Marine Corps  
Gunnery Sergeant Perkins, Tyler A., U.S. Marine Corps  
Staff Sergeant Questell, Derek J., U.S. Marine Corps  
Corporal Ruiz, Alex, U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Wagner, Cameron A., U.S. Marine Corps

Sergeant Stoner, Christophe D., U.S. Marine Corps  
Staff Sergeant Urso, Rocco A., U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Vargas, Giovanni, U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Vieyra Jr, Alejandro, U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Wiener, Eric D., U.S. Marine Corps  
Staff Sergeant Worth, Nickolas F., U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Carey, Eric C., U.S. Marine Corps  
Gunnery Sergeant Castille, Mark R., U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Culpepper, Lee M., U.S. Marine Corps  
Staff Sergeant Erickson, Adam W., U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Fuller, Zachary M., U.S. Marine Corps  
Staff Sergeant Brabowski, Wojciech A., U.S. Marine Corps  
Master Sergeant Guerra, Ralph E., U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Ingram, Alan R., U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Merstrand, Ulrik R., U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Salgado, Juanjose R., U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Sells, Austin M., U.S. Marine Corps

#### Veterans

Hank Alvarez, Corona  
U.S. Army, Staff Sergeant

Gilbert Archuleta, Vallejo  
U.S. Navy, Petty Officer

Larry Branson, Pomona  
U.S. Army, Colonel

Ron Bridges, Rancho Cucamonga  
U.S. Marine Corps, Private 1st Class

Joshua Bunce, Riverside  
U.S. Army, Sergeant

Christina Burton, Apple Valley  
U.S. Army, Sergeant

Kim Coleman, Highland  
U.S. Marines, Sergeant

Gary Martin, Yucaipa  
U.S. Navy, Captain

Phillip Cripps, Cathedral City  
U.S. Marine Corps, Sergeant

Rebecca Martin, Riverside  
U.S. Marine Corps, Staff Sergeant

Paul Davis, Palm Springs  
U.S. Army, Specialist

David Marinsk, Santa Rosa  
U.S. Army, Lieutenant Colonel

Tom Derusha, Temecula  
U.S. Army, Corporal

Stephen McDaniel, Riverside  
U.S. Air Force, Captain

Donald Dible, Murrieta  
U.S. Army, Sergeant

Stephen McKeand, Running Springs  
U.S. Army/Marine Corps, Sergeant

Joseph DiFrancesco, Chino  
U.S. Air Force, Senior Airman

John McKee, San Jacinto  
U.S. Air Force, Lieutenant Colonel

Keith Ferrer, El Verano  
U.S. Air Force, Master Sergeant

Frances Miller, Rancho Mirage  
U.S. Army, Specialist

Kermit Franklin, Antelope Valley  
U.S. Marine, Sergeant

Andrew Morgan, Palm Desert  
U.S. Navy, Seaman

James Ewing, Yucaipa  
U.S. Air Force, Lieutenant Colonel

Tom Mullen, Riverside  
U.S. Army, Captain

Daniel Ferra, Palm Springs  
U.S. Army, Specialist

James Ouimet, Mammoth Lakes  
U.S. Marine Corps, Sergeant

James Jackson, Beaumont  
U.S. Army, Specialist

Mark Porras, Palm Desert  
U.S. Marines, Sergeant

Allen Gildard, Apple Valley  
U.S. Army, Captain

Philip Power, Lake Arrowhead  
U.S. Navy, Seaman

Pamela Lacey, Rialto  
U.S. Air Force, Master Sergeant

Ray Quinto, Yucaipa  
U.S. Air Force, Staff Sergeant

William Lansville, Barstow  
U.S. Navy, Petty Officer

Steven Raihl, Palm Springs  
U.S. Army, Corporal

Martin Ledezma, Redlands  
U.S. Navy, Petty Officer

Dave Raley, Yucaipa  
U.S. Air Force, Colonel

Bob Leyba, Newberry Springs  
U.S. Navy, Seaman 1st Class

Billie Ridgway, Phelan  
U.S. Army, Corporal

Robert Rippetoe, Rancho Mirage  
U.S. Navy, Petty Officer

Carlos Simental, Victorville  
U.S. Navy, Petty Officer

Scott Roney, Temecula  
U.S. Army, Captain

David Smith, Cathedral City  
U.S. Army, Private First Class

Curt Sanders, Lee Vining  
U.S. Marine Corps, Sergeant

Robert Stune, Whitewater  
U.S. Navy, Petty Officer

Marvin Sawyer, Yucca Valley  
U.S. Army, Sergeant

William Taylor, Apple Valley  
U.S. Army, Colonel

John Schricker, Loma Linda  
U.S. Army, Private First Class

Melinda Tremaglio, Palm Springs  
U.S. Army, Captain

Mark Zellmer, Lucerne Valley  
U.S. Army, Staff Sergeant

**COMMUNITY LEADERS**

Mark Butler  
Belinda Faustinos  
Michael Fleming  
Lyn and Norman Lear  
James Redford  
Michelle and Rob Reiner  
Jim Steyer  
David F. Welch

**COMMUNITY GROUPS**

Akebulan African American Cultural Center  
Amigos del Los Rios  
Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council (A3PCON)  
Audubon Society Chapters:  
    Palos Verdes/South Bay  
    San Fernando Valley  
    Buena Vista  
    Laguna Hills  
    San Bernardino Valley  
    Los Angeles  
    Pasadena  
    Palomar  
California Desert Coalition  
Coachella Valley Conservation Commission  
Coalition to Protect America's Parks  
Compton High School – Nature Club  
Desert Trails Coalition  
Diverse Outdoor Leadership Institute  
Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission Local Conservation Corps

Friends of Big Morongo Canyon Preserve  
Friends of Pioneertown  
Great Outdoors Palm Springs  
James O Jessie Unity Center  
John Muir High School Social Justice Academy  
Latino Coalition for a Healthy California  
Latino Conservation Alliance:  
    Green Latinos  
    Hispanic Access Foundation  
    Hispanics Enjoying Camping, Hunting, and the Outdoors (HECHO)  
    Hispanic Federation  
    La Madre Tierra  
    Latino Outdoors  
Los Angeles Land Trust  
Los Angeles Leadership Academy  
Los Angeles Environmental Charter School  
Morongo Basin Conservation Association  
Neighbors Acting Together Helping All (NATHA)  
North East Trees  
Outward Bound Adventures  
Pacific Crest Trail Association  
City of Pasadena, Villa Park Community Center  
Pasadena NAACP  
San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps  
San Gabriel Mountains Forever  
Social Justice Humanitis  
Summer Tree Institute  
Vet Voice Foundation

**CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS**

Amargosa Conservancy  
California Wilderness Coalition  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Conservation Lands Foundation  
Defenders of Wildlife  
Friends of the Desert Mountains  
Mojave Desert Land Trust  
National Parks Conservation Association  
The Pew Charitable Trusts  
Sierra Club  
The Wilderness Society  
The Wildlands Conservancy

## ARTIST COMMUNITY

Joshua Tree Highlands Artist Residency

Art and Cultural Leaders for the California Desert

Kim Stringfellow, Guggenheim Fellow 2015. Director, The Mojave Project. Joshua Tree, CA.

Rhonda Coleman, Director, Curator, 29 Palms Art Gallery. Twentynine Palms, CA.

Bernard Leibov, Director, BoxoProjects. Former Deputy Director, Judd Foundation. New York, NY & Joshua Tree, CA.

Eva Soltes, Executive Director, Harrison House for Music, Arts and Ecology. Joshua Tree, CA.

Phillip K. Smith III, Light Artist. Indio, CA.

Frederick Fulmer, Director Joshua Tree Highlands Artist Residency. Joshua Tree, CA.

Andrea Zittel, Director, A-Z West. Founding Director, High Desert Test Sites. Joshua Tree, CA.

Mary-Austin Klein, Landscape painter. California Wilderness Coalition. Joshua Tree, CA.

Carolyn Young, Director, West of the Moon Gallery. Flagstaff, AZ.

Pamela Madsen, Sound Artist, Curator. Professor Cal State Fullerton School of Music. Fullerton, CA.

Cheryl Younger, Director of the American Photography Institute at Tisch School of the Arts, New York University. Former Chair, Society for Photographic Education. New York, NY.

Alita VanVliet, Board of Directors, Morongo Basin Cultural Arts Council. Director, Hwy 62 Open Studio Art Tours. Joshua Tree, CA.

Robert Johnson, Professor, Cypress College. Director, The Legacy Project. CA.

Roy Dietrich, Fine Artist. CA.

Edwin Vasquez, Photojournalist AV MEDIA. Fine Artist. Rosamond, CA.

Millie Wilson, Artist. CalArts. TX.

Melanie Walker, Artist. Professor of Fine Art, University of Colorado. Boulder, CO.

Bobby Furst, Director, FURSTWORLD Gallery / Performing Arts. Joshua Tree, CA.

Paula Jean Rice, Artist. Professor of Art Emeritus, Northern Arizona University. Flagstaff, AZ.

Melissa J. Armstrong, Director, Interdisciplinary Global Programs, Center for International Education, Northern Arizona University. Flagstaff, AZ.

Stevie Love, Artist. Director, Lancaster Museum and Public Art Foundation. Lancaster, CA.

Sant Khalsa, Professor Emeritus Department of Art. Founding Faculty Water Resources Institute, CA State University San Bernardino. San Bernardino, CA & Joshua Tree, CA.

Danny Frankel, Musician. Joshua Tree, CA.

Diane Best, Filmmaker, Painter, Photographer. Joshua Tree, CA.

Robin Rosenthal, Filmmaker. Producer, Pony Highway Productions. Littlerock, CA.

James Hammons, Artist. Joshua Tree, CA.

Paul Klopfenstein, President, Morongo Basin Cultural Arts Council. Joshua Tree, CA.

Steve Rieman, Artist. Joshua Tree, CA.

Ruth Rieman, Board of Directors, Joshua Tree Highlands Artist Residency. Joshua Tree, CA.

Catherine Svehla, Cultural Mythologist/Director, Mythic Mojo. Joshua Tree, CA.

Mindy Kaufman, Director, Joshua Tree Art Gallery. Joshua Tree, CA.

Joella Jean Mahoney, Fine Artist. Professor Emeritus, Art Department Chair, University of Laverne. La Verne, CA.

Nancy Campbell, Poet, Desert Poets. Palm Springs, CA.  
 Andree Mendenhall Mahoney, Fine Artist. Professor Emeritus, Art Department Chair,  
 Chaffee Community College. Alta Loma, CA.  
 Gillian Spedding, Poet, Desert Poets. Palm Springs, CA.  
 Julia Buckley, Artist. Joshua Tree, CA.  
 Rebecca Trawick, Director, Wagnall Museum of Contemporary Art. Alta Loma, CA.  
 Jacobine Van der Meer, Van der Meer Studio. The Arts Council of San Bernardino. Los  
 Angeles, CA & Landers, CA.  
 Phillip Rosenberg, Musician, Rags and Bones Music. Joshua Tree, CA.  
 Phyllis Schwartz, Artist. Joshua Tree, CA.  
 Renna Shesso, Book Author. Denver, CO.  
 Joe Garcia, Musician, Urban Desert Cabaret. Landers, CA.  
 Joanna Fodczuk, Painter/Art Instructor. Los Angeles, CA & Landers, CA.  
 Noreen Lawlor, Artist, Painter, Poet. Joshua Tree, CA.

**OTHER STAKEHOLDERS AND CONSTITUENTS\***

Fred Archer	Sarah Kennington	Attias Rzeznik
Paul Backovich	Nancy Klein	Nina Shine
Steve Bardwell	Robin Kobaly	Michael Smith
Pauline Bedford	Jesse Laird	Theresa Smith
Pamela Berry	Allyson Lavender	Max Stein
Steven Blosssey	Andrea Lavender	Lewis Stewart
Courtney Brandt	Ed Lavender	Mark Stratton
Missy Buce	Elzina Lavender	Jim Swindel
Jacqueline Budd	Anne Leewis	Randi Swindel
Joan Clark	Michael Barus LeMay	Emilio Vegel
Chris Clarke	Susan LeMay	Deborah Vincent
Joann Clyde Findley	Carla Lindquist	Donna Vincent
Catherine Colella	Raul Lopez, Yucaipa	Jacquelyn Webster
Madeline Dace	Marilyn Lutz	Stephanie Weigel
Faith Donovan	Christina MacInnes	Bryan Wynwood
Nancy Dopp	S Marling	E. Janelle Zarato
Chris Dougherty	Jack Meyers	Joseph Zine
Phillip Ferranti	Warren & Mary Molton	Delia B. Sanchez
Ernesto Fortin	Dale Mondary	Robin Robb
Sam Goldman	Danette Mondary	Bonnie Henry
Paul Goff	Doug Powell	Theresa Orchanian
Mizuki Hanford	Kevin Powell	Robert Walters
Marcene Hills	Daisy Ramirez	Martha Walters
Arthur Huebner	Steve Rieman	Robert Henry
Spencer Hunt	Ruth Rieman	Kirk Taylor
Tom Kayne	Ashley Robles	Mary Burrows
Jean Kenna	Lara Rozzell	Carl Leever

Serena Chow	Cindy Austin	Penne Curey
Mary Leever	Valerie Aversa	Marylou Curry
Richard Roosman	Essence Bacon	Richard Curry
Mark Freeman	Lisa Baldwin	Mackenzie Curtiss
Amy Taylor	Steve Bardwell	Mary Darden
Renee Hicks	Rowland Bellorini	Marissa Dedios
John Greene	Mary Best	Julian Degoede
Robyn R. Kohr	Cheryl Blankenship	Jayr Delatorre
Vendela Martin	Jylan Boggs	Dylan Deluna
Erika Henry	Jennifer Bolande	Kathleen Demaray
Sara Sakurai	Kalli Bolanis	Jaed Demorrow
Timothy Anderson	Gretchen Bolin	Megan Dennis
Kathryn Anderson	Andrew Bolucci	Charlotte Desantis
Tommie Ann Freeman	Nate Bolucci	Ruben Destinee
Philip Wojtkowski	Cheyenne Bonnell	Mariah Diaz
Sam Anderson	Harry Bowkley	Jorge Diaz
Thomas Carson	Morgan Brafford	Jasmine Dlagass
Chenoa Neiberger	Dudley Branco	Sierra Duckin
Erick Cronkhite	Syble Breihan	Christin Dupin
Tiffany Adair	Jayden Brown	Edgar Eckhart
Jade Adair	Connie Cabrillo	Barbara Eckhart
Jeff Adair	Stephanie Cambell	Cari Ensley
Toni Adair	Alexis Campos	Pamela Erwin
Larry Adroll	Gabe Canteras	Tricia Etheridge
Angelica Agredano	Alexandra Castaneda	Cristo Eydel
Larry Akell	Jason Catlin	Aaron Fagan
Maryjane Alaniz	Kenny Caudill	Tattance Fatelle
Marijane Alaniz	Ismael Chavez	Vinny Ferraro
Reanna Alder	Marc Chea	Marisk Ferrer
Aleneula Alenaula	Linde Chubak	Marya Fields
Jane Allingham	David Chubak	Robert Fisher
Carmen Alvarez	Phebe Cisneros	Maya Fleursey
Ida Alwin	Joshua Cole	Hilde Fonda
Ida Alwin	Katherine Cook	John Frakes
Gayle Anderson	Paul Cooley	Emilia Frasher
Sierra Anderson	Colton Cooper	Boyd Frialet
Linda Anderson	Jay Corbin	Daniel Friend
Barbara Andreasen	Susan Corbin	Chris Frum
Jazmin Angeles	Alexander Courtney	Gionanni Fuller
Briauna Archer	Jilyn Crawford	Robert Furst
David Archer	Natalie Cressy	Kelsey Gaarder
Rebecca Arellano	Hannah Cross	Andrew Gamboa
Dan Armitage	Amanda Cruz	Quentin Gamboa
Dale Armitage	Shyann Cully	Ray Garcia

Jessica Garcia	Jamie Haney	Genevieve Kelley
Eveleyn Garcia	Yolanda Hansen	Allison Kennedy
Ceillo Garcia	Andrew Hardin	Katherine Kennedy
Rudy Garcia	Allan Harniet	Jeanne Kennington
Luis Garcia	Dale Harnitz	Sarah Kennington
Sharon Garcia	Deeann Harvey	Daniel Kernodle
Mariana Garcia	Jolie Harwick	Josephine Kim
David Garry	Frankie Harwood	Katherine King
Ann Garry	Harmony Hayes	Kiersten King
Dellia Gastelia	Dianne Hayward	Val Kiri
Amy Gattuso	Megan Hearne	Charity Kirkendall
Tyler Geeson	Mary Henderson	Alyssa Knupp
Thomas Geiger	Marcy Henderson	Alexandria Koedel
Garrett George	Sheyenne Henkhaus	Gary Koger
Alan Gilbert	Shawn Hennes-Lam	Lakey Kolb
Gregory Glenn	Elenne Herrera	Leslie Kooy
Mariah Goddard	Gauge Hill	Ellen Lamotte
Daniel Goddard	Amir Hmirian	James Lamotte
Samuel Goldman	Chelsee Hobbs	Lori Landry
Beth Gonzales	Ethan Hodder	Virginia Landry
Jayden Gonzalez	Kylie Howell	Billee Larson
Kaitlin Goodpaster	Cannon Hudson	Morgan Larson
Betsy Goza	Brenden Hughes	Ann Lawson
Kayla Graham	Lesley Hughes	Lorraine Leach
Lynette Graham	Kai Hyn	Brian Leatart
Jan Grandi	Toni Jackson	Khaleel Leforce
Colton Gray	Curtis Jacobs	Kaylee Leforce
Melanie Greco	Penny Jacobs	Faith Legocki
Douglas Green	Karly Jacobs	Nathen Lester
Ed Greenshields	Curtis Jacobs	Darlene Lester
Vicki Greenshields	Adrian Jimenez	Kathy Lewis
Bryan Grijatow	Ruben Jimenez	Tania Leysen
Aislinn Gueltzow	Liana Jimenez	Stacy Liechti
Tabitha Guevara	Luana Johnson	Lofa Lillern
Tristan Guevara	Briana Johnson	Jared Lindley
Richard Gunning	Lise Jones	Marissa Lindley
Leslie Gunning	Jennifer Jungwirth	James Lindley
Vanessa Gutierrez	John Kahrs	Pamela Lindley
Pamela Hagedorn	Sharlene Kahrs	Carla Lindquist
Greg Hagedorn	Sierra Kahrs	Elenne Lisbon
Kayla Hall	Griffin Kater	Marsha Lona
Janet Hamilton	Mindy Kaufman	Deserie Lopez
James Hammons	Ashley Keely	Andrew Lopez
Jonathan Hancock	Harry Keen	Daniela Lopez



Camryn Maeinello	Maryssa Mullens	Mekeilah Rogers
Sarah Mahan	Logan Naylor	Robert Rolak
Travis Mahan	Logan Naylor	Savannah Romero
Laci Malin	Annie Nelson	Caitlin Rowe
Parish Malle	Kate Nelson	Estelle Rubenstein
Hailey Manter	Arrington Nevitt	Destinie Rubenstein
Gia Marie	Samson Nunez	Caitlyn Ruggiero
Camryn Marinella	Charlotte Ohnsted	Mike Ruggiero
Amanda Marroquin	Chelsea Oliver	Gretchen Ruggiero
Janice Martin	Angela Olivores	Vincenzo Ruggiero
Alden Martin	Erelin Ortiz	Mark Russell
Taylor Martin	Tamara Ottosen	Uluan Salen
Katie Mason	Ken Pace	Creig Samith
Susan Masterson	Kelly Padilla	Nancy San
Johnny May	Lewis Parker	Yadier Sanshez
Kaitlyn Mcallen	Bryan Parker	Chris Scali
Anthony Mccall	Gene Parsons	Sierra Scali
Wendy Mceuen	Brian Peters	Sierra Scali
Donovan Mckeever	Gina Peters	Angelina Schoenberger
Chatel Mckettrick	Bob Peterson	John Schoenberger
Frankie Mcwood	Lily Peterson	Maraus Schrimshaw
Gudrun Mecham	James Pizza	John Schuler
Arvel Mecham	Norma Pizza	Cornelia Schulz
Stephanie Mecham	Juanita Prezell	Phyllis Schwartz
Michelle Mecham	Kerry Puckett	Ashley Schwartz
Sadie Mecham	Audrey Pushkar	Stephen Scigliano
Diane Medina	Sherry Rand	Timothy Scott
Pilleure Meduele	Barbara Rasmussen	Trevor Scott
Steven Mejia	Markie Rauschenberg	Carol Seddon
Gregory Mendoza	Makayla Rauskin	Lina Segura
Gina Mercer	Makayla Rauskin	Kai Sehr
Haley Miller	Elena Ray	Linda Seick
Adina Mills	Drew Reese	Nicolette Serrano
Alexia Missett	Victoria Reiser	Sitara Shah
Elizabeth Mitchell	Florent Renucci	Kayla Shaw-Fryer
Paul Montgomery	Jocelyn Resendez	Shelly Sheckler
Kieth Morgan	Chris Ressler	Jesse Sheckler
Lynnelle Morningstar	Arturo Reyes	Emily Sheckler
Chris Morningstar	Dawn Rich	Frank Sheckler
Jordan Morrow	Madison Rideout	Theresa Simmons
Richard Morton	Megan Rieman	Kirsty Singer
Karen Morton	Rebecca Roark	Suzen Smallwood
Richard Morton	April Robinett	Douglas Smith
Karen Morton	Gary Roger	Roch Smith

Megan Smith	Julian Valenzuela	Andrew Redfeather
Curtis Snyder	Janice Vanderpol	Corona
Jake Sommers	Jennifer Vanness	Priscilla Frema
Liza Sommers	Betty Vasquez	Ashley Sanchez
Manny Souza	Richard Vasquez	Britney Velasco
Cindi Specht	Elena Vasquez	Hannah Rios
Bill Spiller	Olivia Vasquez	Don Sherman
Donald Sprague	Michele Vasquez	Alana Pratt
Heather Stafford	Damian Vasquez	Ronner Williams
Justin Stainbrook	Maurice Vickers	Leo Ruiz
Devin Stanovich	Mark Vikdal	Patricia R. Dilday
Teresa Stemen	Nichole Vikdal	Mike Mendoza
Lynn Stephens	Madison Vikdal	Evan Ramirez
Elisabeth Stewart	Claire Wadsworth	Arthur Benitez
Christina Stewart	Jenny Wagner	Marlena Carabajal
Johnathan Stewart	David Walker	Kimberly Nguyen
Catherine Stillwell	Charlie Wallace	Yesenia Free
Jon Stone	Randall Walters	Matthew Cookson
Erica Stone	Joshua Warren	Carlos A. P. Ortiz
Skyler Stone	Tomas Wastar	Arianna Villa
Patricia Stoner	Alexis Watkins	Ashley Morua
Nichole Sugita	Lisa Watson	Dalila Guillen
William Sullivan	Kaeliegh Watson	Karen Barahona
John Summers	Jaelynn Watson	Patrick Jones
Randy Swindel	Randel Watters	Roman A. Crisistomo
Jim Swindel	Caitlyn White	Nancy Nowack
Allisa Taleires	Amanda Whiting	William Choplin
Enrique Tanello	Richard Wiesner	Sharon Speich
Kristina Tareila	Angelica Williams	Nancy Bone
Allisa Taucures	Faith Williams	Oliver James Laffrey
William Taylor	Stephanie Wilson	Marjorie Bernheim
Virginia Thayer	Mark Wilson	Jessa Bell
Frank Thomas	Mikinzie Wilson	Ruth Nolan
Matthew Thomas	Holly Wright	Jennifer Cole
Donna Thomason	Bryan Wynwood	Joan Cole
Patricia Thompson	Nicole Zeitz	Holly Sharp
Daniel Thompson	Derrick Zietz	Peter Swatz
Maya Toccata	Diars Zooliag	David Keeps
Amber Tolbert	Monica Zuniga	Mark Rose
Vera Topinka	Linda Lee Chevalier	Erik Garant
Katie Traeger	Juanita Marts	Adriana Parier
Yenny Tran	Larry Marts	Eric Nash
Alaina Trofler	John Chevalier	John Ugan
Meghan Udell	Thomas Atkins	Cathleen Armstrong

A Dean Caldwell  
A. Frick  
Patricia Mutz  
Wendy Bowman  
David Bowman  
Annette Mutz

Carolyn Curran  
Jim Misiak  
Nancy McDonald  
Lynda Misiak  
Kathy Thurow  
Rachelle Buck

James Thurow

\* Includes more than 17,000 petition signers

September 11, 2015

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The California desert is some of the most pristine and unique land in the country. From painted mountains to archaeological treasures, world-famous wildflowers to herds of bighorn sheep, Americans have long been drawn to its stark beauty. That is why I support the designation of the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains national monuments and urge you to act now to permanently protect these special areas in the California desert—one of the richest and most intact landscapes in North America.

Each of the proposed national monuments contain exceptional characteristics that deserve to be protected. Mojave Trails is the connective tissue linking Mojave National Preserve to Joshua Tree National Park and existing Wilderness Areas, providing vital habitat for sensitive wildlife, and unspoiled desert vistas. It contains irreplaceable archeological and cultural sites including sacred Native American trails and trade routes. It includes the longest undeveloped stretch of historic Route 66, the scenic lava flows of Amboy Crater—North America's youngest volcano, the trilobite fossil beds of the Marble Mountains, the perennial river in Afton Canyon, and many unique geologic formations. Mojave Trails also represents the largest land gift in American history, with over 200,000 private acres donated to the federal government for conservation in perpetuity.

Sand to Snow protects some of the most diverse habitat in the country, linking the San Geronio Wilderness to Joshua Tree National Park and the San Bernardino National Forest. Rising dramatically from the Sonoran Desert floor to Southern California's tallest alpine peak, this monument is one of the most critical wildlife corridors in Southern California. The inclusions of Black Lava Butte and Flat Top Mesa protect stunning cultural sites and rare species. Sand to Snow is home to the most botanically diverse mountains in the contiguous U.S., a 23-mile stretch of the famed Pacific Crest Trail, and the majestic Whitewater River—a beloved feature for local and national communities.

Castle Mountain protects some of the finest Joshua tree, pinon pine, and juniper forests in the entire California Desert Conservation Area. It encompasses native desert grassland, features stunning vistas of California and Nevada desert mountain ranges, including Nevada's Spirit Mountain, which is revered by southwestern Native American tribes and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Beneath the shadow of Hart Peak are rich Native American archaeological sites and the historic gold mining ghost town of Hart. Additionally, Castle Mountain offers unparalleled opportunities to study wildlife movements, it is home to sensitive

bat species, and it is a target location for the reintroduction of pronghorn, the second fastest species of land mammal in the world.

Establishment of these national monuments will enhance recreation and tourism in the region, bringing economic benefits and jobs to surrounding communities. They will benefit public health by enhancing opportunities for outdoor access and recreation. They will preserve the vibrant but fragile desert ecosystem. They will provide peace and respite for our honored veterans, who have sacrificed so much for this land that we love. They will protect our culture and history from Native Americans to Homesteaders, General Patton's World War II training sites to western migration along Route 66, America's storied Mother Road.

We have an unprecedented opportunity to protect some of the most spectacular and diverse stretches of intact desert in California, and we must not wait. The local community has worked for nearly a decade to preserve these iconic landscapes. It is time for this region to gain the protection it deserves. I urge you to designate the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains national monuments.

Sincerely,

Beaumont City Councilman Mark Orozco (D)  
Calimesa Mayor Pro Tem Ella Zanowic (R)  
Cathedral City Mayor Stan Henry (R)  
Cathedral City Mayor Pro Tem Greg Pettis (D)  
Cathedral City Councilman Shelley Kaplan (D)  
Cathedral City Councilman John Aguilar (D)  
Coachella Mayor Steven Hernandez (D)  
Coachella City Manager David Garcia  
Desert Hot Springs Mayor Adam Sanchez, Sr. (D)  
Desert Hot Springs Mayor Pro Tem Russell Betts (D)  
Desert Hot Springs City Councilmember Jan Pye (R)  
Indian Wells City Councilmember Douglas Hanson (R)  
Indio Mayor Pro Tem Glenn Miller (R)  
Indio City Councilmember Troy Strange (D)  
La Quinta Mayor Linda Evans (R)  
Palm Springs Mayor Pro Tem Paul Lewin (D)  
Palm Springs City Councilmember Ginny Foat (D)  
Rancho Mirage Mayor G. Dana Hobart (R)  
Yucaipa City Councilmember Dick Riddell (R)

CC: Senator Dianne Feinstein  
Senator Barbara Boxer  
Representative Paul Cook  
Representative Raul Ruiz

Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior

Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

Christy Goldfuss, Managing Director, White House Council on Environmental Quality



**ERIC GARCETTI**  
**MAYOR**

December 18, 2015

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I write in support of the designation of three proposed national monuments in the California desert: the Mojave Trails National Monument, the Sand to Snow National Monument and Castle Mountains National Monument. I am dedicated to protecting and enhancing the quality of life for all people in Los Angeles, and this includes protecting unique open space throughout the region.

The California desert is a haven for Angelenos and wildlife. On any given weekend, large numbers of L.A. residents head out of the city to hike, rock climb, enjoy hot springs, mountain bike, and commune with nature. The wild expanse of public lands provides an opportunity to experience solitude, night skies and a space free from human development — a rarity in Southern California. In their undeveloped state, these lands provide a valuable buffer to help desert ecosystems, wildlife, and communities adjust to a changing climate.

The effort to protect these areas has been ongoing for nearly a decade. Now is the time to protect these places that hold rich historical, cultural, ecological, and economic value. In the broad bipartisan tradition of designating monuments under the Antiquities Act, you can ensure that these landscapes are forever protected and accessible for my constituents, their children, and visitors to the great state of California for generations to come.

Mr. President, I respectfully request that you designate the Mojave Trails, Sand to Snow, and Castle Mountains as National Monuments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Garcetti", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

**ERIC GARCETTI**  
Mayor

# *San Manuel Band of Mission Indians*

September 10, 2015

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians urges you to take action now to protect a portion of the desert region in California, which is among the most pristine and unique land in the country. From painted mountains to archaeological treasures, world-famous wildflowers to herds of bighorn sheep, Americans have long been drawn to its stark beauty in the southern California desert region.

Since time immemorial, San Manuel, a federally-recognized Indian tribe based in southern California and one of several clans of the greater Serrano Indian Nation, has executed on our responsibility to protect the plants, animals, land, air, and waters throughout our aboriginal territory and beyond as a part of our covenant with the Creator to be good stewards of the Earth.

Senator Dianne Feinstein has proposed that certain unique, undeveloped, culturally important, and ecologically significant scenic areas of public land within the California Desert Conservation Area be preserved as wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, national monuments, and National Park and Preserve additions as well as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern. These areas face significant threats to cultural, biological, and recreational resources in the California Desert Conservation Area with new threats arising every day.

It is in the interest of the Tribe to preserve nearby open space, wild areas, and culturally significant sites for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future generations. These areas are also critical for helping to maintain the genetic flow of wildlife as corridors for population movement. This is why we support the designation of the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains as national monuments and urge you to act now to permanently protect these special areas of the California desert - one of the richest and most intact landscapes in North America.

We have an unprecedented opportunity to protect some of the most spectacular and diverse stretches of intact desert in California and we must do so without delay. Communities surrounding these areas have worked for nearly a decade to preserve these iconic landscapes. It is time for this region to gain the protection it deserves. We urge you to designate the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains as national monuments.

We also ask that you include the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians as a member of the Advisory Council for the development of a management plan specifically for the Sand to Snow and the Mojave Trails prospective national monument designations as these areas lie within our Serrano Indian aboriginal territories. We have been working closely with Senator Feinstein on this important matter and were included in her legislation with a role on the Advisory Council. As our past cooperation with Senator Feinstein's efforts demonstrate, our expertise and input on cultural resources elements will be a key asset in developing an overall management plan.



Finally, with the designation as national monuments, we urge your Administration to work closely with Congress to provide sufficient funding to support these national monuments and national parks under the oversight of the Department of the Interior given that they are chronically underfunded despite their mandate to protect the heritage of the nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lynn R. Valbuena". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lynn" and last name "Valbuena" clearly legible.

Lynn R. Valbuena  
Chairwoman

cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein  
Senator Barbara Boxer  
Representative Paul Cook  
Representative Raul Ruiz  
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior  
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture  
Christy Goldfuss, Managing Director, White House Council on Environmental Quality



# TWENTY-NINE PALMS BAND OF MISSION INDIANS

46-200 Harrison Place . Coachella, California . 92236 . Ph. 760.863.2444 . Fax: 760.863.2449

November 12, 2015

United States Senator Diane Feinstein  
San Diego Office  
880 Front Street  
Suite 4236  
San Diego, CA 92101

Re: Designation of Mojave Trails, Sand to Snow, and Castle Mountains as National Monuments

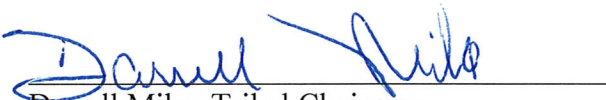
Dear Senator Feinstein:

The Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians was pleased to participate in a Tribal Listening Session and Public Meeting on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the Whitewater Preserve in Whitewater, California. The discussion emphasized the benefits of protecting and preserving public lands as National Monuments under the Antiquities Act and the drawbacks of lacking congressional support. This event was informative on the diverse issues surrounding the designation.

Although the Tribe was made aware and was able to participate in this event through informal correspondence from the Native American Land Conservancy and other tribal contacts, the Tribe was not given formal notice of the Public Meeting or Tribal Listening Session. Furthermore, this National Monuments effort has been ongoing for decades, as was indicated at the Public Meeting in Whitewater, without input from the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians. We would appreciate formal notification in the future of such meetings that potentially impact tribal ancestral lands and cultural resources to facilitate tribal participation.

The Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians supports the designation of Mojave Trails, Sand to Snow, and Castle Mountains as National Monuments. The preservation of these lands is the first step in safeguarding critical cultural landscapes and natural resources for future generations. The public agencies charged with managing these areas will need ample funding to appropriately implement protection programs on National Monument lands. We look forward to an update on programmatic funding efforts for these landscapes.

Best regards,

  
Darrell Mike, Tribal Chairman  
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians

cc: Anthony Madrigal, Jr., Tribal Historic Preservation Officer – 29 Palms BOMI  
Shawn Muir, Environmental Coordinator – 29 Palms BOMI  
Michael Madrigal, President of the Board of Directors - Native American Land Conservancy



December 8, 2015

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama,

As leaders of Assemblies of God's Southern Pacific District, we embrace our moral obligation to protect God's creation and recognize the need to further protect the California desert, which is why we urge you to use your authority under the Antiquities Act to preserve the California desert and designate three new national monuments – Mojave Trails, Sand to Snow and Castle Mountains.

***Palms 24:1-2***

**"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to Him. For He laid the earth's foundation on the seas and built it on the ocean depths."**

These places provide grand opportunities for individuals to connect with their spirituality, family and culture. Many of us have led trips and outings with families, youth and community leaders into the California desert – from trips to Joshua Tree National Park and the Mojave National Preserve to San Jacinto Mountains, Big Morongo Canyon Preserve and most recently Amboy Crater. The California desert is a way of life for many of us, but it needs your help.

The desert is facing many threats — proposals to export groundwater from desert aquifers, air pollution, rapid community development and encroachments from renewable energy developments — that risk the future of this region and could have irreversible consequences. As pastors from the California desert, we appreciate not only the natural beauty that surrounds our communities, but we also acknowledge the need to care and protect these areas for future generations.

Each of the proposed national monuments will greatly benefit the region: Mojave Trails provides vital habitat for a variety of wildlife. It is also steeped in historical significance as it includes irreplaceable archeological and cultural sites. Sand to Snow features one of the most diverse habitats in the country, which includes stunning cultural sites and rare species. Castle Mountain features stunning vistas of California and Nevada desert Mountain ranges.

Our clean water, wildlife habitat, cultural treasures and public lands are entrusted to us to be protected and preserved for the next generation. Our land, water, and wildlife are gifts from God, and it is our moral responsibility to care for these gifts. We should respect and live in harmony with all of God's creation. Please help us protect the California desert and fulfill our nation's moral responsibility in protecting God's creation.



Sincerely,

**Pastor Sergio Navarrete**, Superintendent, Southern Pacific District Assemblies of God, La Puente  
**Rev. Silvano Elias**, Iglesia Centro Cristiano Ebenezer, La Puente  
**Rev. Freddie Espinoza**, Centro Cristiano de Whittier, Whittier  
**Rev. Yanina Espinoza**, Centro Cristiano de Whittier, Whittier  
**Rev. Lesly Merlos**, New Generation Army, Newport Beach  
**Rev. Jose Merlos**, New Generation Army, Newport Beach  
**Rev. Claudio Lapidus**, Centro Cristiano Familiar Vida Abundante, Santa Clarita  
**Rev. Sara Lapidus**, Centro Cristiano Familiar Vida Abundante, Santa Clarita  
**Rev. Ruth Valverde**, Iglesia Fraternidad Cristiana, Montebello  
**Rev. Elmer Valverde**, Iglesia Fraternidad Cristiana, Montebello  
**Rev. Lidia España**, Director de Misiones, La Puente  
**Rev. Carlos España**, Director de Misiones, La Puente  
**Rev. Rigoberto Digeiro**, Asistente de Misiones, La Puente  
**Rev. Lilian Paredes**, Templo Vision Misionera, Bellflower  
**Rev. Raymes Mesa**, Ministro de SPD, La Puente  
**Rev. Lupe Navar**, Iglesia Poder de Dios, Simi Valley  
**Rev. Guadalupe Navar**, Iglesia Poder de Dios, Simi Valley  
**Rev. Daniel Perez**, Ministerios Extendiendo una Mano Amiga, Irvine  
**Rev. Martha Perez**, Ministerios Extendiendo una Mano Amiga, Irvine  
**Rev. Enoc Paredes**, Templo Vision Misionera, Bellflower  
**Rev. Pedro Vega**, Southern Pacific District (SPD) Presbyter, Corona  
**Rev. Raul Castro**, S.P.D. Excecutive, Rancho Cucamonga  
**Rev. Antonina Arroyo**, S.P.D Womens director, La Puente  
**Rev. Silvia Carrizo**, S.P. D. Excecutive, La Puente  
**Rev. Blanca Castro**, S.P.D. Women in ministry Director, Rancho Cucamonga  
**Rev. Juanita Cruz**, S.P. D. Excecutive, Rancho Cucamonga  
**Rev. William Rodriguez**, Iglesia Pentecostal Esmirna, Los Angeles  
**Rev. Miriam Paredes**, S.P.D Missions assistant, La Puente  
**Rev. Mario Procopio**, Newport Beach  
**Rev. Blandina Tamara**, S.P.D Presbyter, Santa Ana  
**Rev. Fernando Tamara**, Primera Asamblea de Orange County, Irvine  
**Rev. Daniel de Leon**, Templo Calvario, Tustin  
**Rev. Jesse Villarreal**, Templo La Hermosa of the A/G, Coachella  
**Rev. Mike Neciuk**, El Redentor, Brawley  
**Rev. Lalo Guerrero**, S.P.D Presbyter, Ontario  
**Rev. Saul Rios**, Centro Evangelistico Rios de Agua Viva, Santa Ana  
**Rev. Ana Rivera**, Iglesia Iberoamerica del Valle, Lancaster  
**Rev. Sylvia Hoover**, Templo el Salvador, Thousand Oaks  
**Rev. Rolando Barahona**, Iglesia Cristiana Tabernaculo de Fe, Los Angeles  
**Rev. Manuel Montes**, Nueva Vida en Cristo, South Gate  
**Rev. Jack Miranda**, Living Faith, La Mirada  
**Rev. Felix Garcia**, Centro Esperanza, City of Industry



**Rev. Manny Rodriguez**, Tailor's House, Covina  
**Rev. Jesus Campa**, Las Buenas Nuevas, Carlsbad  
**Rev. Esther Tejada**, Templo Betania, San Diego  
**Rev. Edwin Mota**, Iglesia Alfarero de las asambleas de Dios, Fallbrook  
**Rev. Maria Elia Guzman**, Iglesia Roca de Salvacion, Los Angeles  
**Rev. Simon Melendrez**, Templo Roca Firme, Riverside  
**Rev. Martha Melendrez**, Templo Roca Firme, Riverside  
**Rev. Alex Lainez**, S.P.D Royal Ranger Director, Baldwin Park  
**Rev. Urias Mendoza**, Mision el Redentor, Rancho Cucamonga  
**Rev. Luis Castro**, S.P.D Kings Kastle Director, Los Angeles  
**Rev. Cecilia Escobar**, Ministerio Cristiano Jesus es el Señor, Las Vegas  
**Rev. Demetrio Escobar**, Ministerio Cristiano Jesus es el Señor, Las Vegas  
**Rev. Joshua Pinto**, Centro Evangelistico Faro a las Naciones, Lake Forest  
**Rev. Melesio Florian**, Iglesia Nueva Vida, North Hills  
**Rev. Raymond Ontiveros**, Iglesia Monte Sion, Oxnard  
**Rev. Francisco Vasquez**, Iglesia Roca de Salvacion, Los Angeles  
**Rev. Heber Porras**, Iglesia del Señor, Long Beach  
**Rev. Mario Ramirez**, Iglesia Iberoamerica del Valle, Lancaster  
**Rev. Magdalena Campa**, Las Buenas Nuevas, San Diego  
**Rev. Refugio Tejada**, Templo Betania, San Diego  
**Rev. Vicky Florian**, Iglesia Nueva Vida, North Hills  
**Rev. Lucia Ontiveros**, Iglesia Monte Sion, Oxnard  
**Rev. Nora Landaverde**, S.P.D Girls Ministries Director, La Puente  
**Rev. Denis Rivera**, Ministerio Vida Nueva de las Asambleas de Dios, Covina  
**Rev. Carmen Rivera**, Ministerio Vida Nueva de las Asambleas de Dios, Covina  
**Rev. Marcos Donis**, Iglesia Evangelica Nueva, Las Vegas  
**Rev. Zoila Donis**, Iglesia Evangelica Nueva, Las Vegas  
**Rev. Alfredo Hernandez**, Amistad Cristiana de Upland, Upland  
**Rev. Lilian Hernandez**, Amistad Cristiana de Upland, Upland  
**Rev. Estuardo Escobar**, Ministerio internacional Adonai, Las Vegas  
**Rev. Gabriela Escobar**, Ministerio internacional Adonai, Las Vegas  
**Rev. Lucy Saavedra**, Centro Evangelistico Palabra Viva, Las Vegas  
**Rev. Jose Luis Bonilla**, Centro Evangelistico Palabra Viva, Las Vegas  
**Rev. Roberto Flores**, Iglesia las Vegas, Las Vegas  
**Rev. Edilu Flores**, Iglesia las Vegas, Las Vegas  
**Rev. Herbert Diaz**, Iglesia Mision Cristiana de rescate, Las Vegas  
**Rev. Mizrahim Ramirez**, Centro Cristiano Fresca Uncion, Lynwood  
**Rev. Dimas Flores**, Iglesia Faro de Esperanza, Lynwood  
**Rev. Juanita Flores**, Iglesia Faro de Esperanza, Lynwood  
**Rev. Javier Muñoz**, Templo del Evangelio, Perris  
**Rev. Rosy Muñoz**, Templo del Evangelio, Perris  
**Rev. Ernesto Ambriz**, Templo Ebenezer, Riverside  
**Rev. Carlos Gamez**, Familia del Nuevo Nacimiento, Lake Elsinore  
**Rev. Leonzo Morales**, Hija de Saron, Murrieta  
**Rev. Rodolfo Esteban**, Iglesia Cristiana Ebenezer, Tustin



**Rev. Becky Esteban**, Iglesia Cristiana Ebenzer, Tustin  
**Rev. Moises Lecca**, Iglesia Vida Abundante Nternacional, Los Angeles  
**Rev. Manuel Prado**, 100 Por Ciento Vida, Lancaster  
**Rev. Miguel Duarte**, Iglesia Evangelica Sol de Justicia, Reseda  
**Rev. Francisco Duarte**, Iglesia Betania, Maywood  
**Rev. Eliseo Ruelas**, Iglesia el Eden, Los Angeles  
**Rev. Marcos Atencio**, Iglesia Esmirna Asambleas de Dios, Los Angeles  
**Rev. Elsa Atencio**, Iglesia Esmirna Asambleas de Dios, Los Angeles  
**Rev. John Perea**, Bethel Community of Barstow, Barstow  
**Rev. Felipe Guiza**, Centro Misionero Siloe, San Diego  
**Rev. Isaac Rangel**, Iglesia del Rey San Diego, San Diego  
**Rev. Angel Palma**, Life Church-Iglesia Viva, Corona  
**Rev. Oscar Amaya**, Ministerio Emanuel Asambleas de Dios, Los Angeles

CC: Honorable Senator Diane Feinstein  
Honorable Interior Secretary Sally Jewell  
Honorable US Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack  
Christina Goldfuss, Acting Chair, White House Council on Environmental Quality



# POR LA CREACIÓN

## FAITH-BASED ALLIANCE

September 25, 2015

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama,

Por la Creación Faith-based Alliance, which unites Latino faith leaders to develop stewards of God's creation by educating and engaging this generation to leave a legacy for the future, respectfully encourages you to use your authority under the Antiquities Act to protect the California desert and designate three new national monuments – Mojave Trails, Sand to Snow and Castle Mountains.

Each of the proposed national monuments contain exceptional characteristics that deserve to be protected. Mojave Trails, which includes 200,000 private acres donated to the federal government for conservation in perpetuity, the largest land gift of its kind in American history, is the connective tissue linking Mojave National Preserve to Joshua Tree National Park and existing Wilderness Areas, providing vital habitat for sensitive wildlife and includes unspoiled desert vistas and important Native American cultural sites. Sand to Snow protects some of the most diverse habitat in the country, linking the San Gorgonio Wilderness to Joshua Tree National Park and the San Bernardino National Forest. Sand to Snow is home to the most botanically diverse mountains in the contiguous U.S., a 23-mile stretch of the famed Pacific Crest Trail, and the majestic Whitewater River—a beloved feature for local and national communities. The Castle Mountains protects some of the finest Joshua tree, pinon pine, and juniper forests in the entire California Desert Conservation Area. It encompasses native desert grassland, features stunning vistas of California and Nevada desert mountain ranges, including Nevada's Spirit Mountain, which is revered by southwestern Native American tribes and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The California desert is facing many threats — proposals to export groundwater from desert aquifers, air pollution, rapid community development and encroachments from renewable energy developments — that risk the future of this region and could have irreversible consequences. As pastors from the California desert, we appreciate not only the natural beauty that surrounds our communities, but we also acknowledge the need to care and protect these areas for future generations.

Our clean water, wildlife habitat, cultural treasures and public lands are entrusted to us to be protected and preserved for the next generation. Our land, water, and wildlife are gifts from God, and it is our moral responsibility to care for these gifts. We should respect and live in harmony with all of God's creation.



# POR LA CREACIÓN

## FAITH-BASED ALLIANCE

The California desert is crucial to the majority of local economies, to the health and quality life of Latinos, to our cultural heritage, and to the spiritual well-being of the community. This is why we have been active in educating our communities about protecting this region. In the past two years, we have led hikes, events and camping trips for Latino community leaders, youth and families at Joshua Tree National Park, Mojave National Preserve, Big Morongo Canyon Preserve, San Jacinto Mountains and The Living Desert.

Mr. President, you have the opportunity to protect these special, inspiring places in the desert and help our nation fulfill its moral responsibility in protecting God's creation.

Thank you,

Frank Ruiz, Spanish Seventh Day Adventist Church, Indio, CA  
Enrique Orellana, Sr. Pastor, Fuente de Vida Christian Center, Coachella, CA  
Jesse Villarreal, Sr. Pastor, Templo La Hermosa, Coachella, CA  
Dr. Francisco Colop, Regional Vice President, Alianza de Ministerios Evangelicos Nacionales, Austin, TX  
Steven Morales, Pastor, Calvary Chapel, El Sereno, CA  
Raul Velazquez, Pastor, El Nuevo Comienzo, Adelanto, CA  
Javier Moreno, Co-Pastor, Monte de Zion, Victorville, CA  
Raymundo Ortiz, Pastor, Iglesias Amiavi, Victorville, CA  
Cecilia Ruano, Pastor, Rosa de Saron Asembla de Dios Church, Caldwell, ID  
Dr. Sergio Navarette, Superintendent, Southern Pacific District of the Assemblies of God  
Jorge Quintanilla, Pastor, Iglesia Divino Salvador, Reseda, CA  
Juan Manuel Almanza, Pastor, Centro de Adoracion Familiar, Las Vegas, NV  
Joseito Velasquez, Sr. Pastor Healing Waters Family Center, Denver, CO  
Martin Martinez, Youth Pastor, Impacto Juvenil, Covina, CA  
Absalon Duran, Pastor, Monte de Zion, Victorville, CA  
Hector Manzo, Centro Cristiano de Fe, Victorville, CA

CC: Honorable Senator Diane Feinstein  
Honorable Interior Secretary Sally Jewell  
Honorable US Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack  
Christina Goldfuss, Acting Chair, White House Council on Environmental Quality



October 2, 2015

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The California desert is some of the most pristine and unique land in the country. From painted mountains to archaeological treasures, world-famous wildflowers to herds of bighorn sheep, Americans have long been drawn to its stark beauty. The undersigned businesses support the designation of the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains national monuments and urge you to act now to permanently protect these special areas in the California desert—one of the richest and most intact landscapes in North America.

Each of the proposed national monuments contain exceptional characteristics that deserve to be protected. Mojave Trails is the connective tissue linking Mojave National Preserve to Joshua Tree National Park and existing Wilderness Areas, providing vital habitat for sensitive wildlife, and unspoiled desert vistas. It contains irreplaceable archeological and cultural sites including sacred Native American trails and trade routes. It includes the longest undeveloped stretch of historic Route 66, the scenic lava flows of Amboy Crater—North America's youngest volcano, the trilobite fossil beds of the Marble Mountains, the perennial river in Afton Canyon, and many unique geologic formations. Mojave Trails also represents the largest land gift in American history, with over 200,000 private acres donated to the federal government for conservation in perpetuity.

Sand to Snow protects some of the most diverse habitat in the country, linking the San Geronio Wilderness to Joshua Tree National Park and the San Bernardino National Forest. Rising dramatically from the Sonoran Desert floor to Southern California's tallest alpine peak, this monument is one of the most critical wildlife corridors in Southern California. The inclusions of Black Lava Butte and Flat Top Mesa protect stunning cultural sites and rare species. Sand to Snow is home to the most botanically diverse mountains in the contiguous U.S., a 23-mile stretch of the famed Pacific Crest Trail, and the majestic Whitewater River—a beloved feature for local and national communities.

Castle Mountain protects some of the finest Joshua tree, pinon pine, and juniper forests in the entire California Desert Conservation Area. It encompasses native desert grassland, features stunning vistas of California and Nevada desert mountain ranges, including Nevada's Spirit Mountain, which is revered by southwestern Native American tribes and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Beneath the shadow of Hart Peak are rich Native American archaeological sites and the historic gold mining ghost town of Hart. Additionally, Castle Mountain offers unparalleled opportunities to study wildlife movements, it is home to sensitive

bat species, and it is a target location for the reintroduction of pronghorn, the second fastest species of land mammal in the world.

Establishment of these national monuments will enhance recreation and tourism in the region, bringing economic benefits and jobs to surrounding communities. They will benefit public health by enhancing opportunities for outdoor access and recreation. They will preserve the vibrant but fragile desert ecosystem. They will provide peace and respite for our honored veterans, who have sacrificed so much for this land that we love. They will protect our culture and history from Native Americans to Homesteaders, General Patton's World War II training sites to western migration along Route 66, America's storied Mother Road.

We have an unprecedented opportunity to protect some of the most spectacular and diverse stretches of intact desert in California, and we must not wait. The local community has worked for nearly a decade to preserve these iconic landscapes. It is time for this region to gain the protection it deserves. We urge you to designate the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains national monuments.

Sincerely,

CC: Senator Dianne Feinstein  
Senator Barbara Boxer  
Representative Paul Cook  
Representative Raul Ruiz  
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior  
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture  
Christy Goldfuss, Managing Director, White House Council on Environmental Quality

**Peter Spurr, Broker Associate**  
**Joshua Tree Realty**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Tony Cipolla, Broker Associate**  
**Joshua Tree Realty**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Bonnie Brady, Owner**  
**Bird on a Wire Art and Collectibles**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Brian Bosworth, Owner**  
**BKB Ceramics**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Ravi Bagga, Owner**  
**Safari Motor Inn**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Mareine Uy, Owner**  
**Country Kitchen**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Kelly Crawford, Owner**  
**Joshua Tree Excursions**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Bob Maling, President**  
**JT Lilypad, LLC**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**John Schuster, Owner**  
**Starlite**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Leonard L. Hice, Owner**  
**Yokozuna Japanese Restaurant and**  
**Night Club**  
**Yucca Valley, CA**

**Sam Hababa, Owner**  
**Yucca Valley Tobacco Mart**  
**Yucca Valley, CA**

**Frank Molnar, Owner**  
**Ikon Beauty**  
**Yucca Valley, CA**

**Sukhder Samra, Owner**  
**Quiznos**  
**Yucca Valley, CA**

**Dr. Jinnam Baek**  
**Joshua Tree Family Dentistry**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Joan White, Owner**  
**Joshua Tree Mini Storage**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Deb Mallants and Stevie Brear**  
**Decal Depot**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Ken Layne, Publisher**  
**Desert Oracle**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Christy Lopez, Owner**  
**Natural Sisters Café**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Ryon Weber, Owner**  
**Pie for the People\**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Levon Kazarian, Owner**  
**Crossroads Café,**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Christa and Mark Cranston, Owners**  
**Moonlight Mesa Retreats and Vacation**  
**Rentals**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Ann and Michael Congdon, Owners**  
**Broadview**  
**Twentynine Palms, CA**

**Lori and Brian Rennie, Owners**  
**Benchmark Studios**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Jenny Holmes, Owner**  
**Holmes Health**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Nicholas Holmes, Owner**  
**Holmes Ecological Design and**  
**Construction**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Bill Vincent, Owner**  
**Doctorhunters.com**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Steve Brear and Deb Mallants, Owners**  
**Decal Depot**  
**Mercy Codes**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Ruth Junge, Owner**  
**Ruth's Rabbit Trail Tours**  
**Yucca Valley, CA**

**Levon Kazarian, Owner**  
**Crossroads Café**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Dan O'Dowd, Owner**  
**Dan O'Dowd Productions**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Lauren Ell, Owner**  
**Grow with Lauren Ell**  
**Online Marketing Consultant**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Christy Lopez, Owner**  
**Natural Sisters**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Cheryl Kandell, Owner**  
**Stitch Art Studios**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Ted Quinn, Founder**  
**Radio Free Joshua Tree**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Barnett English, Organizer**  
**Joshua Tree Music Festival**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

**Buck Buckley**  
**Distributed Solar Contractor**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As owners and representatives of businesses in greater Barstow, we understand the vital contribution that public lands make to our quality of life and our prosperity. That is why we are writing to urge you to use your authority under the Antiquities Act of 1906 to designate three new national monuments in the California desert: Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains. By establishing these monuments you will ensure that these landscapes continue to be world class attractions that benefit visitors and residents alike.

Tourism is a major economic contributor to California's desert communities and protected public lands are an important reason for this. In 2014, Joshua Tree and Death Valley National Parks, and Mojave National Preserve attracted 3.2 million visitors. Those visitors spent \$194 million and supported over 2,700 jobs. If the 4.2 million visitors to areas managed by the Bureau of Land Management (2013), are included, the economic impact is even greater.

Many of those visitors travelled through Barstow, eating at our restaurants, staying at our hotels, and visiting heritage sites like the renovated Harvey House and Main Street, a section of Route 66 which is lined with historic motels, houses, and commercial buildings. The establishment of these monuments will raise the profile of the surrounding desert as a tourist destination. Mojave Trails, which will protect one of the most spectacular remaining stretches of Route 66, will position Barstow as a gateway community to the new Monument.

It is the accessibility of pristine public lands surrounding our community that makes them attractive places to live, establish businesses, and visit. We now have an unprecedented opportunity to protect some of the most spectacular stretches of these desert public lands. We urge you to designate Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains National Monuments.

Sincerely,

Kathy Russell, Owner  
Furry Friends Dog Grooming & Supplies  
Barstow, CA 92311

Julie Fuentes, Insurance Broker  
Last Call Insurance  
Barstow, CA 92311

Sam Patel, Owner  
Economy Inn  
Barstow, CA 92311

Guillimine Brooks, Manager  
Jenny's Grill  
Barstow, CA 92311

Alberto Gullegos-Cordiro, Manager  
Lola's Kitchen  
Barstow, CA 92311

Ved Shandil, Owner  
Route 66 Motel  
Barstow, CA 92311

Theresa Dingman, Owner  
H & R Block  
Barstow, CA 92311

Viola Basulta, Owner  
Viola's Vision Hair Salon  
Barstow, CA 92311

Brett Hobbs, General Manager  
Best Western Desert Villa Inn  
Barstow, CA 92311

Rakesh S. Mehta, Owner  
Ramada inn  
Barstow, CA 92311

Kris Okamuro, Owner  
Fitness MD  
Barstow, CA 92311

Mark Zimmerman, General Manager  
Idle Spurs Steakhouse  
Barstow, CA 92311

Saed Kamel, Owner  
Swiss Liqour  
Barstow, CA 92311

Son Seng Chen, Owner  
Desert Inn  
Barstow, CA 92311

Christopher Guardado, Manager  
Del Taco #236  
Barstow, CA 92311

Maxim Atalla, Owner  
Los Domingos Restaurant  
Barstow, CA 92311

Cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein  
Senator Barbara Boxer  
Representative Paul Cook  
Representative Raul Ruiz  
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior  
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture  
Christy Goldfuss, Managing Director, White House Council on Environmental Quality

October 2, 2015

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

The undersigned astronomy organizations, scientists and dark sky enthusiasts respectfully request that you use the powers vested in you by the 1906 Antiquities Act to create the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails and Castle Mountains National Monuments. Time is running out to create these new National Monuments and we need your help.

We believe that the new National Monuments will protect invaluable and increasingly threatened night sky resources in California's Colorado and Mojave Deserts. The protection of the night sky is of paramount importance to human health, ecology and ecosystems, and our tourism economy. The designation of the proposed National Monuments will help protect this resource in perpetuity for future generations.

Dark skies are an increasingly precious and scarce commodity throughout the globe and the United States. Artificial light at night harms wildlife by disorienting animals, adversely impacting mating, altering predator and prey behavior, and confusing migratory animals. It even influences animal physiology in species as diverse as birds, reptiles, mammals, amphibians, fishes and invertebrates. It has also been linked to an increase risk of cancer in humans, and in 2009 the American Medical Association voted unanimously to support light pollution abatement measures as a matter of public health. Finally, the dollar and carbon cost of producing the energy wasted to light pollution is high. The International Dark Sky Association estimates that at least six billion dollars' worth of electricity is wasted each year as a consequence of lighting U.S. residential properties alone.

We ask that you work quickly to designate the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails and Castle Mountains National Monuments

Sincerely,

CC: Senator Dianne Feinstein  
Senator Barbara Boxer  
Representative Paul Cook  
Representative Raul Ruiz  
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior  
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture  
Christy Goldfuss, Managing Director, White House Council on Environmental Quality



**Craig Weatherwax**  
**"Boss"**  
**Oceanside Photo and Telescope**  
**Oceanside, CA**

**Scott Feierabend, Executive Director**  
**International Dark-Sky Association**  
**and Associate Board of Directors**  
**Tucson, AZ**

**James Gee, Manager**  
**Yerkes Observatory**  
**Williams Bay, WI**

**Dean Arvidson**  
**Professor of Astronomy**  
**Los Angeles City College**

**Thomas A. Meneghini**  
**Acting Executive Director**  
**Mount Wilson Observatory**  
**Mount Wilson Institute**  
**Pasadena, CA**

**Wally Pacholka**  
**Astrophotographer**  
**Astropics.com**  
**Five time Time Life Magazine award winner**  
**Astronomy Picture of the Day awarded 45 times**  
**TWAN Astronomy Photographer**  
**Torrance, CA**

**Tim Hunter**  
**Co Founder**  
**International Dark-Sky Association**  
**Tucson, AZ**

**Farah Payan**  
**President of Woodland Hills Telescopes**  
**Woodland Hills, CA**

**James Yuen ,Past Secretary**  
**Ventura County Astronomical Society**  
**Santa Cruz, CA**

**Douglas Kegard**  
**Publicity Director**  
**Ventura County Astronomical Society**  
**Ventura, CA**

**Dick Pantoja , President**  
**Andromeda Astronomical Society**  
**Yucca Valley, CA**

**Scott Kardel**  
**Associate Professor of Astronomy**  
**Palomar College**  
**San Marcos, CA**

**Diana Umpierre**  
**Board of Directors**  
**International Dark-Sky Association**  
**Pembroke Pines, FL**

**Tom O'Key**  
**IDA Chapter Leader**  
**San Bernardino County High Deserts Region**  
**Founder**  
**Southern California Desert Video Astronomers**  
**Joshua Tree, CA**

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President

RE: Scientific value of California desert national monument proposals

The undersigned scientists include biologists, ecologists, conservation scientists, botanists, and others who strongly support the designation of three proposed California desert national monuments: Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains. We are writing to urge you to designate these special places as National Monuments through use of the Antiquities Act. Together, these monuments provide incredible scientific value and protection of these lands in perpetuity will ensure this value is not lost.

California's desert region includes the Mojave, Colorado and Great Basin deserts, which account for 29 million acres in the eastern third of the state, or 28% of California's land area, with elevations ranging from 250 feet below sea level to nearly 12,000 feet at the highest peaks. Consisting primarily of federal public lands, largely unpopulated and still mostly unfragmented by development, the Mojave desert is of immense global significance. The abiotic extremes that characterize the California desert have resulted in a landscape that is teeming with life; over 2,500 native plant and vertebrate species have been documented with new discoveries happening regularly. Species richness would increase by a factor of 10 or more if native species of soil bacteria, fungi, protozoans, insects, algae, lichens and mosses were included. Intact desert soils and vegetation protected in the proposed national monuments will allow for continued – and even increased – carbon sequestration as carbon dioxide emissions continue to rise. Recent studies have shown that intact desert soils increase storage as carbon dioxide levels increase in the atmosphere, a discovery that could make deserts an important part of a comprehensive carbon mitigation program.

Protection of California desert lands through designation of these proposed national monuments will result in enhanced conservation value of all lands in the area. These monuments will conserve key connections between landscapes and allow for species to adapt to a changing climate and ensure nature remains resilient in this land of extremes. Below we provide additional information with regard to the important scientific values that would be protected within each of the three proposed monuments.

#### Mojave Trails:

The proposed Mojave Trails National Monument is home to the iconic and federally threatened desert tortoise. As recently as 50 years ago, the Mojave desert tortoise occupied the Mojave desert in significantly higher densities than it does now. The desert tortoise is threatened by drought, disease, predation, climate change and loss of habitat. Protecting 1.4 million acres of prime desert tortoise habitat within Mojave Trails National Monument would significantly protect and preserve crucial occupied habitat and essential linkages. Mojave Trails would provide additional protection for 750,000 acres of critical habitat, 220,000 acres of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service connectivity habitat, and would connect three out of six of the tortoise's recovery units.

Additionally, the proposed Mojave Trails National Monument would provide permanent protection for desert bighorn sheep inter-mountain connectivity habitat; foraging habitat for golden eagles, prairie falcons and other birds; and over 12 identified wildlife linkages connecting 15 wilderness areas, six Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Joshua Tree National Park and the Mojave Preserve. The area is a botanical frontier with more than half of the 330 new species added to the California flora over the past two decades. Lastly, the proposed additions of the Cadiz and Pisgah Valleys provide critical connectivity and habitat for desert tortoise and bighorn sheep as well as new protections for rare plants.

#### Sand to Snow:

The proposed Sand to Snow National Monument connects the Mojave and Sonoran deserts, and southern California montane ecosystems. It provides important habitat for both wide-ranging species such as bighorn sheep, bears and mountains lions as well as endemic plants. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife State of California has documented close to one-hundred statewide rare, sensitive, threatened or endangered plant and animal species that occur within, or adjacent to the proposed Sand to Snow National Monument: 66 plants, five insects, nine birds, 11 reptiles and amphibians, and 17 mammals. The proposed Sand to Snow National Monument would protect essential wildlife corridors between the desert and the mountains and allow for migration and colonization under predicted climate changes. Furthermore, the San Bernardino Mountains included in the proposal are some of the most botanically diverse in the lower 48 states.

#### Castle Mountains:

The proposed Castle Mountains National Monument will protect some of the finest Joshua tree, pinyon pine and juniper forests in the entire California desert. The area is characterized by intact native desert grassland and is thus targeted by federal and state agencies as a location to reintroduce pronghorn, the second fastest land mammal in the world. The area also offers opportunities to protect and study wildlife movement between the Piute Mountains and the New York Mountains. Biodiversity protected in this area includes desert bighorn sheep, mountain lion, bobcat, coyote, jack rabbit, bats, desert woodrat and a variety of mice that make their homes in remote canyons and on steep slopes.

In conclusion, we would like to re-iterate the importance of providing permanent protection to lands in the unique and biodiverse California desert. You have the opportunity to show leadership in the protection of large, intact landscapes and their scientific values through the designation of these monuments. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Barry Sinervo  
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary  
Biology  
University of California, Santa Cruz

Frank W. Davis, Ph.D.  
Santa Barbara, CA

Wayne D. Spencer  
Director of Conservation Assessment and  
Planning  
Conservation Biology Institute

Wendy McIntyre, Ph.D.  
Department of Environmental Studies  
University of Redlands

Sam Sweet  
Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Marine  
Biology  
University of California, Santa Barbara

Paula Schiffman, Ph.D.  
Department of Biology  
California State University, Northridge

R. Dave Evans  
School of Biological Sciences  
Washington State University

Scott Cashen  
Independent Biological Resources Consultant

Robin Kobaly, Botanist/Wildlife Biologist  
Executive Director  
The SummerTree Institute

James M. Andre  
Director, Granite Mountains Desert Research  
Center  
UC Natural Reserve System  
UC Riverside Dept. of Biology

Paul Beier  
Regents' Professor, School of Forestry,  
Northern Arizona University,

Dr. Timothy Krantz  
Professor of Environmental Science  
University of Redlands, California

Duncan Bell  
Conservation Botanist

Terry Root  
Senior Fellow, Emerita  
Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment

David S. Wilcove  
Professor of Ecology, Evolutionary Biology  
Woodrow Wilson School  
Princeton University

Glenn R. Stewart, Ph.D.  
Professor Emeritus of Zoology  
and Environmental Science  
California State Polytechnic University,  
Pomona

Matthew S. Dietz, Ph.D.  
San Francisco, CA

R. Travis Belote, Ph.D.  
Bozeman, MT

Gregory H. Aplet, Ph.D.  
Denver, CO

Dr. William Rainey

Dr. Patricia Brown, Ph.D.  
Bat Biologist  
Bishop, CA

Dr. Cameron Barrows  
Center for Conservation Biology  
UC Riverside

Dr. Allan Muth  
Director Boyd Deep Canyon Desert Research  
Center  
University of California, Riverside

Dan Klooster, Professor and Chair  
Department of Environmental Studies  
University of Redlands

Dr. James Malcolm  
Professor of Biology  
University of Redlands

Tasha La Doux, Ph.D.  
Assistant Director  
Univ. California Natural Reserve System  
Granite Mtns Desert Research Center

Edith B. Allen  
Department of Botany and Plant Sciences  
and Center for Conservation Biology  
University of California. Riverside

Michael Allen  
Center for Conservation Biology  
University of California, Riverside

CC: Senator Dianne Feinstein  
Senator Barbara Boxer  
Representative Paul Cook  
Representative Raul Ruiz  
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior  
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture  
Christy Goldfuss, Managing Director, White House Council on Environmental Quality



October 13, 2015

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We are writing to express our support for the designation of three National Monuments in the California desert: Mojave Trails, Sand to Snow, and Castle Mountains. The Vet Voice Foundation, is a non-profit organization, with a national network of nearly five-hundred thousand Veterans dedicated to engaging in issues of civic importance, particularly in conservation.

Designating these National Monuments will help ensure the continued protection of our public lands' heritage – to ensure proper stewardship of invaluable cultural, biological, and scientific resources; to ensure continued recreational access and enjoyment; to benefit our economy; and to ensure that future generations can enjoy these lands as we can today. It will also help to protect the quality of life of the region's residents which includes many veterans, active-duty armed forces personnel, and their families. The proximity to such beautiful and awe inspiring places is high on the list of many people's reasons to live in this area.

Perhaps more importantly for us, this is about protecting opportunities for Veterans, active duty servicemen and women who find that the desert public lands offer places to recuperate from the stresses of overseas service (such as PTSD), to reconnect with family and friends, and reintegrate into civilian life after completing overseas missions.

We are committed to doing what we can to preserve and protect this special place. Please know that we at the Vet Voice Foundation will continue to offer our unfailing support to your efforts, and continue to make our voices heard for this designation to happen. Thank you so much for focusing your attention on the protection of these unique public lands.

Sincerely,

Hank Alvarez  
Corona  
U.S. Army, Staff Sergeant

David Marinsk  
Santa Rosa  
U.S. Army, Lieutenant Colonel

Gilbert Archuleta  
Vallejo  
U.S. Navy, Petty Officer

Stephen McDaniel  
Riverside  
U.S. Air Force, Captain

Larry Branson  
Pomona  
U.S. Army, Colonel

Stephen McKeand  
Running Springs  
U.S. Army/Marine Corps. Sergeant

Ron Bridges  
Rancho Cucamonga  
U.S. Marine Corps., Private 1st Class

John McKee  
San Jacinto  
U.S. Air Force, Lieutenant Colonel

Joshua Bunce  
Riverside  
U.S. Army, Sergeant

Frances Miller  
Rancho Mirage  
U.S. Army, Specialist

Christina Burton  
Apple Valley  
U.S. Army, Sergeant

Andrew Morgan  
Palm Desert  
U.S. Navy, Seaman

Kim Coleman  
Highland  
U.S. Marines, Sergeant

Tom Mullen  
Riverside  
U.S. Army, Captain

Phillip Cripps  
Cathedral City  
U.S. Marine Corps, Sergeant

James Ouimet  
Mammoth Lakes  
U.S. Marine Corps, Sergeant

Paul Davis  
Palm Springs  
U.S. Army, Specialist

Mark Porras  
Palm Desert  
U.S. Marines, Sergeant

Tom Derusha  
Temecula  
U.S. Army, Corporal

Philip Power  
Lake Arrowhead  
U.S. Navy, Seaman

Donald Dible  
Murrieta  
U.S. Army, Sergeant

Ray Quinto  
Yucaipa  
U.S. Air Force, Staff Sergeant

Joseph DiFrancesco  
Chino  
U.S. Air Force, Senior Airman

Steven Raihl  
Palm Springs  
U.S. Army, Corporal

Keith Ferrer  
El Verano  
U.S. Air Force, Master Sergeant

Dave Raley  
Yucaipa  
U.S. Air Force, Colonel

Kermit Franklin  
Antelope Valley  
U.S. Marine, Sergeant

Billie Ridgway  
Phelan  
U.S. Army, Corporal

James Ewing  
Yucaipa  
U.S. Air Force, Lieutenant Colonel

Robert Rippetoe  
Rancho Mirage  
U.S. Navy, Petty Officer

Daniel Ferra  
Palm Springs  
U.S. Army, Specialist

Scott Roney  
Temecula  
U.S. Army, Captain

James Jackson  
Beaumont  
U.S. Army, Specialist

Curt Sanders  
Lee Vining  
U.S. Marine Corps, Sergeant

Allen Gildard  
Apple Valley  
U.S. Army, Captain

Marvin Sawyer  
Yucca Valley  
U.S. Army, Sergeant



Pamela Lacey  
Rialto  
U.S. Air Force, Master Sergeant

John Schricker  
Loma Linda  
U.S. Army, Private First Class

William Lansville  
Barstow  
U.S. Navy, Petty Officer

Carlos Simental  
Victorville  
U.S. Navy, Petty Officer

Martin Ledezma  
Redlands  
U.S. Navy, Petty Officer

David Smith  
Cathedral City  
U.S. Army, Private First Class

Bob Leyba  
Newberry Springs  
U.S. Navy, Seaman 1st Class

Robert Stune  
Whitewater  
U.S. Navy, Petty Officer

Gary Martin  
Yucaipa  
U.S. Navy, Captain

William Taylor  
Apple Valley  
U.S. Army, Colonel

Rebecca Martin  
Riverside  
U.S. Marine Corps., Staff Sergeant

Melinda Tremaglio  
Palm Springs  
U.S. Army, Captain

Mark Zellmer  
Lucerne Valley  
U.S. Army, Staff Sergeant

cc:

The Honorable Sally Jewell, Secretary, Department of Interior  
The Honorable Christy Goldfuss, Managing Director, Council on Environmental Quality

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

As service members, we have pledged to protect America, the land that we love. This includes protecting its public lands so that we, and our fellow Americans and visitors from around the world can experience the beauty, history, and culture of our great country. The California desert is one of our country's most pristine and unique lands, and people have long been drawn to its stark beauty. The Navy, Marines, Army, and Air Force all have major bases in the California desert, from Edwards Air Force Base to Fort Irwin and China Lake to Twentynine Palms. These are not just the places we train, they are also the places we live, play, raise families, shop, attend school, and volunteer in the community. They are places we care about. That is why I support the designation of the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains national monuments and urge you to act now to permanently protect these special areas in the California desert—one of the richest and most ecologically intact landscapes in North America.

Each of the proposed national monuments contains exceptional characteristics that deserve to be protected. Mojave Trails is the connective tissue linking Mojave National Preserve to Joshua Tree National Park and existing Wilderness Areas, providing vital habitat for sensitive wildlife, and unspoiled desert vistas. It contains irreplaceable archeological and cultural sites including sacred Native American trails and trade routes; the longest undeveloped stretch of historic Route 66; the scenic lava flows of Amboy Crater, the trilobite fossil beds of the Marble Mountains; the perennial river in Afton Canyon; and many unique geologic formations. Mojave Trails also represents the largest land gift in American history, with over 200,000 private acres donated to the federal government for conservation in perpetuity for the American people.

Sand to Snow protects some of the most diverse habitat in the country, linking the San Geronio Wilderness to Joshua Tree National Park and the San Bernardino National Forest. Rising dramatically from the Sonoran Desert floor to Southern California's tallest alpine peak, this monument is one of the most critical wildlife corridors in Southern California. The inclusions of Black Lava Butte and Flat Top Mesa protect stunning cultural sites and rare species. Sand to Snow is home to the most botanically diverse mountains in the contiguous U.S., 23-miles of the famed Pacific Crest Trail, and the majestic Whitewater River.

Castle Mountain protects some of the finest Joshua tree, pinon pine, and juniper forests in the entire California Desert Conservation Area. It encompasses native desert grassland, features stunning vistas of California and Nevada desert mountain ranges, including Nevada's Spirit Mountain, which is revered by southwestern Native American tribes and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Beneath the shadow of Hart Peak are rich Native American archaeological sites and the historic gold mining ghost town of Hart. Additionally, Castle Mountain offers unparalleled opportunities to study wildlife movements, it is home to sensitive bat species, and it is a target location for the reintroduction of pronghorn, the second fastest species of land mammal in the world.

Establishment of these national monuments will enhance recreation and tourism in the region, bringing economic benefits and jobs to surrounding communities. They will benefit public health by enhancing

opportunities for outdoor access and recreation. These monuments will preserve the vibrant, but fragile desert ecosystem and protect our culture and history from Native Americans to Homesteaders, General Patton's World War II training sites to western migration along Route 66. Finally, these monuments will provide peace and respite for the honored veterans – the soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen who have come before us, have sacrificed so much for this land that we love, and have left us this legacy to protect and preserve.

I urge you to seize this unique opportunity to designate the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains national monuments.

Sincerely,

First Sergeant Arzola, Mohammad A., U.S.  
Marine Corps

Staff Sergeant Baldridge, Michael M., U.S.  
Marine Corps

Captain Bombaci, Jared E., U.S. Marine Corps  
Gunnery Sergeant Borja, Marvin J., U.S. Marine  
Corps

Captain Brooks, Daniel L. U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Buchanan, David R., U.S. Marine  
Corps

Sergeant Campoamor, Andrew R., U.S. Marine  
Corps

Staff Sergeant Carpenter, Dereck L., U.S.  
Marine Corps

Sergeant Franquez Jr, Oscar, U.S. Marine Corps  
Staff Sergeant Gallardo, Jaime A., U.S. Marine  
Corps

Staff Sergeant Garside, Mark J., U.S. Marine  
Corps

Sergeant Garst, Matthew D., U.S. Marine Corps  
Staff Sergeant Gibson, Daniel G., U.S. Marine  
Corps

Staff Sergeant Hackett, Jonathan W., U.S.  
Marine Corps

Sergeant Hall, William P., U.S. Marine Corps  
Master Sergeant Halterman, Michael G., U.S.  
Marine Corps

Gunnery Sergeant Harless, Bradley A., U.S.  
Marine Corps

Corporal Holbert, Korey D., U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Hoppe, Andrew P., U.S. Marine Corps  
Staff Sergeant Huerta, Theodore S., U.S. Marine  
Corps

Staff Sergeant Huls, Wyatt D., U.S. Marine  
Corps

Gunnery Sergeant Jacklin, Brian C., U.S. Marine  
Corps

Sergeant James, Seth C., U.S. Marine Corps  
Staff Sergeant Kelsaw, Steven J., U.S. Marine  
Corps

Sergeant Kopta, Justin P., U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Lappin IV, John M., U.S. Marine  
Corps

Staff Sergeant Manibog III, Benjamin M., U.S.  
Marine Corps

Staff Sergeant McCormick, Christophe M., U.S.  
Marine Corps

Sergeant Meleski II, Timothy M., U.S. Marine  
Corps

Staff Sergeant Mendiola, West, U.S. Marine  
Corps

Gunnery Sergeant Perkins, Tyler A., U.S.  
Marine Corps

Staff Sergeant Questell, Derek J., U.S. Marine  
Corps

Corporal Ruiz, Alex, U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Stoner, Christophe D., U.S. Marine  
Corps

Staff Sergeant Urso, Rocco A., U.S. Marine  
Corps

Sergeant Vargas, Giovanni, U.S. Marine Corps  
Sergeant Vieyra Jr, Alejandro, U.S. Marine  
Corps

Sergeant Wiener, Eric D., U.S. Marine Corps  
Staff Sergeant Worth, Nickolas F., U.S. Marine  
Corps

Sergeant Carey, Eric C., U.S. Marine Corps  
Gunnery Sergeant Castille, Mark R., U.S.

Marine Corps

Sergeant Culpepper, Lee M., U.S. Marine Corps

Staff Sergeant Erickson, Adam W., U.S. Marine Corps

Sergeant Fuller, Zachary M., U.S. Marine Corps

Staff Sergeant Brabowski, Wojciech A., U.S. Marine Corps

Master Sergeant Guerra, Ralph E., U.S. Marine Corps

Sergeant Ingram, Alan R., U.S. Marine Corps

Sergeant Merstrand, Ulrik R., U.S. Marine Corps

Sergeant Salgado, Juanjose R., U.S. Marine Corps

Sergeant Sells, Austin M., U.S. Marine Corps

Sergeant Wagner, Cameron A., U.S. Marine Corps

CC: Senator Dianne Feinstein  
Senator Barbara Boxer  
Representative Paul Cook  
Representative Raul Ruiz  
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior  
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture  
Christy Goldfuss, Managing Director, White House Council on Environmental Quality

September 23, 2015

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

**Subject: Designation of Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains National Monuments in the California desert.**

Dear President Obama,

As a retired National Park Superintendent – and a career civil servant who worked for thirty-seven years for the National Park Service – I’ve had the privilege and honor during my working career to study, plan for, and manage some of our nation’s most treasured western lands, including those located in the majestic Sierra Nevada mountains, and lands located in the incredibly scenic and ecologically unique California desert. During the final three years of my career, I served as the Superintendent of Joshua Tree National Park, which is located in the California desert.

Throughout my career, I have been dedicated to helping visitors to National Parks discover the wonders of wild places, and to connect with their heritage. My varied work experience for the National Park Service includes: Park Superintendent, Project Management Chief, Planning and Compliance Manager, Physical Science Specialist, American Indian Consultation Supervisor, Accessibility Program Supervisor, Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act Manager, Search and Rescue Incident Commander, Hazardous Materials and Oil Spill Response Coordinator, Emergency Medical Technician, Fire Logistics Crew Supervisor, and Public Involvement and Outreach Coordinator. Through these work experiences, I came to deeply understand the importance and value of natural areas, open spaces, and traditional properties to our society and culture.

**It is within this context that I am writing to strongly urge you to establish the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains National Monuments in the California desert.**

The California desert is home to some of the most pristine and unique natural landscapes remaining in our country, and according to many, it is the site of one of the few remaining functional and “intact” ecological regions in the lower continental United States. From painted mountains and archaeological treasures, to world-famous wildflowers and herds of bighorn

sheep, Americans have long been drawn to this desert region for recreation, nature study and wilderness solitude. Its no surprise that the special characteristics of the region were widely recognized and appreciated when the National Geographic Society independently concluded that California's Mojave Desert is one of the 100 most scenic places in the world. Now, with literally millions of tourists and visitors enjoying these lands each year – and providing tens of millions of dollars in benefits to the local economies of the region – these natural, cultural and social treasures are just too important to loose.

At the same time – due to inadequate legal protection – there is continual loss of vital ecological regions of the California desert from ongoing incremental impact, as well as from large-scale development and industrialization. Consequently, these lands are now disappearing at an incredible rate before our very eyes. Due to these conditions, the decision to conserve these lands will not be one for future generations, for they will be lost; it is a decision for today, it is a decision for you and of your time.

That is why I support the designation of the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains National Monuments and urge you to act now to permanently protect these special areas in the California desert – one of the most ecologically intact and unique landscapes remaining in North America.

Each of the proposed national monuments contains exceptional characteristics that deserve to be protected. Mojave Trails is the connective tissue linking the Mojave National Preserve to Joshua Tree National Park, and to other nearby designated Wilderness areas. Consequently, it provides vital habitat linkages for sensitive wildlife species, and it protects unspoiled desert vistas. It contains irreplaceable cultural resources, including numerous archeological sites, and remnants of prehistoric trails and trade routes sacred to Native Americans. It includes the longest undeveloped stretch of historic Route 66, the scenic lava flows of Amboy Crater (North America's youngest volcano), the trilobite fossil beds of the Marble Mountains, the perennial river in Afton Canyon, and many unique geologic formations. Mojave Trails also represents the largest land gift in American history, with over 200,000 private acres donated to the federal government for conservation in perpetuity.

The Sand to Snow protects some of the most diverse habitat in the country, linking the San Gorgonio Mountains and Wilderness area to the western side of Joshua Tree National Park, and the San Bernardino National Forest. Rising dramatically from the Sonoran Desert floor to Southern California's tallest alpine peak, this proposed monument contains one of the most critical wildlife corridors in Southern California. The inclusions of Black Lava Butte and Flat Top Mesa will protect stunning cultural sites and rare species. With this incredible range in elevation and ecology, Sand to Snow is also home to the most botanically diverse mountain region in the contiguous U.S. It includes a 23-mile stretch of the famed Pacific Crest Trail, as

well as the majestic and ecologically diverse Whitewater River – a river treasured by local, statewide, national and tribal communities.

Castle Mountain protects some of the finest Joshua tree, Piñon pine, and juniper forests in the entire California Desert Conservation Area. It encompasses native desert grasslands, features stunning vistas of California and Nevada desert mountain ranges, including Nevada's Spirit Mountain, which is revered by southwestern Native American tribes and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Beneath the shadow of Hart Peak are an array of rich Native American archaeological sites, and the historic gold mining ghost town of Hart. Additionally, Castle Mountain offers unparalleled opportunities to study wildlife movements, it is home to sensitive bat species, and it is a target location for the reintroduction of pronghorn, the second fastest species of land mammal in the world.

With the nearby southern California metropolitan areas consisting of a population of nearly 20 million people, the establishment of these national monuments will enhance recreation and tourism in the region, bringing sustainable economic benefits and long lasting jobs to the surrounding communities. They will benefit public health by enhancing opportunities for outdoor access and recreation. They will preserve the vibrant but fragile desert ecosystem. With close proximity to multiple military training facilities, they will provide an important opportunity for peace and respite for our honored active duty military and our veterans, who have sacrificed so much for this land that we love. They will protect our culture and history in connection with Native American's traditional cultural properties, homesteader's settlement, General Patton's World War II training sites, and the western migration along Route 66 – America's storied "Mother Road."

President Obama, for the American people, you have an unprecedented opportunity to protect what remains of the most spectacular, ecologically intact, and diverse stretches of desert in California. We must not wait. The local communities near these proposed national monuments have worked steadily for nearly a decade to preserve these iconic landscapes. It is now time for this region to gain the protection it deserves. I urge you to designate the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains National Monuments.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Mark Butler  
Superintendent, Joshua Tree National Park (retired)

File  
S

August 19, 2015

Senator Dianne Feinstein  
11111 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 915  
Los Angeles, CA 90025

Dear Senator Feinstein,

There is no greater champion for California's pristine desert landscape than you, and I want to celebrate the recent step you took in elevating the need for its future protection to President Obama's attention.

In our current partisan political environment, it's important to take decisive action to ensure that our treasured natural resources are protected for generations to come. As this gridlocked Congress continues its partisan bickering at the expense of our future, I applaud your leadership in finding a lasting solution to protect the Mojave and Joshua Tree deserts.

I stand behind you as you work to convince President Obama to use his executive authority to expand the environmental protections for the California desert. Much like our redwood forests and stunning coastline, our desert is a critical and iconic part of the California spirit. I, along with many other Californians, wholeheartedly support your efforts to ensure that common sense and stewardship prevail.

Executive action offers a unique opportunity to achieve your vision for the California Desert. California thanks you for all that you have done to get us to this point, and I look forward to celebrating this victory with you soon.

Sincerely,

  
Michael F. Fleming  
Executive Director



November 12, 2015

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The California desert is some of the most pristine and unique land in the country. From painted mountains to archaeological treasures, world-famous wildflowers to herds of bighorn sheep, Americans have long been drawn to its stark beauty. That is why I support the designation of the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains national monuments through the Antiquities Act and urge you to act now to permanently protect these special areas in the California desert—one of the richest and most intact landscapes in North America.

We comprise Audubon chapters in Southern California who share a collective mission to protect wildlife and natural habitats, as well as share the importance and an enjoyment of our natural resources with diverse citizens who live in this region. Our chapters believe that protecting the California desert is key in maintaining vital habitats and wildlife linkages between the coast, mountains and desert areas of southern California.

Each of the proposed national monuments contain exceptional characteristics that deserve to be protected. Mojave Trails is the connective tissue linking Mojave National Preserve to Joshua Tree National Park and existing Wilderness Areas, providing vital habitat for sensitive wildlife, and unspoiled desert vistas. It contains irreplaceable archeological and cultural sites including sacred Native American trails and trade routes. It includes the longest undeveloped stretch of historic Route 66, the scenic lava flows of Amboy Crater, the trilobite fossil beds of the Marble Mountains, the perennial river in Afton Canyon, and many unique geologic formations

Sand to Snow protects some of the most diverse habitat in the country, linking the San Geronio Wilderness to Joshua Tree National Park and the San Bernardino National Forest. Rising dramatically from the Sonoran Desert floor to Southern California's tallest alpine peak, this monument is one of the most critical wildlife corridors in Southern California. The inclusions of Black Lava Butte and Flat Top Mesa protect stunning cultural sites and rare species. Sand to Snow is home to the most botanically diverse mountains in the contiguous U.S., a 23-mile stretch of the famed Pacific Crest Trail, and the majestic Whitewater River—a beloved feature for local and national communities.

Castle Mountain protects some of the finest Joshua tree, pinon pine, and juniper forests in the entire California Desert Conservation Area. It encompasses native desert grassland, features stunning vistas of California and Nevada desert mountain ranges, including Nevada's Spirit Mountain, which is revered by southwestern Native American tribes and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Beneath the shadow of Hart Peak are rich Native American archaeological sites and the historic gold mining ghost town of Hart. Additionally, Castle Mountain offers unparalleled opportunities to study wildlife movements, it is home to sensitive bat species, and it is a target location for the reintroduction of pronghorn, the second fastest species of land mammal in the world.

We have an unprecedented opportunity to protect some of the most spectacular and diverse stretches of intact desert in California, and we must not wait. The local community has worked for nearly a decade to preserve these iconic landscapes. It is time for this region to gain the protection it deserves. I urge you to designate the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains national monuments.

Sincerely,

**David Quadhamer, President**  
**Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon**  
[dquadhamer@yahoo.com](mailto:dquadhamer@yahoo.com)

**Rose Leibowitz, President**  
**San Fernando Valley Audubon**  
[roselbirds@gmail.com](mailto:roselbirds@gmail.com)

**Andy Mauro, President**  
**Buena Vista Audubon Society**  
[Akamauro1@gmail.com](mailto:Akamauro1@gmail.com)

**Eva Lydick, Conservation Chair**  
**Laguna Hills Audubon Society**  
[Eval01@msn.com](mailto:Eval01@msn.com)

**Drew Feldmann, Conservation**  
**Chair**  
**San Bernardino Valley Audubon**  
**Society**  
[Drewf3@verizon.net](mailto:Drewf3@verizon.net)

**Margot Griswold, President**  
**Los Angeles Audubon Society**  
[mgriswold@landiq.com](mailto:mgriswold@landiq.com)

**Deni Sinnott, President**  
**Pasadena Audubon Society**  
[Denisinnott25@gmail.com](mailto:Denisinnott25@gmail.com)

**Richard Fowler, Conservation**  
**Chair**  
**Palomar Audubon Society**  
[rcfowl@cox.net](mailto:rcfowl@cox.net)



# The Coalition To Protect America's National Parks

*Voices of Experience - Advocating The Protection of America's National Park System*

September 30, 2015

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The California desert is some of the most pristine and unique land in the country. From painted mountains to archaeological treasures, world-famous wildflowers to herds of bighorn sheep, Americans have long been drawn to its stark beauty. That is why we support the designation of the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains national monuments through the Antiquities Act and urge you to act now to permanently protect these special areas in the California desert—one of the richest and most intact landscapes in North America.

The Coalition to Protect America's National Parks represents nearly 1,100 members; most are former employees of the National Park Service and have over 30,000 years of combined experience stewarding America's most precious natural and cultural resources. Our members' lives were spent studying wolves in Yellowstone National Park; teaching children about the Native Americans that came before us at Mesa Verde; patrolling the backcountry at Glacier National Park to keep hikers safe; and celebrating the civil rights of all Americans along the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail. Simply put, we are among the keepers of what the eminent writer Wallace Stegner called "America's best idea"—the national parks.

Each of the proposed national monuments contains exceptional characteristics that deserve to be protected. Mojave Trails is the connective tissue linking Mojave National Preserve to Joshua Tree National Park and existing Wilderness Areas, providing vital habitat for sensitive wildlife, and unspoiled desert vistas. It contains irreplaceable archeological and cultural sites including sacred Native American trails and trade routes. It includes the longest undeveloped stretch of historic Route 66, the scenic lava flows of Amboy Crater, the trilobite fossil beds of the Marble Mountains, the perennial river in Afton Canyon, and many unique geologic formations Sand to Snow protects some of the most diverse habitat in the country, linking the San Geronio Wilderness to Joshua Tree National Park and the San Bernardino National Forest. Rising dramatically from the Mohave Desert floor to

Southern California's tallest alpine peak, this area is one of the most critical wildlife corridors in Southern California. Inclusion of Black Lava Butte and Flat Top Mesa would protect stunning cultural sites and rare species. Sand to Snow is among the most botanically diverse landscapes in the contiguous U.S., a 23-mile stretch of the famed Pacific Crest Trail, and the majestic Whitewater River—a beloved feature for local and national communities.

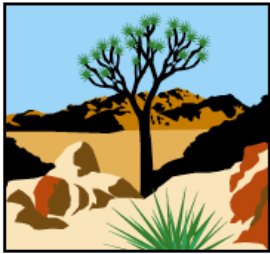
Castle Mountain protects some of the finest Joshua tree, pinon pine, and juniper forests in the entire California Desert Conservation Area. It encompasses native desert grassland, features stunning vistas of California and Nevada desert mountain ranges, including Nevada's Spirit Mountain, which is revered by southwestern Native American tribes and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Beneath the shadow of Hart Peak are rich Native American archaeological sites and the historic gold mining ghost town of Hart. Additionally, Castle Mountain offers unparalleled opportunities to study wildlife movements, it is home to sensitive bat species, and it is a target location for the reintroduction of pronghorn, the second fastest species of land mammal in the world.

We have an unprecedented opportunity to protect some of the most spectacular and diverse stretches of intact desert in California, and we must not wait. The local community has worked for nearly a decade to preserve these iconic landscapes. It is time for this region to gain the protection it deserves. I urge you to designate the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains national monuments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maureen Finnerty". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Maureen Finnerty  
Chair, Coalition To Protect America's National Parks



# Mojave Desert Land Trust

Preserving land to enjoy forever

P.O. Box 1544 • 60124 29 Palms Hwy • Joshua Tree, CA 92252  
Ph (760) 366-5440 Fax (888) 869-4981 [www.mojavedesertlandtrust.org](http://www.mojavedesertlandtrust.org)

November 16, 2015

President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

## **RE: Artists and Cultural Leaders for the California Desert Monuments**

Dear President Obama,

For the past ten years, arts professionals and cultural leaders have been working tirelessly to unite people across disciplines and cultural groups to solve environmental challenges in the desert Southwest. We are an expansive group of visual and performing artists, designers, art administrators, museum directors, historians and curators that care deeply for the unique American west, especially the iconic California Desert. We are united in our commitment to protect the California Desert, the largest remaining intact ecosystem in the lower 48 states, and fully support the designation of the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains National Monuments. We urge you to act now to permanently protect these special areas under the Antiquities Act.

The California Desert is some of the most pristine and unique land in the country. From painted mountains, sweeping vistas and other-worldly rock formations to world-famous wildlife, wildflowers and hiking trails, people have long been drawn to its vast beauty. As artists, inventors and creative visionaries, this part of the Desert Southwest feeds our imaginations and ensures our ability to create new bodies of work and new forms of culture while celebrating the historically significant traditions embedded in these lands. Opportunities for outdoor access and recreation in these areas further enhance our health and wellbeing and bring economic benefits and jobs to surrounding communities. Collectively, we depend upon the health of this starkly beautiful landscape for our economic vitality as well as for our human spirit.

Designating the three California Desert monuments will further reinforce the globally revered legacy of American land stewardship and conservation, a legacy that is deeply rooted in the arts. The artists and scientists who sent paintings, drawings, photographs, maps and dispatches from the wilds of the west during the 1800s made westward expansion visible to the public and catalyzed one of the greatest environmental campaigns in our history: the establishment of the National Parks System and the Antiquities Act. Like the painters, photographers, naturalists and

storytellers before us who accompanied early explorers and surveyors of the great unknown west, we continue to make the experiences of this wild landscape visible to the public through our work today. We are committed to the ongoing awareness and preservation of this frontier of discovery that has yet to be fully experienced, studied or revealed in its natural state.

Not only that, as artists living and working in the western deserts under the pressures of a warming climate, we recognize firsthand that our global future depends on the science that comes from studying these last and largest remaining intact ecosystems. The increasing knowledge that the California Desert plays an essential role in carbon sequestration (Evans, et al. 2014) further fuels our commitment to its protection. Without the ability to study complete, protected ecosystems we lose the opportunity to gain the knowledge that could assist us in managing and adapting to the effects of climate change.

Each of the proposed national monuments contain exceptional characteristics that deserve to be protected. Mojave Trails is the connective tissue linking Mojave National Preserve to Joshua Tree National Park and existing Wilderness Areas, providing vital habitat for sensitive wildlife and unspoiled desert vistas. Sand to Snow protects some of the most diverse habitat in the country, linking the San Geronio Wilderness to Joshua Tree National Park and the San Bernardino National Forest, and is one of the most critical wildlife corridors in Southern California. Castle Mountains protects a critical junction for hundreds of desert species and some of the finest Joshua tree, piñon pine, and juniper forests in the entire California Desert Conservation Area. All three weave together a rich tapestry of landscapes, habitats, historical and cultural treasures and a vast storied history of our nation. Designation of these three National Monuments will complement the naming of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument by helping to link vital habitats from the mountains to the desert.

The California Desert is an icon of creative inspiration for the artists, musicians, and cultural leaders that are represented in these signatures below. These signatures are testament to the passion and leadership that bring people together in grassroots causes to ensure that our environment is cared for in perpetuity, for all generations to come. We have an unprecedented opportunity to protect some of the most spectacular and diverse stretches of intact desert in California, and we must not wait. The local community has worked for nearly a decade to help preserve these treasured landscapes. It is time for this region to gain the protection it deserves. We urge you to make the final designation as a fitting action for protecting our American legacy.

Sincerely,

**Kim Stringfellow**, Guggenheim Fellow 2015. Director, The Mojave Project. Joshua Tree, CA.

**Rhonda Coleman**, Director, Curator, 29 Palms Art Gallery. Twentynine Palms, CA.

**Bernard Leibov**, Director, BoxoProjects. Former Deputy Director, Judd Foundation. New York, NY & Joshua Tree, CA.

**Eva Soltes**, Executive Director, Harrison House for Music, Arts and Ecology. Joshua Tree, CA.

**Phillip K. Smith III**, Light Artist. Indio, CA.

**Frederick Fulmer**, Director Joshua Tree Highlands Artist Residency. Joshua Tree, CA.

**Andrea Zittel**, Director, A-Z West. Founding Director, High Desert Test Sites. Joshua Tree, CA.

**Mary-Austin Klein**, Landscape painter. California Wilderness Coalition. Joshua Tree, CA.

**Carolyn Young**, Director, West of the Moon Gallery. Flagstaff, AZ.

**Pamela Madsen**, Sound Artist, Curator. Professor Cal State Fullerton School of Music. Fullerton, CA.

**Cheryl Younger**, Director of the American Photography Institute at Tisch School of the Arts, New York University. Former Chair, Society for Photographic Education. New York, NY.

**Alita VanVliet**, Board of Directors, Morongo Basin Cultural Arts Council. Director, Hwy 62 Open Studio Art Tours. Joshua Tree, CA.

**Robert Johnson**, Professor, Cypress College. Director, The Legacy Project. CA.

**Roy Dietrich**, Fine Artist. CA.

**Edwin Vasquez**, Photojournalist AV MEDIA. Fine Artist. Rosamond, CA.

**Millie Wilson**, Artist. CalArts. TX.

**Melanie Walker**, Artist. Professor of Fine Art, University of Colorado. Boulder, CO.

**Bobby Furst**, Director, FURSTWORLD Gallery / Performing Arts. Joshua Tree, CA.

**Paula Jean Rice**, Artist. Professor of Art Emeritus, Northern Arizona University. Flagstaff, AZ.

**Melissa J. Armstrong**, Director, Interdisciplinary Global Programs, Center for International Education, Northern Arizona University. Flagstaff, AZ.

**Stevie Love**, Artist. Director, Lancaster Museum and Public Art Foundation. Lancaster, CA.

**Sant Khalsa**, Professor Emeritus Department of Art. Founding Faculty Water Resources Institute, CA State University San Bernardino. San Bernardino, CA & Joshua Tree, CA.

**Danny Frankel**, Musician. Joshua Tree, CA.

**Diane Best**, Filmmaker, Painter, Photographer. Joshua Tree, CA.

**Robin Rosenthal**, Filmmaker. Producer, Pony Highway Productions. Littlerock, CA.

**James Hammons**, Artist. Joshua Tree, CA.

**Paul Klopfenstein**, President, Morongo Basin Cultural Arts Council. Joshua Tree, CA.

**Steve Rieman**, Artist. Joshua Tree, CA.

**Ruth Rieman**, Board of Directors, Joshua Tree Highlands Artist Residency. Joshua Tree, CA.

**Catherine Svehla**, Cultural Mythologist/Director, Mythic Mojo. Joshua Tree, CA.

**Mindy Kaufman**, Director, Joshua Tree Art Gallery. Joshua Tree, CA.

**Joella Jean Mahoney**, Fine Artist. Professor Emeritus, Art Department Chair, University of Laverne. La Verne, CA.

**Nancy Campbell**, Poet, Desert Poets. Palm Springs, CA.

**Andree Mendenhall Mahoney**, Fine Artist. Professor Emeritus, Art Department Chair, Chaffee Community College. Alta Loma, CA.

**Gillian Spedding**, Poet, Desert Poets. Palm Springs, CA.

**Julia Buckley**, Artist. Joshua Tree, CA.

**Rebecca Trawick**, Director, Wagnall Museum of Contemporary Art. Alta Loma, CA.

**Jacobine Van der Meer**, Van der Meer Studio. The Arts Council of San Bernardino. Los Angeles, CA & Landers, CA.

**Phillip Rosenberg**, Musician, Rags and Bones Music. Joshua Tree, CA.

**Phyllis Schwartz**, Artist. Joshua Tree, CA.

**Renna Shesso**, Book Author. Denver, CO.

**Joe Garcia**, Musician, Urban Desert Cabaret. Landers, CA.

**Joanna Fodczuk**, Painter/Art Instructor. Los Angeles, CA & Landers, CA.

**Noreen Lawlor**, Artist, Painter, Poet. Joshua Tree, CA.

CC: Senator Dianne Feinstein  
Senator Barbara Boxer  
Representative Paul Cook  
Representative Raul Ruiz  
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior  
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture  
Christy Goldfuss, Managing Director, White House Council on Environmental Quality

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R. D. Evans; A. Koyama, et al. (2014) [Greater ecosystem carbon in the Mojave Desert after ten years exposure to elevated CO<sub>2</sub>](#) Nature Climate Change 4, 394–397. doi:10.1038/nclimate2184



The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The California desert is some of the most pristine and unique land in the country. From painted mountains to archaeological treasures, world-famous wildflowers to herds of bighorn sheep, Americans have long been drawn to its stark beauty. Establishment of these national monuments will enhance recreation and tourism in the region, bringing economic benefits and jobs to surrounding communities. The undersigned businesses support the designation of the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains national monuments and urge you to act now to permanently protect these special areas in the California desert—one of the richest and most intact landscapes in North America.

Each of the proposed national monuments contains exceptional characteristics that deserve to be protected. Mojave Trails is the connective tissue linking Mojave National Preserve to Joshua Tree National Park and existing Wilderness Areas, providing vital habitat for sensitive wildlife, and unspoiled desert vistas. It contains irreplaceable archeological and cultural sites including sacred Native American trails and trade routes. It includes the longest undeveloped stretch of historic Route 66, the scenic lava flows of Amboy Crater—North America's youngest volcano, the trilobite fossil beds of the Marble Mountains, the perennial river in Afton Canyon, and many unique geologic formations. Mojave Trails also represents the largest land gift in American history, with over 200,000 private acres donated to the federal government for conservation in perpetuity.

Sand to Snow protects some of the most diverse habitat in the country, linking the San Geronio Wilderness to Joshua Tree National Park and the San Bernardino National Forest. Rising dramatically from the Sonoran Desert floor to Southern California's tallest alpine peak, this monument is one of the most critical wildlife corridors in Southern California. The inclusions of Black Lava Butte and Flat Top Mesa protect stunning cultural sites and rare species. Sand to Snow is home to the most botanically diverse mountains in the contiguous U.S., a 23-mile stretch of the famed Pacific Crest Trail, and the majestic Whitewater River—a beloved feature for local and national communities.

Castle Mountain protects some of the finest Joshua tree, pinon pine, and juniper forests in the entire California Desert Conservation Area. It encompasses native desert grassland, features stunning vistas of California and Nevada desert mountain ranges, including Nevada's Spirit Mountain, which is revered by southwestern Native American tribes and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Beneath the shadow of Hart Peak are rich Native American archaeological sites and the historic gold mining ghost town of Hart. Additionally, Castle Mountain offers unparalleled opportunities to study wildlife movements, it is home to sensitive bat species, and it is a target location for the reintroduction of pronghorn, the second fastest species of land mammal in the world.

In addition to enhancing tourism and recreation, the designation of national monuments will benefit public health by enhancing opportunities for outdoor access and recreation. They will preserve the vibrant but fragile desert ecosystem. They will provide peace and respite for our honored veterans, who have sacrificed so much for this land that we love. They will protect our culture and history from Native Americans to Homesteaders, General Patton's World War II training sites to western migration along Route 66, America's storied Mother Road.

We have an unprecedented opportunity to protect some of the most spectacular and diverse stretches of intact desert in California, and we must not wait. The local community has worked for nearly a decade to preserve these iconic landscapes. It is time for this region to gain the protection it deserves. We urge you to designate the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails, and Castle Mountains national monuments.

Sincerely,

Linda Lee Chevalier, Firearm Instructor, National Rifle Association  
Juanita Marts, Member, National Rifle Association  
Larry Marts, Navy Veteran, Instructor, National Rifle Association

John Chevalier, Marine Corps Veterans, Instructor, National Rifle Association  
Thomas Atkins. Member, American Civil War Society  
Andrew Redfeather Corona, Artists, Dineh Navajo Nation Tribal Member  
Priscilla Frema  
Ashley Sanchez  
Britney Velasco  
Hannah Rios  
Don Sherman  
Alana Pratt  
Ronner Williams  
Leo Ruiz  
Patricia R. Dilday  
Mike Mendoza  
Evan Ramirez  
Arthur Benitez  
Marlena Carabajal  
Kimberly Nguyen  
Yesenia Free  
Matthew Cookson  
Carlos A. P. Ortiz  
Arianna Villa  
Ashley Morua  
Dalila Guillen  
Karen Barahona  
Patrick Jones  
Roman A. Crisistomo

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Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior  
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture  
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2015

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President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

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Mountain offers unparalleled opportunities to study wildlife movements, it is home to sensitive bat species, and it is a target location for the reintroduction of pronghorn, the second fastest species of land mammal in the world.

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Sincerely,

Fred Archer, Banning  
Paul Backovich  
Dr. Clarice Barret  
Pauline Bedford  
Pamela Berry  
Steven Blossey  
Courtney Brandt  
Missy Buce  
Jacqueline Budd  
Joan Clark  
Chris Clarke  
Catherine Colella  
Madeline Dace  
Faith Donovan  
Nancy Dopp  
Chris Dougherty  
Phillip Ferranti  
Ernesto Fortin  
Robert Furst  
Paul Goff Mizuki  
Hanford  
Marcene Hills  
Arthur Huebner  
Spencer Hunt  
Tom Kayne

Jean Kenna  
Nancy Klein  
Robin Kobaly  
Jesse Laird, DeVore  
Allyson Lavender  
Andrea Lavender  
Ed Lavender  
Elzina Lavender  
Anne Leewis  
Michael Barus LeMay  
Susan LeMay  
Raul Lopez  
Marilyn Lutz  
S Marling  
Jack Meyers  
Dale Mondary  
Danette Mondary  
Evangeline Montville  
Doug Powell  
Kevin Powell  
Daisy Ramirez  
Steve Rieman  
Ruth Rieman  
Ashley Robles  
Lara Rozzell

Attias Rzeznik  
Nina Shine  
Michael Smith  
Theresa Smith  
Max Stein  
Lewis Stewart  
Emilio Vogel  
Deborah Vincent  
Donna Vincent  
Jacquelyn Webster  
Stephanie Weigel  
E. Janelle Zarato  
Joseph Zine  
Delia B. Sanchez  
Robin Robb  
Bonnie Henry  
Theresa, Orchanian  
Robert Walters  
Martha Walters  
Robert Henry  
Kirk Taylor  
Mary Burrows  
Carl Leever  
Serena Chow  
Mary Leever

Richard Roosman  
Mark Freeman  
Amy Taylor  
Renee Hicks  
John Greene  
Robyn R. Kohr  
Vendela Martin  
Erika Henry  
Sara Sakurai  
Timothy Anderson  
Kathryn Anderson  
Tommie Ann Freeman  
Philip Wojtkowski  
Sam Anderson  
Thomas Carson  
Chenoa Neiberger  
Erick Cronkhite  
Tiffany Adair  
Jade Adair  
Jeff Adair  
Toni Adair  
Larry Adroll  
Angelica Agredano  
Larry Akell  
Maryjane Alaniz  
Marijane Alaniz  
Reanna Alder  
Aleneula Alenaula  
Jane Allingham  
Carmen Alvarez  
Ida Alwin  
Ida Alwin  
Gayle Anderson  
Sierra Anderson  
Linda Anderson  
Barbara Andreasen  
Jazmin Angeles  
Briauna Archer  
David Archer  
Rebecca Arellano  
Dan Armitage  
Dale Armitage  
Cindy Austin  
Valerie Aversa

Essence Bacon  
Lisa Baldwin  
Steve Bardwell  
Rowland Bellorini  
Mary Best  
Cheryl Blankenship  
Jylan Boggs  
Jennifer Bolande  
Kalli Bolanis  
Gretchen Bolin  
Andrew Bolucci  
Nate Bolucci  
Cheyenne Bonnell  
Harry Bowkley  
Morgan Brafford  
Dudley Branco  
Syble Breihan  
Jayden Brown  
Connie Cabrillo  
Stephanie Cambell  
Alexis Campos  
Gabe Canteras  
Alexandra Castaneda  
Jason Catlin  
Kenny Caudill  
Ismael Chavez  
Marc Chea  
Linde Chubak  
David Chubak  
Phebe Cisneros  
Joshua Cole  
Katherine Cook  
Paul Cooley  
Colton Cooper  
Jay Corbin  
Susan Corbin  
Alexander Courtney  
Jilyn Crawford  
Natalie Cressy  
Hannah Cross  
Amanda Cruz  
Shyann Cully  
Penne Curey  
Marylou Curry

Richard Curry  
Mackenzie Curtiss  
Mary Darden  
Marissa Dedios  
Julian Degoede  
Jayr Delatorre  
Dylan Deluna  
Kathleen Demaray  
Jaed Demorrow  
Megan Dennis  
Charlotte Desantis  
Ruben Destinee  
Mariah Diaz  
Jorge Diaz  
Jasmine Dlagass  
Sierra Duckin  
Christin Dupin  
Edgar Eckhart  
Barbara Eckhart  
Cari Ensley  
Pamela Erwin  
Tricia Etheridge  
Cristo Eydel  
Aaron Fagan  
Tattance Fatelle  
Vинny Ferraro  
Marisk Ferrer  
Marya Fields  
Robert Fisher  
Maya Fleursey  
Hilde Fonda  
John Frakes  
Emilia Frasher  
Boyd Frialet  
Daniel Friend  
Chris Frum  
Gionanni Fuller  
Robert Furst  
Kelsey Gaarder  
Andrew Gamboa  
Quentin Gamboa  
Ray Garcia  
Jessica Garcia  
Eveleyn Garcia

Ceillo Garcia  
Rudy Garcia  
Luis Garcia  
Sharon Garcia  
Mariana Garcia  
David Garry  
Ann Garry  
Dellia Gastelia  
Amy Gattuso  
Tyler Geeson  
Thomas Geiger  
Garrett George  
Alan Gilbert  
Gregory Glenn  
Mariah Goddard  
Daniel Goddard  
Samuel Goldman  
Beth Gonzales  
Jayden Gonzalez  
Kaitlin Goodpaster  
Betsy Goza  
Kayla Graham  
Lynette Graham  
Jan Grandi  
Colton Gray  
Melanie Greco  
Douglas Green  
Ed Greenshields  
Vicki Greenshields  
Bryan Grijatow  
Aislinn Gueltzow  
Tabitha Guevara  
Tristan Guevara  
Richard Gunning  
Leslie Gunning  
Vanessa Gutierrez  
Pamela Hagedorn  
Greg Hagedorn  
Kayla Hall  
Janet Hamilton  
James Hammons  
Jonathan Hancock  
Jamie Haney  
Yolanda Hansen

Andrew Hardin  
Allan Harniet  
Dale Harnitz  
Deeann Harvey  
Jolie Harwick  
Frankie Harwood  
Harmony Hayes  
Dianne Hayward  
Megan Hearne  
Mary Henderson  
Marcy Henderson  
Sheyenne Henkhaus  
Shawn Hennes-Lam  
Elenne Herrera  
Gauge Hill  
Amir Hmirian  
Chelsee Hobbs  
Ethan Hodder  
Kylie Howell  
Cannon Hudson  
Brenden Hughes  
Lesley Hughes  
Kai Hyn  
Toni Jackson  
Curtis Jacobs  
Penny Jacobs  
Karly Jacobs  
Curtis Jacobs  
Adrian Jimenez  
Ruben Jimenez  
Liana Jimenez  
Luana Johnson  
Briana Johnson  
Lise Jones  
Jennifer Jungwirth  
John Kahrs  
Sharlene Kahrs  
Sierra Kahrs  
Griffin Kater  
Mindy Kaufman  
Ashley Keely  
Harry Keen  
Genevieve Kelley  
Allison Kennedy

Katherine Kennedy  
Jeanne Kennington  
Sarah Kennington  
Daniel Kernodle  
Josephine Kim  
Katherine King  
Kiersten King  
Val Kiri  
Charity Kirkendall  
Alyssa Knupp  
Alexandria Koedel  
Gary Koger  
Lakey Kolb  
Leslie Kooy  
Ellen Lamotte  
James Lamotte  
Lori Landry  
Virginia Landry  
Billee Larson  
Morgan Larson  
Ann Lawson  
Lorraine Leach  
Brian Leatart  
Khaleel Leforce  
Kaylee Leforce  
Faith Legocki  
Nathen Lester  
Darlene Lester  
Kathy Lewis  
Tania Leysen  
Stacy Liechti  
Lofa Lillern  
Jared Lindley  
Marissa Lindley  
James Lindley  
Pamela Lindley  
Carla Lindquist  
Elenne Lisbon  
Marsha Lona  
Deserie Lopez  
Andrew Lopez  
Daniela Lopez  
Camryn Maeinello  
Sarah Mahan

Travis Mahan  
Laci Malin  
Parish Malle  
Hailey Manter  
Gia Marie  
Camryn Marinella  
Amanda Marroquin  
Janice Martin  
Alden Martin  
Taylor Martin  
Katie Mason  
Susan Masterson  
Johnny May  
Kaitlyn Mcallen  
Anthony Mccall  
Wendy Mceuen  
Donovan Mckeever  
Chatel Mckettrick  
Frankie Mcwood  
Gudrun Mecham  
Arvel Mecham  
Stephanie Mecham  
Michelle Mecham  
Sadie Mecham  
Diane Medina  
Pilleure Meduele  
Steven Mejia  
Gregory Mendoza  
Gina Mercer  
Haley Miller  
Adina Mills  
Alexia Missett  
Elizabeth Mitchell  
Paul Montgomery  
Kieth Morgan  
Lynnelle Morningstar  
Chris Morningstar  
Jordan Morrow  
Richard Morton  
Karen Morton  
Richard Morton  
Karen Morton  
Maryssa Mullens  
Logan Naylor

Logan Naylor  
Annie Nelson  
Kate Nelson  
Arrington Nevitt  
Samson Nunez  
Charlotte Ohnsted  
Chelsea Oliver  
Angela Olivores  
Erelin Ortiz  
Tamara Ottosen  
Ken Pace  
Kelly Padilla  
Lewis Parker  
Bryan Parker  
Gene Parsons  
Brian Peters  
Gina Peters  
Bob Peterson  
Lily Peterson  
James Pizza  
Norma Pizza  
Juanita Prezell  
Kerry Puckett  
Audrey Pushkar  
Sherry Rand  
Barbara Rasmussen  
Markie Rauschenberg  
Makayla Rauskin  
Makayla Rauskin  
Elena Ray  
Drew Reese  
Victoria Reiser  
Florent Renucci  
Jocelyn Resendez  
Chris Ressler  
Arturo Reyes  
Dawn Rich  
Madison Rideout  
Megan Rieman  
Rebecca Roark  
April Robinett  
Gary Roger  
Mekeilah Rogers  
Robert Rolak

Savannah Romero  
Caitlin Rowe  
Estelle Rubenstein  
Destinie Rubenstein  
Caitlyn Ruggiero  
Mike Ruggiero  
Gretchen Ruggiero  
Vincenzo Ruggiero  
Mark Russell  
Uluan Salen  
Creig Samith  
Nancy San  
Yadier Sanshez  
Chris Scali  
Sierra Scali  
Sierra Scali  
Angelina Schoenberger  
John Schoenberger  
Maraus Schrimshaw  
John Schuler  
Cornelia Schulz  
Phyllis Schwartz  
Ashley Schwartz  
Stephen Scigliano  
Timothy Scott  
Trevor Scott  
Carol Seddon  
Lina Segura  
Kai Sehr  
Linda Seick  
Nicolette Serrano  
Nicole Serrano  
Sitara Shah  
Kayla Shaw-Fruger  
Kayla Shaw-Fryer  
Shelly Sheckler  
Jesse Sheckler  
Emily Sheckler  
Frank Sheckler  
Theresa Simmons  
Kirsty Singer  
Suzen Smallwood  
Douglas Smith  
Roch Smith

Megan Smith  
Curtis Snyder  
Jake Sommers  
Liza Sommers  
Manny Souza  
Cindi Specht  
Bill Spiller  
Donald Sprague  
Heather Stafford  
Justin Stainbrook  
Devin Stanovich  
Teresa Stemen  
Lynn Stephens  
Elisabeth Stewart  
Christina Stewart  
Johnathan Stewart  
Catherine Stillwell  
Jon Stone  
Erica Stone  
Skyler Stone  
Patricia Stoner  
Nichole Sugita  
William Sullivan  
John Summers  
Randy Swindel  
Jim Swindel  
Allisa Taleires  
Enrique Tanello  
Patricia Mutz  
Wendy Bowman  
David Bowman  
Annette Mutz

Kristina Tareila  
Allisa Taucures  
William Taylor  
Virginia Thayer  
Frank Thomas  
Matthew Thomas  
Donna Thomason  
Patricia Thompson  
Daniel Thompson  
Maya Toccata  
Amber Tolbert  
Vera Topinka  
Katie Traeger  
Yenny Tran  
Alaina Trofler  
Meghan Udell  
Julian Valenzuela  
Janice Vanderpol  
Jennifer Vanness  
Betty Vasquez  
Richard Vasquez  
Elena Vasquez  
Olivia Vasquez  
Michele Vasquez  
Damian Vasquez  
Maurice Vickers  
Mark Vikdal  
Nichole Vikdal  
Carolyn Curran  
Jim Misiak  
Nancy McDonald  
Lynda Misiak

Madison Vikdal  
Claire Wadsworth  
Jenny Wagner  
David Walker  
Charlie Wallace  
Randall Walters  
Joshua Warren  
Tomas Wastar  
Alexis Watkins  
Lisa Watson  
Kaeliegh Watson  
Jaelynn Watson  
Randel Watters  
Caitlyn White  
Amanda Whiting  
Richard Wiesner  
Angelica Williams  
Faith Williams  
Stephanie Wilson  
Mark Wilson  
Mikinzie Wilson  
Holly Wright  
Bryer Wynwood  
Bryan Wynwood  
Nicole Zeitz  
Derrick Zietz  
Diars Zooliag  
Monica Zuniga  
Kathy Thurow  
Rachelle Buck  
James Thurow

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Representative Raul Ruiz  
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OCTOBER 14, 2015

## **Release: Vet Voice Foundation Asks President Obama to help Protect California Desert**

The Vet Voice Foundation applauds the visit by U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, U.S. Department of Interior Deputy Secretary Mike Connor and U.S. Department of Agriculture Under Secretary Robert Bonnie and other officials to Palm Springs on Tuesday, October 13th regarding protection of public lands in the California desert region. In response, Vet Voice Foundation has added its voice to a growing [chorus of other Veterans](#), local elected officials, business owners, Native Americans, faith leaders, historians, artists, local residents, and conservationists in asking President Obama to use his authority under the Antiquities Act to designate three National Monuments in the Californian desert. These areas—Mojave Trails, Sand to Snow, and the Castle Mountains—mean a great deal to Veterans and their families, not only as scenic places to hike, camp and relax in, but also as places of quiet repose and recovery for Veterans suffering from PTSD and other war-related trauma.

It was President Theodore Roosevelt, a Veteran and devoted conservationist, who first used the executive authority of the Antiquities Act to help protect iconic places, such as the Grand Canyon, Mt. Lassen, and Mt. Olympus. Today, we also have a historic opportunity to permanently protect public lands in the California desert for future generations by designating the Mojave Trails, Sand to Snow, and Castle Mountains as National Monuments. This push for designation comes after nearly a decade of work by local leaders on legislative efforts to protect the California desert.

“We [urge](#) President Obama to use the Antiquities Act to designate the Mojave Trails, Sand to Snow, and Castle Mountains as National Monuments. We also appreciate Senator Feinstein’s request, on behalf of many diverse stakeholders who care about the future of the California desert, for the President to take this action.” said Steve Dunwoody, California Director of the Vet Voice Foundation. “The natural and cultural resources of these public lands, the rich history, are worthy of protection as National Monuments. We want to see every tool available used to protect these lands – for Veterans, their families, and the wider community.”

*Founded in 2009, the mission of Vet Voice Foundation is to mobilize veterans to become leaders in our nation's democracy through participation in the civic and democratic process. VVF seeks to harness the energy and drive of the dedicated men and women who have fought for their country, and put it to work at home and in their communities on the important issues they face, such as health care, jobs, the environment, and housing.*

# Los Angeles Times

## Editorial: The government should expand protections for California's deserts

Los Angeles Times, 1/28/16

Editorial Board



A bighorn sheep perches at the rocky base of Soda Mountain in the Mojave National Preserve near Baker, Calif. Its green collar indicates that it is being monitored by federal biologists. (Los Angeles Times)

Anyone who has driven through the California deserts — especially those who have wandered away from the freeways — has experienced the subtle majesty of vast open spaces, of the arroyos that wind back to jagged steep-sided mountains and of the magnificent plants and wildlife that thrive despite the low water, intense heat and relentless sun. The world tends to think of California nature in terms of beaches and redwoods and mountains, Big Sur and the Sierra Nevada, but the deserts are also part of who we are.

There are two movements afoot that would help expand conservation protections in the deserts while also allowing for development of solar, wind and geothermal energy. Both deserve support.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein has for years sought to expand federal protection to land that wasn't included in the [1994 California Desert Protection Act](#), which covered nearly 7.6 million acres, elevated Death Valley and Joshua Tree to

national parks and created the Mojave National Preserve. But her more recent legislation to establish two new national monuments and expand the Mojave National Preserve has gained no traction in a Congress that has been slow, to put it charitably, to designate additional conservation lands and parks. So Feinstein and conservation groups are petitioning [President Obama](#) to use his power under the [Antiquities Act of 1906](#) to create the monuments, and to expand the covered areas even beyond her legislative proposal.

The president should grant her request. Feinstein has asked for creation of a Mojave Trails National Monument, which would connect the Mojave National Preserve with Joshua Tree, adding protections to federal lands that encompass sweeping vistas as well as habitats for such species as the desert tortoise and bighorn sheep. The monument would also include the Cadiz Valley, which contains dunes and the remnants of training grounds used by Gen. George Patton's armored divisions before they deployed during World War II, and culturally and wildlife-rich areas in the Sacramento Mountains. Feinstein also has asked Obama to create a Sand to Snow National Monument, which would include 135,000 acres between Joshua Tree and the San Bernardino Mountains as well as the Black Lava Butte and Flat Top Mesa (holding 1,700 petroglyphs and several natural springs). And she wants the picturesque, habitat-heavy Castle Mountains,

which were omitted from the 1994 Desert Protection Act because an active gold mine was located there, to be designated a national monument now that the mine has closed.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management is separately reviewing final requests for changes to its part of what is known as the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan, an enormous project to allocate 10 million acres of federal land for recreation, conservation and renewable energy production. The plan sets aside 388,000 acres for solar, wind and geothermal projects, 5.3 million acres for conservation areas and 3.8 million acres for recreational use, including off-road vehicles. A second phase of the plan being developed by counties and cities for about 12.5 million acres under their jurisdiction is expected to designate even more public and private land for renewable energy development.

The Antiquities Act gives the president the power to "declare by public proclamation

historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest" to be protected as national monuments. BLM officials decided that 800,000 acres didn't clear that hurdle, nor would they be suitable for energy development, and they remain unallocated. Now conservation and wilderness groups want the BLM to reconsider some of the unallocated areas covering the Big Maria Mountains in Riverside County, Bristol Valley east of Joshua Tree National Park, and the Lower Centennial Flat between the Inyo National Forest and Death Valley. In addition to offering stunning vistas, those lands provide habitat for desert animals and plants and contain scattered Native American sites. The conservationists make a persuasive case that they should be protected.

The BLM land reviewers should give these areas a second, closer look. It makes sense for the government to be as inclusive as possible in protecting fragile desert lands.

<http://www.latimes.com/opinion/editorials/la-ed-adv-desert-conservation-20160128-story.html>

# The San Diego Union-Tribune.

## Preserving public lands a matter of patriotism

San Diego Union-Tribune, 12/16/15

Oscar Franquez Jr.



As a member of the United States Armed Forces, I take great pride in my contribution to the defense of our great nation. It is an honor that words fail to express; protecting the land I love is invaluable. When traveling abroad, this feeling is intensified by foreigners' expressed desire to visit America and in particular, our national parks and monuments.

This reminds me of two important things: the incomparable power of nature to bring people together and the fact that my duty to protect America includes standing up for its public lands. That's why I believe we must preserve places like Mojave Trails, Sand to Snow and Castle Mountains by giving them the national monument designations they deserve.

It has become extraordinarily evident to me that many people around the world admire the American people's dedication to protecting and conserving our lands as open, natural, public space. They respect the wisdom and foresight it takes to accomplish this. And, often, it is one of the first and most positive things they associate with America, thanks to iconic images of our country's impressive

natural features in television, movies and magazines.

As an outdoor enthusiast and California native, I never miss the opportunity to suggest to the people I met abroad that they should visit the national parks, monuments, conservation lands and all of our public lands in California, as these lands are a vivid depiction of our nation's diverse beauty and diverse population.

One of the best things about being a native Californian is the vast array of magnificent and diverse public lands located right here in our state. Some of my dearest childhood memories include family trips to Yosemite, Pinnacles and Redwoods National Parks. These are memories that I will carry with me and cherish for the rest of my life.

Added to these childhood memories are the many hours and long days I have spent in the California desert, training and preparing for military deployments. Through those experiences, I have developed a deep appreciation for the desert's rugged beauty, vast breathtaking landscapes and the resilience of the plants and wildlife that reside in these austere lands.

Unfortunately, the significance of the California desert is many times undervalued. Many are unaware of how intact and unique these lands are, and the history contained within; history spanning from Native

American culture, to Gen. Patton's World War II training sites and the western migration along the iconic Route 66.

The California desert is comprised of delicate and vulnerable ecosystems, as well as cultural and historic sites that have shaped our heritage as Californians and Americans, and are in great need of conservation. Already many 1,000-year-old plants, petroglyphs and other amazing values have been lost over the years, often due to lack of awareness or thoughtful decision-making. We cannot get back what we've lost, but we can ensure a better future. This is why I support the designation of the Sand to Snow, Mojave Trails and Castle Mountains national monuments. Our nation's lands are our greatest treasure; they serve as a reminder of our rich, diverse history, culture, and population.

For many of my fellow Marines, the California desert may be their first opportunity to experience and explore a desert landscape, to see desert wildlife, or visit ancient rock art. For many, the experience is life-changing. These lands tell the story of who we are. They can also tell the story of what we stand for. And what we stand for is why I am proud to be a service member.

We must do everything in our power to conserve key areas of our public lands to ensure that our nation's future generations can enjoy her beauty, setting the example for other nations to conserve and value their lands as well.

*Franquez is a Santa Clarita native and a San Diego-based staff sergeant in the Marines. The views expressed here are his own, not those of the Department of Defense or Department of Homeland Security.*

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