President Donald J. Trump The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC Secretary Ryan Zinke
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St. NW
Washington, DC

Secretary Wilbur Ross U.S. Department of Commerce 1401 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC

RE: Efforts to Repeal or Undermine Protections for Parks and Monuments

April 28, 2017

Dear President Trump, Secretary Zinke, and Secretary Ross,

On behalf of the over 400 undersigned organizations and our millions of members across the country, we are writing to express our deep concern with your recent Executive Orders and our unified opposition to any efforts to remove or decrease protections for any national monuments.

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

Whether focused on the Bears Ears National Monument and the over 100,000 irreplaceable cultural and archaeological resources protected in this landscape or the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument which protected unique and pristine ocean habitats and marine life, or any other monument that protects our cultural, historic and natural treasures, an attempt to undermine protections for these uniquely American places would not only rob the American people of our shared heritage but establish a dangerous precedent that we can no longer trust that park or monument can be considered fully safeguarded for future generations.

The American people, including the millions of members we represent, overwhelmingly oppose efforts to roll back protections for the parks, monuments, marine sanctuaries and other public lands and waters they love. According to Colorado College's Conservation in the West Poll, 80% of western voters support keeping existing national monuments protections in place while only 13% of western voters supported removing protections for existing monuments. This poll reinforces other surveys that document widespread public opposition to congressional attacks on new parks. In a December 2014 Hart Research Poll, 90% of Americans support the permanent protection of some public lands, monuments, wildlife refuges and wilderness. Americans want more protected public lands and waters, not less!

We are concerned that this review is a pretense to advance efforts to undermine or strip protections for current national monuments. This review and the implied effort to roll back our monuments worries those who love our national monuments and the communities that rely on them to power their local economies. Just this week the Outdoor Industry Association unveiled a study that shows the outdoor recreation economy generates \$887 billion in economic activity and is responsible for 7.6 million jobs. Protected public lands and waters are the backbone of this economy and any effort to introduce uncertainty by implying that the national monuments that drive local economies may not be permanent will hurt those gateway communities and businesses that depend on them.

We believe that any review that is rigorously fact based, includes robust public input and is cognizant of the resources on the ground will undoubtedly show that our National Monuments are beyond deserving of their status and protections and should be safeguarded in their current states for future generations. We encourage the Department of the Interior to listen to the American people and reflect deeply on the values and resources they are sworn to protect and believe that this can lead to only one recommendation – that our national monuments are treasures worthy of the utmost protection.

Our organizations and the diverse array of members and interests we represent are united in our support for our national parks and monuments. Our national monuments protect our uniquely American heritage and we stand with the overwhelming majority of our fellow Americans in defending them from efforts to undermine protections for parks and monuments. We urge you to refrain from any effort to shrink, repeal or otherwise undermine any National Monuments.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

350.org ACORN Partners in Education African American Nature and Parks Experience Agua Fria Open Space Alliance Alabama Hills Stewardship Group Alaska Wilderness League Amargosa Conservancy American Association of Independent & Minority Enterprises American Bird Conservancy **American Rivers Amigos Bravos** Anchorage Audubon Society Appalachian Mountain Club Applegate Neighborhood Network Aquarium of the Bay **Archeology Southwest Arizona Conservation Partners** Arizona Joshua Tree Forest Arizona Wilderness Coalition ARTFARM

Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council (A3PCON) Association of Zoos & Aquariums Audubon Alaska **Audubon Connecticut** Audubon Great Lakes Audubon New York Audubon Society of Rhode Island Audubon Society of the Capital Region Audubon Washington Back Country Horsemen of New Mexico **Bad River Watershed Association** Basin and Range Watch Bay Area Coalition for Headwaters **Bedford Audubon Society** Bielenberg Historic Pullman House Foundation Birds of Prey Partnership Black Metropolis National Heritage Area Commission **Bodie Hills Conservation Partnership** Bozeman Broadband - Great Old Broads for Wilderness

Braided River

Bronx River - Sound Shore Audubon Society

Bronzeville Historical Society

Buffalo Audubon Society

Business for Water Stewardship

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

California Coastkeeper Alliance

California Native Plant Society

California State Parks Foundation

California Wilderness Coalition

California Wilderness Project

Californians for Western Wilderness

Calumet Collaborative

Calumet Heritage Partnership

Carrizo Plain Conservancy

Cascade Forest Conservancy

Center for American Progress

Center for Aquatic Sciences at Adventure

Aquarium

Center for Biological Diversity

Center for Diversity and the Environment

Center for Sierra Nevada Conservation

Central Colorado Wilderness Coalition

Central Oregon Bitterbrush Broads

Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center

Central Westchester Audubon Society

Chaffee County, Colorado

Chemung Valley Audubon Society

China Ranch Date Farm

Clean Water Action

Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection

Coalition to Protect America's National Parks

Coloradans for Utah Wilderness

Colorado Canyons Association

Colorado Mountain Club

Colorado Native Plant Society

Colorado Sierra Club

Computer Sprout

Conejos Clean Water

Connecticut Fund for the Environment

Connecticut Land Conservation Council

Connecticut Ornithological Association

Conservation Colorado

Conservation Lands Foundation

Conservation Law Foundation

Conservation Southwest Utah

Conservation Voters for Idaho

Conservation Voters New Mexico & CVNM

Education Fund

Conservatives for Responsible Stewardship

Conserve Southwest Utah

Council of Mexican Federations (COFEM)

Craighead Institute

Crow Canyon Archaeological Center

Defenders of Wildlife

Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society

Diverse Environmental Leaders (DEL) National

Speakers Bureau

Dolores River Boating Advocates

Earth Island Institute

Earth Ministry

EarthEcho International

Earthjustice

Earthworks

East West Printing, Inc.

EcoFlight

Elders Rising

Ellen's Homemade Ice Cream

Environment America

Environment Arizona

Environment California

Environment Colorado

Environment Connecticut

Environment Florida

Environment Georgia

Environment Illinois

Environment Iowa

Environment Maine

Environment Maryland

Environment Massachusetts

Environment Michigan

Environment Minnesota

Environment Missouri

Environment Montana

Environment Nevada

Environment New Hampshire

Environment New Jersey

Environment New Mexico

Environment New York

Environment North Carolina

Environment Ohio

Environment Oregon

Environment Rhode Island

Environment Texas

Environment Virginia

Environment Washington

Environmental Justice Coalition for Water

Environmental Law and Policy Center

Eric Larsen Explore

Eyak Preservation Council

Farmington River Watershed Association

Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs

First Unitarian Church, Salt Lake City

Footsteps of Leopold Broadband - Great Old

Broads for Wilderness

Forest Issues Group

Fort Ord Recreation Trails

Fort Stanton Cave Study Project

Four Harbors Audubon Society

Friends and Neighbors of the Deschutes Canyon

Area (FANs)

Friends of Agua Fria National Monument

Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges

Friends of Basin & Range

Friends of Big Morongo Canyon Preserve

Friends of Browns Canyon

Friends of Cascade Siskyou National Monument

Friends of Cedar Mesa

Friends of Gold Butte

Friends of Ironwood Forest

Friends of Nevada Wilderness

Friends of Oregon Badlands Wilderness

Friends of Organ Mountains - Desert Peaks

Friends of Peru State Forest

Friends of Point Arena - Stornetta Lands

Friends of Pompeys Pillar

Friends of Sloan Canyon

Friends of the Bitterroot

Friends of the Cheat

Friends of the Cliffs

Friends of the Desert Mountains

Friends of the Earth

Friends of the Forest Preserves

Friends of the Inyo

Friends of the Kalmiopsis

Friends of the Owyhees

Friends of the Sonoran Desert

Friends of the Yampa

Gathering Waters

Genesee Valley Audubon Society

Geos Institute

GLSEN

Grand Canyon Trust

Grand Canyon Wildlands Council

Grand Junction Chapter - Great Old Broads for

Wilderness

Grand Staircase Escalante Partners

Grand Valley Audubon Society

Great Basin Eastern Nevada Broadband - Great

Old Broads for Wilderness

Great Old Broads for Wilderness

Great Salt Lake Audubon

Greater Yellowstone Coalition

Greenbelt Alliance

GreenLatinos

Greenpeace

Hells Canyon Preservation Council

High Country Conservation Advocates

Hills For Everyone

Hispanic Access Foundation

Hispanic Federation

Hispanics Enjoying Camping, Hunting, and the

Outdoors (HECHO)

Historic Pullman Foundation

Hoosier Environmental Council

Housatonic Valley Association

Human Rights Campaign

Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon

Huron River Watershed Council

Idaho Conservation League

Indivisible Ogden

Institute for a Progressive Nevada

International Fund for Animal Welfare

Islanders for the San Juans Islands National

Monument

Izaak Walton Leage of America, Headwaters

Chapter

Kanawha Forest Coalition

Keep the Woods

Kentucky Heartwood

Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center

Land Trust of Santa Cruz County

Landmarks Illinois

Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce

Lassen Forest Preservation Group

League of Conservation Voters

Lee International

Lider Engineering

Loo Wit Group

Los Angeles Waterkeeper

Los Padres ForestWatch

Lost Coast Interpretive Association

Lutheran Office of Public Policy

Maine Conservation Voters

Maine Public Health Association

Maine Rivers

Marine Conservation Institute

Mattole Restoration Council

Mendocino Land Trust

Michael Gordon Photography

Milwaukee River Keeper

Mission Blue

Mississippi Park Connection

Mojave Desert Land Trust

Mojave National Preserve Conservancy

Mono Lake Committee

Montana Conservation Voters Education Fund

Montana Wilderness Association

Montana Wildlife Federation

Mormon Environmental Stewardship Alliance

Mountain Lakes Preservation Alliance

Mystic Aquarium

NAACP

National Association of Tribal Historic

Preservation Officers

National Audubon Society

National Center for Transgender Equality

National Ocean Protection Coalition

National Parks Conservation Association

National Wildlife Refuge Association

Natural Resources Council of Maine

Natural Resources Defense Council

Nature Abounds

Nevada Conservation League

New Hampshire Audubon

New Hampshire Lakes Association

New Hampshire Rivers Council

New Mexico Friends of Utah Wilderness

New Mexico Sportsmen

New Mexico Wilderness Alliance

New Mexico Wildlife Federation

North Carolina League of Conservation Voters

North Shore Audubon Society

Northern Alaska Environmental Center

Northern Catskills Audubon Society

Northern Initiatives

Northern San Juan Broadband - Great Old

Broads for Wilderness

Northwest Indiana Restoration Monitoring

Inventory

Ocean Conservancy

Ocean Conservation Research

Oceana

Ohio Environmental Council

Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition

Onondaga Audubon

Openlands

Orange County Audubon Society

Oregon League of Conservation Voters

Oregon Natural Desert Association

Oregon Wild

ORV Watch Kern County

OUT There Adventures

Outdoor Afro

Outdoor Project

Outside Las Vegas Foundation

Partnership for Responsible Business

Partnership for the National Trails System

Patagonia Area Resource Alliance

Patagonia, Inc

Pathways - Wildlife Corridors of New Mexico

Peaceful Uprising

Penn Center

PennEnvironment

Point Arena Lighthouse Keepers, Inc.

Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium

Praxis Project

Protection of New Hampshire Forests

Public Citizen

Pullman Civic Organization

PullmanArts

Putnam Highlands Audubon Society

Quaker Voice

Quiet Use Coalition

Reno Broadband - Great Old Broads for

Wilderness

RESTORE: The North Woods

Rio Grande del Norte

Rivers & Birds

Rivers Alliance

Roaring Fork Broadband - Great Old Broads for

Wilderness

Rocky Mountain Wild

Salt Lake Indivisible

San Bernardino Valley Audubon

San Gabriel Mountains Forever

San Gorgonio Wilderness Association

San Juan Citizens Alliance

San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council

Sanctuary Forest

Sangre de Cristo Audubon Society

Santa Fe Green Chamber of Commerce

Save The Bay
Save the Sound
Scenic America
Seattle Aquarium
Sempervirens Fund

Sheep Mountain Alliance

Shoshone Village

Shedd Aquarium

Sierra Club

Sierra Club Military Outdoors Sierra Foothills Audubon Society

Sky Island Alliance

Soda Mountain Wilderness Council

Soul River Inc. Runs Wild

Southeast Environmental Task Force Southern Adirondack Audubon Society Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance

Southwest Environmental Center

St. Croix River Association Surfrider Foundation Swan View Coalition Territory Run Co.

Teton Valley Chapter - Great Old Broads for

Wilderness
The Bay Institute

The California Chaparral Institute

The City Project

The Friends of Sparta Mountain

The Mountain Pact
The National Aquarium
The Ocean Project
The Trail Posse

The Wilderness Society
Torrey House Press

Transition Habitat Conservancy Trinidad Coastal Land Trust Trout Unlimited, Illinois Chapter

Trust for Public Land

Tucson Great Old Broads for Wilderness

Tulevome

Tuolumne River Trust

Uplift Climate

Upper Gila Watershed Alliance

Utah Dine Bikeyah Utah Indivisible

Utah Interfaith Power & Light

Utah Professional Archaeological Council

Utah Rivers Council

Utah State University's Student Organization for

Society and Natural Resources (SOSNR)

Utahns Speak Out Vet Voice Foundation

Voces Verdes

Voyageurs National Park Association

Waitt Foundation
Waitt Institute

Wasatch Broadband - Great Old Broads for

Wilderness

Wasatch Mountain Club

Washington Conservation Voters Washington Environmental Council Washington Trails Association

Washington Wild

WasteWater Education

West Virginia Highlands Conservancy

West Virginia Land Trust West Virginia Rivers Coalition Western Colorado Congress

Western Environmental Law Center

Western Resource Advocates

Western Slope Conservation Center

Western Watersheds Project Western Wildlife Conservancy

Wild Utah Project Wild Virginia WILDCOAST

Wildearth Guardians Wilderness Workshop WildLands Defense Wildlands Network

Wildlife Conservation Advocacy Southwest Willamette Valley Broadband - Great Old

Broads for Wilderness Winter Wildlands Alliance Wisconsin Environment

Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Wyoming Outdoor Council

Yellowstone to Uintas Connection