

United States Congress

November 13, 2013

The Honorable Sally Jewell
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C St, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Jewell,

Like you, we are committed to appropriate conservation and multiple-use management of our public lands. As elected officials, we are working closely with our constituents on efforts to improve public land management—which often include conservation designations. Given the gravity and permanence of national monuments, we believe that should these decisions be necessary, they should be made by Congress in an open, transparent, and public manner using extraordinary caution.

On October 31, 2013, during remarks at the National Press Club regarding the Antiquities Act, you said, “if Congress doesn't step up to act to protect some of these important places that have been identified by communities and people throughout the country, then the president will take action...there's no question that if Congress doesn't act, we will.”

In light of this statement, we are requesting a comprehensive list of the “important places” you reference in your comments that the administration is considering for national monument designations, along with a proposed timeline. Additionally, we are seeking clarification of whether designations are being considered only for proposed national monuments or whether there are other land-use proposals the administration would consider making monuments absent Congressional action. We also request that the administration notify all members of a state’s congressional delegation at least 90-days in advance of designating a monument within that particular state.

We believe that these requests are consistent with your repeated commitment to openness, transparency, and cooperation with local and state officials in the context of land management decisions. Especially in consideration

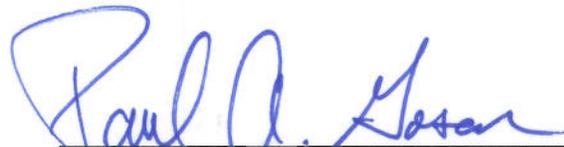
of past controversial usage of the Antiquities Act, your statements at the National Press Club have the potential to unravel the good work done by many to develop bottom-up land management solutions. Clarification of those statements is therefore critical to the continued success of these grassroots initiatives.

We want to reaffirm our belief that public lands designations should originate in local communities where the concept enjoys broad support from elected officials, stakeholders, and other impacted individuals. Thank you for your attention to this matter and we look forward receiving your response in the near future.

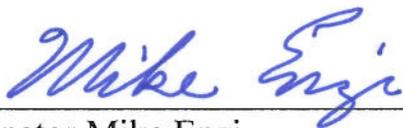
Sincerely,



Senator Dean Heller



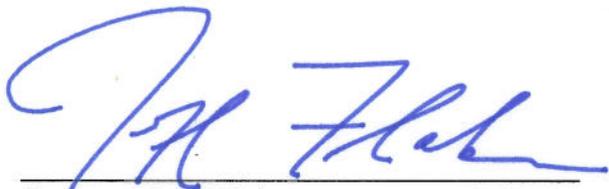
Representative Paul Gosar



Senator Mike Enzi



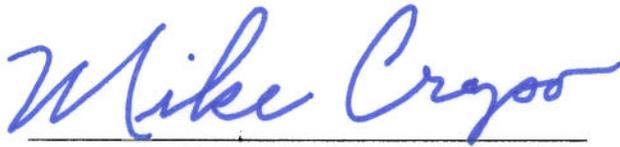
Representative Steve Daines



Senator Jeff Flake



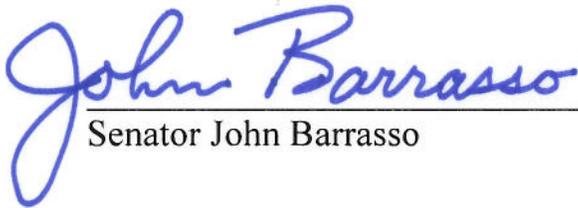
Representative Rob Bishop



Senator Mike Crapo



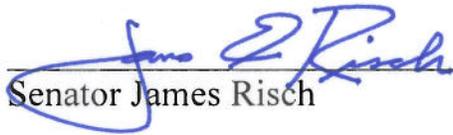
Representative Joe Heck



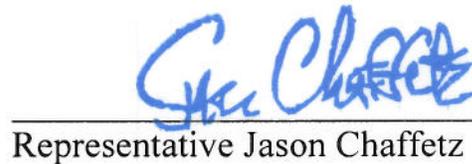
Senator John Barrasso



Representative Mark Amodei



Senator James Risch



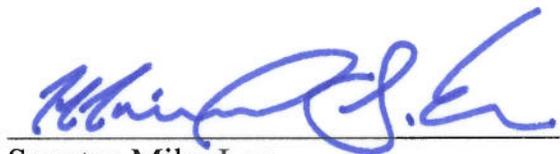
Representative Jason Chaffetz



Senator Mike Johanns



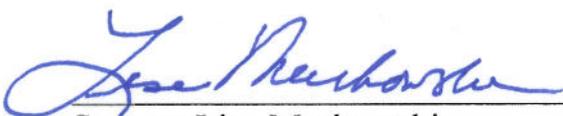
Representative Kevin Cramer



Senator Mike Lee



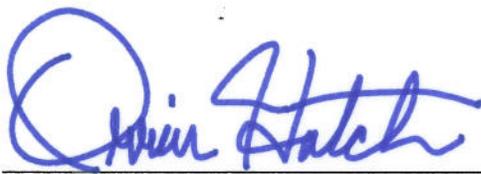
Representative Steve Pearce



Senator Lisa Murkowski



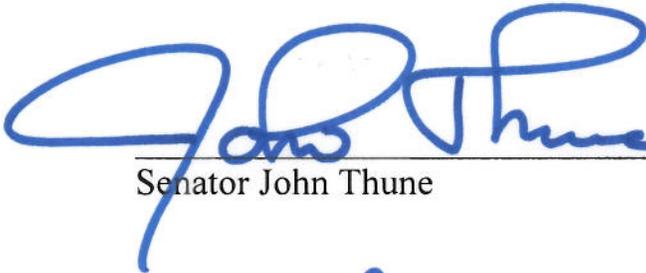
Representative Trent Franks



Senator Orrin Hatch



Representative Don Young



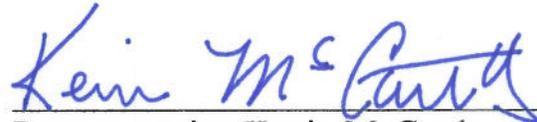
Senator John Thune



Representative Mike Coffman



Senator Tom Coburn



Representative Kevin McCarthy



Representative Cynthia Lummis



Representative Chris Stewart



Representative Raúl Labrador



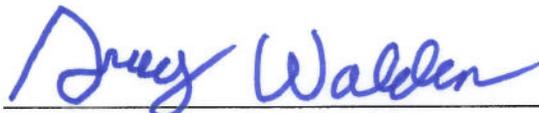
Representative Doug LaMalfa



Representative Louie Gohmert



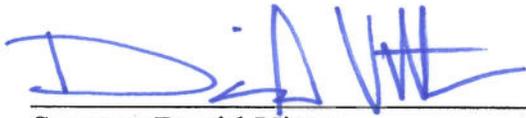
Representative Lynn Westmoreland



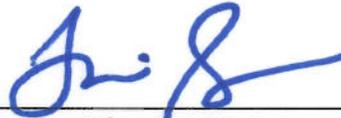
Representative Greg Walden



Representative David Schweikert



Senator David Vitter



Senator Tim Scott