March 1, 2017

Dear Secretary Zinke, Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Schumer, Mr. Speaker and Madam Leader:

As people of Mormon faith, we are asking that you support and maintain the national monument designation of the ‘Bears Ears’ region in Utah. We urge you to reject any proposal to repeal it or change its boundaries.

Bears Ears is a special place that shares the heritage of some of the early pioneers of the early LDS faith. Mormons first traveled to the Bears Ears region in the late 19th century. The San Juan Mission expedition sought to establish a new settlement in what we now know as Bluff, Utah. The pioneers were responding to the plan of President Brigham Young, who had called on Mormons to establish communities throughout the West. They smoothed sections of the rock surface and built dugways along their route. Carved rock inscriptions, trails, corrals, and cabins give us insight into the lives of prospectors, ranchers, and early archeologists. These features are still visible today as signs of their journey.

Furthermore, our LDS faith guides us to respect the beliefs and religious practices of other cultures, especially those closest to us. We as a religious community maintain the collective memory of LDS religious persecution and forced migration. We seek to be partners in healing the legacy of religious persecution and displacement anywhere it has happened – including among our Native American brothers and sisters. We understand that Native Americans hold their faith histories to be sacred, just as we do ours. Given the degradation of over one hundred thousand sacred ancestral dwellings & artifacts of the five tribes of the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition, and given our nation’s history of broken treaties with these tribes, the extermination raids, the collective trauma from 53 forced marches of the Dine during the years of the Long Walk, and the decades of brutal acculturation methods imposed by our institutions, it is imperative that their ancestral lands continue to be protected as a national monument under the advice of the tribes of the Bears Ears region.

Lastly, LDS people share a reverence for our earthly existence, and all of God’s creations. We are aware of the many LDS scriptures that admonish us to be good stewards over the earth and protect the purity of our air, water and soil.

For these reasons, we ask you to respect our desire, the desire of the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition, and many other major tribes across our nation, in upholding the new Bears Ears National Monument. We ask you to reject any attempt to repeal or diminish the National Monument.

We are thrilled that this spectacular & sacred land of the Bears Ears region will be protected for future generations!

With gratitude & highest regard,
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title/Role</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ty Markham</td>
<td>Chair, Mormon Environmental Stewardship Alliance</td>
<td>Torrey, Utah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Brady L. Robbins</td>
<td>Sunday School Teacher</td>
<td>Midvale, Utah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kate Anderson</td>
<td>Solar Professional, mother of two</td>
<td>Murray, Utah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylor C. Blair</td>
<td>Undergraduate Student</td>
<td>Orem, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul F. Justham</td>
<td>High Priest</td>
<td>Salt Lake City, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ryan D. Curtis</td>
<td></td>
<td>Salt Lake City, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Lynn Zaritsky</td>
<td>Member, Mt. Pleasant Sixth Ward</td>
<td>Mount Pleasant, Utah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison Pearce</td>
<td>Student, Brigham Young University</td>
<td>Provo, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gary Thornock</td>
<td></td>
<td>Provo, Utah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathanael Sato</td>
<td>Sunday School teacher</td>
<td>Ogden, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meridith Buehner</td>
<td>Primary chorister, rock climber, child of God</td>
<td>Sandy, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karin Richens</td>
<td>Primary Teacher</td>
<td>Murray, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kimberly Graham</td>
<td>Sunday School Teacher</td>
<td>Logan, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Gabrielle Roh</td>
<td>Spanish branch Primary teacher</td>
<td>Salt Lake City, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loren Brewer</td>
<td>LDS member</td>
<td>Taylorsville, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karen Froerer</td>
<td>Biology teacher, mother, relief society teacher</td>
<td>Salt Lake City, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Hatch Pollard</td>
<td>14-15 year old Sunday School Teacher</td>
<td>Salt Lake City, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dustin J. Erickson</td>
<td>Granite View Ward</td>
<td>Sandy, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rachel Whipple</td>
<td>Mormon mom and voter</td>
<td>Provo, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lynn Nichols, MBA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Salt Lake City, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joel R. Green and Cherri Green</td>
<td>Branch Councilor</td>
<td>Monument Park Ward</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charity Keyes</td>
<td>Young Women’s 2nd Counselor</td>
<td>Mt. Ogden Ward</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russell Palmer</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ogden, Utah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robyn Green</td>
<td>Primary Teacher</td>
<td>Colonial Hills Ward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allison Regan</td>
<td>Family History Consultant</td>
<td>Kaysville, Utah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robyn Amis</td>
<td>Prison Institute Instructor / Temple Worker</td>
<td>Silver Mesa Ward</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Sandy, Utah
Robert Aagard, MD
Assistant Scoutmaster
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Chantal Dolan
Relief Society pianist
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Elders Quorum Instructor
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Tanner Jones
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Marsha McLean
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Ogden YSA 3rd
Ogden, Utah

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Parowan, Utah

Mica Sloan
Bonneville YSA
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Canyon View
Highland, Utah

Lee Ann Young
Forestview
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4th
Salt Lake City, Utah

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Murray, Utah

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Ogden, Utah

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Clearfield, Utah

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Tom Millar
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Connor Hansell
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Jaron Peck  
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Activity Days Leader and RM  
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Beth Francis  
Aspen Meadows 2nd  
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Sarah Harman  
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Pam Mellor  
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Moab, Utah

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Columbia, Maryland

Kay Green  
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Zina Bennion  
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Sarah Callaway  
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Spring City, Utah

Joseph Wood Bennion  
Hole in the Rock Pioneer Descendant  
Spring City First  
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Erin Armstrong-Wright  
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Linda Hoffman Kimball  
Woodland Ward, Kamas  
Woodland, Utah
Katie Priederman  
Provo, Utah

Pamela Nebeker  
Mother
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Richard L. Downey  
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Becca Lee Ogden  
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Provo, Utah

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Thomas Graham  
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Vicki Rae Blanch  
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Clair Nielson  
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Robert Alan Rowley  
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Northern Salt Lake, Utah

Amy Nielsen  
Bountiful, Utah

James Nielsen  
Bountiful, Utah

Laura Dickeu  
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Active LDS member in my community
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Midway, Utah
Megan Christensen
Spring City, Utah

Jenni Thompson
Chorister
20th Ward
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Springville Ward
Springville, Utah

Laurence Yorgason
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Pleasant Valley 5th Ward
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ARIZONA
Joseph A. Owen
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Alesha Ram
Educator, Leader
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COLORADO
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Del Norte CO Branch
Grand Junction, Colorado

Sharon Haynie
Seminary Teacher, Del Norte CO Branch
Del Norte, Colorado

Diana Mark
Nature Lover
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Relief Society Teacher
Thermal Ward
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Menlo Park, California

Jeanine Bean
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Turlock, California

Victoria Aragon
Antelope Valley, California

IDAHO
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Martin A. Wilke
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KENTUCKY
Mr. Clark Area
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MAINE
E Victoria Grover
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Merikay Smith
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Kate Shaffer
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Kentlands Ward
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Inner Harbor Ward
Baltimore, Maryland
MICHIGAN
Bruce A. Hamlin
North Shores Ward
Macomb Township, Michigan

NEW JERSEY
Catherine Crawford
Historian
Princeton 2nd Ward
West Windsor, New Jersey

NEW MEXICO
Heather Anderson
Cherry Hills Ward
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Haley Camp
Cherry Hills Ward
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Carol Du Paix
Relief Society counselor
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Kent Condie
Emeritus Professor
Cherry Hills Ward
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Carolyn B. Condie
Cherry Hills Ward
Albuquerque, New Mexico

NEVADA
Tim Ricks
Environmental Biologist
Paseos Ward, Red Rock
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Mrs. Sara Nix
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Las Palmas Ward
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NEW YORK
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NORTH CAROLINA
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MEXICO
Sarah Wright
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