



**BEARS EARS INTER-TRIBAL COALITION**

A Partnership of the Hopi, Navajo, Uintah & Ouray Ute, Ute Mountain Ute, and Zuni Governments

June 29, 2016

Senator Orrin Hatch  
104 Hart Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Representative Rob Bishop  
123 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Senator Mike Lee  
361A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Representative Jason Chaffetz  
2236 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

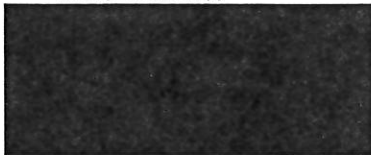
Dear Senators Hatch and Lee and Representatives Bishop and Chaffetz:

Thank you for your letter of June 24<sup>th</sup> requesting a meeting with the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition regarding your Public Lands Initiative.

As you know, we withdrew from the Public Lands Initiative process late last year. We set out in detail our reasons for withdrawing in a letter to you dated December 31, 2015. In the intervening months, your approach toward our proposal and our coalition have reaffirmed the concerns expressed in our December letter.

Accordingly, we respectfully decline your invitation. We are satisfied that a Bears Ears National Monument proclaimed by President Obama under his authority granted by the Antiquities Act presents the best opportunity to protect the Bears Ears landscape and assure a strong Native American voice in monument management. We hope you will join us in supporting a Bears Ears National Monument.

Respectfully,



Hopi Vice-Chairman

Co-Chair, Bears Ears

Inter-tribal Coalition



Ute Mountain Ute Tribe Council Member

Co-Chair, Bears Ears

Inter-tribal Coalition