



**RESOLUTION OF THE  
NAVAJO UTAH COMMISSION  
OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL**

**NUCMAY-705-17**

**REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND U.S.  
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR – SECRETARY RYAN ZINKE TO UPHOLD THE  
BEARS EARS NATIONAL MONUMENT DESIGNATION AND OPPOSE THE  
CONGRESSIONAL ACTION TO REVERSE THE PRESIDENTIAL  
PROCLAMATION**

**Whereas:**

1. The Navajo Utah Commission (NUC) is a governmental subdivision of the Navajo Nation and is subject to oversight of the Navajo Nation Council - Naabik'iyá'ti' Committee pursuant to Resolution NABIAP-21-15; and
2. Since the enactment of the Antiquities Act of 1906, Presidents of the United States have designated monuments through presidential proclamations, accordingly the Bears Ears National Monument was proclaimed as a national monument on December 28, 2016; and
3. The Antiquities Act is a century-old law that allows U.S. presidents to set aside federal lands without congressional approval and in its history, no president has rescinded monument designations made by their predecessors; and
4. The Bears Ears National Monument designation was the culmination of intertribal support and joint effort in seeking protection and preservation of ancestral lands, cultural resources, religious access, and practical purposes; and
5. Utah's congressional delegation and state legislature immediately challenged the Bears Ears National Monument designation and rushed House Concurrent Resolution 11 through the 2017 Utah Legislature urging Congress to rescind the presidential proclamation; and
6. President Trump issued an Executive Order on April 26, 2017, directing the Department of Interior to examine all national monument designations in the past 21 years to determine whether their size and scope are within intent of the Antiquities Act; and
7. The Bears Ears National Monument is a historic, cultural, spiritual, and sacred region located in San Juan County, Utah, consisting of 1,351,849 acres including federal lands currently managed by the U.S. Forest Service (289,000) and Bureau of Land Management (1.06 million); and

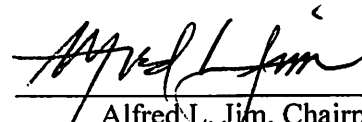
8. The Naabik'iyati' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council passed Resolution NABIJA-01-17, supporting the proclamation establishing the Bears Ears National Monument by the President of the United States Barack Obama and oppose congressional action to reverse the presidential proclamation; and
9. Abundant rock art, ancient cliff dwellings, ceremonial sites, and countless other artifacts provide an extraordinary archaeological and cultural record that is important to us all, but most notably the land is profoundly sacred to many Native American tribes, including the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Navajo Nation, Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah Ouray, Hopi Nation, and Zuni Tribe; and
10. The Protection of the Bears Ears area will preserve its cultural, prehistoric, and historic legacy and maintain its diverse array of natural and scientific resources, ensuring that the prehistoric, historic and scientific values of this area remain for the benefit of all Americans.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Navajo Utah Commission hereby request the President of the United States and U.S. Department of Interior – Secretary Ryan Zinke to uphold the Bears Ears National Monument Designation and oppose the congressional action to reverse the Presidential Proclamation.
2. The Navajo Utah Commission hereby request the Department of Interior to recognize and honor the federal tribal consultation policy in executing President Trump's Executive Order regarding re-examination of national monument designations.

**CERTIFICATION**

We, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by Navajo Utah Commission at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, Arizona at which a quorum was present and the same was passed by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2017.



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Alfred L. Jim, Chairperson  
NAVAJO UTAH COMMISSION

MOTION: David John  
SECOND: Wesley Jones